

NOBODY EVER SAYS: "THANK YOU FOR BEING LESBIAN OR GAY."

A Dialog by Jack Andrews

"Nobody ever says: Thank you for being lesbian or gay."

"Why the hell should they?"

"Because lesbians and gay men improve the quality of life for everybody."

"You've got your head screwed on backwards. It's just the other way around. Faggots corrupt life."

"No, they don't. Not as a result of being lesbian or gay, anyway. The bottom line to homosexual behavior is that it's naturally contraceptive. Lesbians and gay men don't have children unless they're forced or persuaded to go straight. That means homosexuality slows down population growth. Slower pop growth is good for society, everybody in it and the environment, as well."

"Gee, maybe we should declare a national holiday, huh? We could start by remembering all the faggots and dykes who lost their lives in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah — and why?"

"That'd be okay except for one thing —"

"What's that?"

"Most of the people who died at Sodom and Gomorrah were straights — heterosexuals."

"Says you."

"Says history. The word sodomy comes from the sexual practices of the Sodomites, straight people who preferred anal sex to vaginal intercourse. You've got the right idea in one sense though. A national holiday to honor lesbians and gay men ought to be declared. Everybody should have the day off to reflect on the value of homosexuality to society."

"You're crazy."

"You're bigoted."

"Let's change the subject. Queers don't interest me."

"I'd appreciate it if you'd use lesbian, gay or homosexual instead of faggots, dykes and queers."

"Yeah? Well, people in Hell want ice water, too. You started a conversation buddy. If you don't like the way I talk, buzz off!"

"Alright, have it your way. Now, we thank mothers and fathers for having children, don't we? That's what Mother's and Father's days are about, isn't it? We should also set aside a day to thank lesbians and gay men for not having children."

"We don't —"

"Let me finish. It's just as important to the well being of society not to have children as it is to have children. Gay men and lesbians are just as deserving of recognition and thanks for their contribution to society as straight parents are."

"You know better than that. We don't thank mothers and fathers for just having children. Their dedication to making the community a better place to live is part of the deal."

"Lesbians and gay men are dedicated to the same proposition and put their time and money on the line to help make it happen — as anybody involved in community affairs knows."

"Look, we have all kinds of ways to slow down population growth. Condoms, birth control pills and devices, vasectomy. We don't need homosexuality to do the job, especially when we consider what comes with it."

"Condoms are not always used though, are they? A million abortions a year in the U.S.A. alone proves that. Birth control pills and devices can cause cancer or destroy a woman's capacity to conceive life. At the very least, they have unpleasant side effects. There aren't enough men willing to have vasectomies to make a difference in pop growth. On the other hand, homosexual behavior is a relatively harmless and absolute guarantee that a certain number of lives will not be added to our population. If left to work its way without harassment or rection, in time, homosexuality might eliminate the need for straight to worry about birth control at all."

"Lesbians and gays are so good, why do I have this picture in mind of them as perverts whose craving for degenerate sex endangers the health and morals of others, particularly, young people? Please don't tell me my imagination is the reason, I don't believe it."

"Wow, it's hard to believe people still think the way you do even though I know many do. Of course, it's your imagination. You were taught to think of lesbian and gay love and sex that way. Homosexual behavior has been used as a scapegoat for the real cause of ill health and moral decline in society — overpopulation — ever since it was outlawed by our ancient ancestors. There is no evidence to show that homosexuality is anymore dangerous to health and morality than heterosexuality. If anything, straight take the cake in both respects. The statistic I mentioned on abortion a minute ago aptly illustrates how dangerous and immoral heterosexual behavior can be. And that's just one example."

"So, the Reverend Falwell is wrong. Jimmy Swaggart is a liar. The Holy Bible lies and our ancestors who outlawed homosexuality were liars to that!"

"I wouldn't say that."

"You just did. What else do you think you're saying?"

"Those who oppose gay/lesbian love and sex are honorable, well meaning people, but naive in their belief that homosexuality is wrong. That's what I'm saying. The same naivete affected the perception of homosexuality our ancestors had. The Bible, after all, was written by people. Human beings are prone to err. Recognizing that fact, our ancestors corrected the Bible from time to time whenever errors in judgement became apparent. That's a reasonable procedure in keeping, I'm sure, with the Will of God. The adjustment of religious thinking to the great good homosexuality does is underway. The only thing holding up a fast change in attitude is the strictly human reluctance of church goers and the religious minded to admit that they've been wrong about homosexuality. Such an admission entails accepting a certain amount of guilt for prejudice

past and present and the tragedy which has grown out of it. It would, of course, be better to face the issue now and deal with the guilt rather than go on compounding one of the great tragedies of the ages. A tragedy that has harmed straight to a far greater degree than it has lesbians or gay men, by the way."

"The Pope says that homosexuality is sick. I guess we've got to humor you people until you get well."

"The Pope is a good, but naive man stuck with the same ideas as his predecessor."

"Everybody is naive except you. The experts are wrong. Homosexuals are right. How self righteous and dumb can you get?"

"The experts, at least scientific ones, have destroyed the claim that homosexuality is unnatural, unhealthy and immoral."

"Nuts! The Masters and Johnson study showed that lesbians and gays choose to be the way they are. I don't call that natural."

"A Kinsey Institute study produced the opposite finding. It suggests that homosexual inclination is inborn. Use your head. Does it make sense to believe that anyone would choose to be lesbian or gay? Would you choose to join a group of people who are subjected to as much social, economic and political prejudice as lesbians and gay men are? Being lesbian or gay — like being straight — is something the individual has no choice in making. Nature preempts the field. We interfere with her decisions in the matter at our own risk."

"I might choose to be homosexual if I was sick in the head, if my sense of moral values was twisted. If all I could think about was depraved love and sex and really didn't give a damn about others or myself though I gave people the impression that I did."

"The kind of choice Masters and Johnson were talking about is not the sick in the head variety. The sick in the head argument doesn't stand up to reality any better than free choice, however. How could millions upon millions of lesbians and gay men survive in this society or any other if they weren't healthy, reasonably happy, hard working, law abiding persons who care about themselves and others. The nature of survival demands cooperation with society and concern about others, as well as, self fulfillment. You can't have one without the other. Life is a joint venture involving everybody."

"All what you say is true, why did a number of the homosexuals in the Masters and Johnson study choose to go straight and happily succeed in doing so? You'd have thought they would have rejected the idea out of hand. Answer that, mister."

"It's possible to persuade yourself that you can be heterosexual. You can convince yourself that you're happy. Human beings have highly developed imaginations which enable them to distort the truth about others, about themselves. You must also take a couple of other things into consideration. Sexual feelings are more ambiguous, generally speaking, in an overpopulated society and world like ours whether people are aware of or admit to the ambiguity. In other words, many persons find it easier to move in either direction sexually. Also, keep in mind that homosexuals and heterosexuals are very much alike — not different. Man and woman relationship ensues in both instances. The only significant difference between them is same sex versus opposite sex attraction in the search for love and sexual satisfaction. All things considered, it's not surprising that Masters and Johnson mistook persuasion for choice."

"The difference between lesbians, gays and straights may not seem like much to you, but as far as I'm concerned, the difference is what counts!"

"You're absolutely right, it does. The difference is that homosexual mating is non-reproductive — an event no less important than heterosexual mating and the eventual birth of a child."

"That's not what I meant and you know it. Now you're trying to make homosexuality sound as great as parenthood. It ain't."

"It is. It helps increase the potentiality that the children of straight persons will have a chance to live a better life because there will be fewer people to compete with them for jobs, space, housing, air, food, water and the environmental qualities it takes to produce healthy, happy living. What greater blessing could you ask of God or Nature?"

"Or, you're so called blessing could turn into a nightmare. There could be no people left to enjoy the fruits of this earth after gay liberation gets through with it. Isn't it clear to you that if homosexuals are allowed to do as they please indefinitely, the entire human race will be wiped out?"

"I can't work out that way. Nature decides who will be straight, lesbian, bisexual, gay and transsexual in relation to the need for approximate balance between anticipated economic/environmental productivity and population growth. It is also apparent that Nature requires lesbians and gay men to take an interest in and practice sex to prevent the loss of procreative capacity. Thus, in the event of a catastrophe resulting in loss of human life below a level safe enough to guarantee our survival as a species, lesbians and gay men would change from homosexual to heterosexual behavior and help return the strength of our population to normal. Since the practice of sodomy, oral sex and even masturbation stimulate vaginal intercourse, they would be well prepared to assume straight reproductive roles. It also follows that if population diminishes under regular circumstances, the need for homosexual behavior will diminish. Lesbians and gay men would change to straight behavior if the need arose or simply lessen in number generation by generation."

"Nonsense! You don't know what you're talking about!"

"On the contrary, what I'm talking about is quite valid. It's even scientific. Animals who behave homosexually change or revert to heterosexual behavior almost as soon as overpopulation among them is relieved. The threat overpopulation poses to social stability and survival is resolved faster in the wild than it is in civilization because animals obey Nature

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Murder Of Arizona Gay Legal?

BISBEE, AZ — An obscure law might be used to defend two teenagers who are accused in connection with the murder of a Gay Cochise County man (Observer, Nov. 21). The youths, aged 13 and 16, are believed to have stabbed Charles Bush to death in his St. David mobile home on October 29. The body of the 34-year-old nurse was discovered the following afternoon near a roadside rest area in Benson. The Juveniles were apprehended in Van Horn, Texas when authorities there noticed the teenagers attempting to sell Bush's belongings at a swap meet.

In a recent interview with Benson radio station KAVV, Cochise County Public Defender Wallace Hoggatt cited the possibility of using Arizona Statute 13-411 to justify the homicide. The law permits "deadly physical force" to prevent child molestation. A widely circulated speculation is that Bush, an avowed homosexual, may have made advances to the teenagers after picking them up near Tucson and taking them to his residence.

The teenagers remain in custody in Bisbee pending trial. In the near future, Superior Court Judge Matthew

Borowick is expected to determine whether the teenagers will be tried as adults.

The exact wording of Arizona Criminal Code Statute 13-411 reads as follows:

"13-411. Justification; use of force in crime prevention

A. A person is justified in threatening or using both physical force and deadly physical force against another if and to the extent a reasonable person would believe the physical force or deadly physical force is immediately necessary to prevent the other's commission of arson of an occupied structure under #13-17045, burglary in the second or first degree under #13-1507 or 13-1508, kidnapping under #13-1304, manslaughter under #13-1103, second or first degree murder under #13-1104 or 13-1105, sexual assault under #13-1406, child molestation under #13-1410, armed robbery under #13-1904, or aggravated assault under #13-1204, subsection A, paragraphs 1 and 2.

B. There is no duty to retreat before threatening or using deadly physical force justified by subsection A. of this section."

West Hollywood Elects Lesbian Mayor

by Christine Guilfoy

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA (OON) — Only 23 days after becoming a city, West Hollywood has taken the unprecedented step of choosing a Lesbian as its mayor. Under a format in which the city council selects a council member to serve as mayor, Valerie Terrigno was elected unanimously by the five-member council.

Her November 29 election as mayor comes only weeks after West Hollywood distinguished itself as the first city council with a Gay majority. Three of the five council members, Steve Shulte, John Heilman and Valerie Terrigno, are openly Gay, which prompted Heilman to say, "We hope everyone will come visit us."

Helen Albert, 75, and Alan Viterbi, 22 round out the council. They ran on the same slate as Terrigno and Heilman and also supported Terrigno for mayor. At the same meeting, the councilors also enacted an anti-discrimination ordinance based on sexual orientation. The ordinance prohibits discrimination in housing and employment and will apply to the city and county contractors. The council also enacted a rent freeze, a moratorium on evictions and a freeze on development, until it has time to enact more specific legislation.

Terrigno, 31, became the favorite as mayor after she received the highest number of votes in the council election on November 6. Sally Fiske, Terrigno's campaign manager, described Terrigno's reaction to being selected mayor as "very excited" and "very moved".

Fiske said that the election of a predominantly Gay city council and the selection of a Lesbian mayor have sparked extensive media interest in the town and councilors, particularly Terrigno. Fiske said Terrigno was being asked to make television appearances, had been contacted by People magazine and by the German magazine Der Spiegel.

For the past four years, Terrigno has been the executive director of the Crossroads Counseling Service, a social service agency dealing with housing, nutrition, employment problems and life crisis problems of its clients, many of whom are homeless.

She campaigned for Walter F. Mondale in the 1984 presidential election and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco.

John Heilman, 27, is a Gay activist attorney. He is the secretary of the Southern California chapter of the ACLU and is also co-chair of the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter. Heilman has been working with Don Simonoski and the National Lesbian and Gay Archives on the release of FBI

J/T Celebrates 7th Anniversary

TUCSON — Time flies! It doesn't seem possible that on January 2nd, it will have been seven years since Bob Bishop and company took the reins of The Joshua Tree/Back Pocket. This popular First Avenue watering hole has seen thousands of persons pass through the door and enjoy the hospitality.

Many changes have taken place during the intervening years. Everyone who is interested in sports appreciates the volleyball court which has been the scene of many an exciting game on Sunday afternoons. The Fall volleyball season has just been completed and the Spring season starts again in February.

The popular patio area has proven to be a welcome relief from the heat of the crowded dance floor. In J/T's and the fireplace in the Back Pocket has proven to be a popular area during the cool winter nights.

This Observer, who has observed this location for more years than he will admit, joins everyone in congratulating partners Bob Bishop and Vinny Ciccarelli and the staff of the Joshua Tree/Back Pocket, more popularly known as J/T's, on their 7th Anniversary.

All friends are invited to come by on Wednesday, January 2 to help celebrate the event. There will be special drink prices all day and a complimentary Buffet will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Sun Country Leather Club To Install Officers

TUCSON — The newly formed Sun Country Leather Club will hold a big three day celebration this Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The club will officially hold their Installation of Officers and hang their colors at Tramps, the club's official home bar.

In addition, the celebration will include fund raisers for Mr. Arizona Leatherman, Jay Cunningham, to help defray expenses for his trip to the International Leatherman Contest in Chicago this spring.

All events will take place at

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EDITORIAL...

Every New Year's issue for the past several years I have tried to recap what had happened of importance to the community in the past year and assert our hopes and dreams for the coming one.

This will be different this year inasmuch as there hasn't been much happening during the year 1984 that we can cheer about, or cry about. The political scene as we all know is at a dead standstill as regards to Gay oriented issues. Some local victories and some local losses. There is, with some reluctance, more monies appropriated to AIDS research, and it looks like that research may be paying off, after far too many lives have been, and still are being lost. More federal bureaucracy slowing that process.

Lots of queerbashing still going on and in our own southern Arizona scene, we have lost three brothers to murderers this past year.

Our political organizations (TLGPC and ALGTF) are still working hard to get our communities together, socially and politically. They have much to do and need your help.

I'm afraid there really isn't too much to cheer about, so we say goodbye 1984 and can only hope that 1985 will see the pendulum begin swinging back from the far Right at least towards center.

Happy New Year.

Bob Ellis

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BRIEFS

SCLC XMAS BENEFIT RAISES BIG BUCKS

TUCSON - The benefit show (and donation jars) for the needy Gay Tucson family at Christmastime, sponsored by the Sun Country Leather Club at Tramps, was a huge success in every way. Over \$1,500 in cash was raised as well as a large quantity of food and toys which were donated to Cathy and her two children, a girl, 7, and a boy, 9.

The bulk of the proceeds were raised at a benefit show for Cathy and her family which starred Aviva Diamond, Stephanie Price and Candy Plastique. All tips to the performers were donated, and Tramps manager Jess was kept busy following the \$50 bill as it was passed around at the Progressive Auction.

Officers and members of the Sun Country Leather Club wish to thank all who participated in this fundraiser for a very worthy Gay person and her family.

L.A.D.S. TO OPEN DOORS OF 'DIRTY SHAME SALOON & GAMBLING HALL'

PHOENIX - Featuring a Western theme, Los Amigos del Sol's (L.A.D.S.) annual gaming extravaganza is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, at Painter's Hall, 1841 N. 24th St. (at Palm Lane). Parking and security services for this extremely popular annual event will be provided by Sons of Apollo.

In addition to games of chance, the evening's festivities will include a catered buffet, bar and entertainment. A L.A.D.S. spokesperson notes, "We are fortunate to have booked well known vocalist 'Sunny' of Mick-Sun Lounge fame for shows at 8 and 10 p.m."

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the evening's conclusion will find winners exchanging their scrip for an exciting array of prizes. Admission at the door is \$3.00. Pre-admission tickets at \$2.00 go on sale January 12 and will be available from any L.A.D.S. member, or send for tickets to P.O. Box 27335, Phoenix, AZ 85061.

L.A.D.S. is a social/charitable organization of Valley men and women who are "together for the fun of it." The next regular meeting will be held Saturday, January 12 at 1:00 p.m. at Shamoo's. Guests are welcome.

ANTI-PORN LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL
INDIANAPOLIS, IN (GCH) - A local ordinance defining pornography as a form of sex discrimination was declared unconstitutional on November 19 by a federal court judge here, according to the New York Times.

Judge Sera Evans Barker said the anti-porn law violates free speech. Supporters of the bill say they will appeal Barker's ruling to the Seventh Court of Appeals in Chicago. Barker's decision is the first court test of the radical feminist civil rights approach to censorship of pornography.

Barker ruled that the ordinance specifically restricts the sale and distribution of pornography which violates the First Amendment right of free speech.

Richard Kammem, the attorney for the American Booksellers Association, one of the groups challenging the law, said he believes it is unlikely the law can be written to make it constitutional.

Barker also ruled against the city's argument that this form of sex discrimination is of such compelling interest to the state that it warrants exception to the First Amendment.

PINELINE COMPLETES REMODELING

TUCSON - The Fall rains did extensive damage to the upstairs facilities at the Pineline. Roofing repairs have been completed and new carpeting has been installed on the stairway from the lobby and over the entire second floor bar and seating area. Overstuffed booths and tables have been installed in the old game room along with a large number of hanging and potted plants making that section a completely new experience and is becoming a popular conversation area in this three story Gay complex.

Owner Dick Plowman states that work continues on the "Honotel" which was damaged by fire and that other plans are being made to make this popular disco even more popular.

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN SUPPORT GROUP TO BEGIN

TUCSON - Sometime after the first of the year, the Women Helping Women program will begin its support group. This will consist of a six-week program with Monday night sessions from 7 to 8:30 p.m., which will be held at the Family Development Center, 1150 N. Craycroft.

Discussions relating to making life changes will include such topics as goal-setting, self-esteem, assertiveness, coping with loss/or divorce, and relationships.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this group (there will be only 10 registrations accepted for each six-week program) call 884-7810, Winnifred Wallace, to register. A donation of \$20 is required with \$5.00 upon registration for the six-week period.

DIGNITY/Tucson, Inc.

An Organization of Gay Catholics
And Their Friends



745-1812
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Tramps and include: a Free Kegger on Saturday, Dec. 29 beginning at 1:00 p.m., followed by a Buffet from 2 to 5 p.m. A \$5 donation to the fundraiser is requested for the Buffet.

Again on Sunday, a Free Kegger begins at noon with a Buffet at 3 p.m. with a \$5 donation for the buffet. A big show at 9:00 p.m. stars Aviva Diamond and Company. There will be a \$1 donation at the door for the show which goes towards the fundraising activities.

On Monday, the Free Kegger begins at 3 p.m. The Installation of Officers and Hanging of the Club Colors will take place at 4:30 p.m. The Buffet will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. with a \$5 donation for the buffet going to the S.C.L.C. fundraising activities.

Out-of-towners may register Saturday, Dec. 29 at Tramps, and lodging will be provided for those who need it. R.S.V.P. to Larry Mann, (602) 886-8812. You may also give your donation of \$15.00 in one lump sum which will cover all the activities and meals.

*Holiday
Greetings.*

The Staff AND Management
From Rita's Rendezvous
Wish You A Very
Happy Holiday Season
And
Prosperous New Year
P.S. Thank You For Your Support

**NOBODY EVER SAYS:
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implicity. As for the relationship between pop growth and anticipated economic/environmental productivity, as any naturalist can tell you, the scheme of life in the wild is an inter-dependent process of give and take affecting all animal behavior. The survival of species succeeds only by limiting the pop growth of each form of life to what it can be expected to produce, give-up and take in cooperation or confrontation with its own kind, other species and environmental events. Nature uses a variety of ways to control pop growth depending on the situation and character of species. Homosexuality is one of them and probably the most beneficial of all of them. Now I ask you, is it reasonable to assume that Nature would do anything less for humans and their habitat, civilization, than She does for animals and plants/life in the wild?

"We're not animals."

"Then, why do we act like animals? Why are the motives for what we do like those of animals? We behave heterosexually like animals, for example. Why?"

"You know damn well, why. We have to reproduce ourselves."

"Yes, it's in our best interest to behave heterosexually like animals, isn't it? We couldn't survive otherwise, could we?"

"Of course not. Stop asking me questions you know the answer to!"

"If it's also in our best interest to behave homosexually like animals, it will slow down our pop growth and help improve our chance of survival and a better life, why shouldn't some of us be lesbian or gay if that's how we're so inclined?"

"Because it's immoral, dummy, that's why."

"For something to be immoral, it's got to hurt. It's got to hurt somebody or society. Where's the proof that homosexuality is immoral?"

"Child molesting, prostitution, rape, leprosy, cheating, stealing, pornographic hustling, drug addiction, venereal disease, alcoholism, sadism, masochism, AIDS. How's that for proof, buddy?"

"Very impressive. But, the things you mention afflict society as a whole. They are not caused by or exclusive to homosexual behavior. With the exception of AIDS, the incidence of each of them is either lower among lesbians and gay men or about the same as it is for straights."

"AIDS is bad enough. AIDS is caused by homosexual behavior."

"How can you say that AIDS is caused by homosexual behavior. Nobody knows the cause of AIDS. High ranking scientists on both sides of the Atlantic believe that AIDS is caused by a cancer virus, a leukemic cancer virus. Aside from that, let me ask you this: Does being a member of the American Legion cause Legionnaire's Disease? Does being a child cause Polio? Does being human cause the Common Cold?"

"Now who's looking for a scapegoat? You're trying to wiggle out of the truth. The results of a recent study published in the Journal of American Medicine prove that committing sodomy leads to AIDS."

"The study you're referring to doesn't prove that anal sex leads to AIDS. It supports the theory that the introduction of sperm to the bloodstream through anal intercourse may be related to the development of AIDS. It proves that the body makes antibodies to fight sperm. It showed that a number of persons involved in the study were experiencing a degree of immune system breakdown."

"I rest my case. You've made it for me."

"Not a single one of the participants had AIDS! Nor are they expected to get AIDS! They were monogamous couples, that is, faithful lovers."

"They've been lucky. Anyway, we all know how long the faithful part will last."

"Surely you realize that it would take enormous quantities of sperm to stop the immune system from working or so impair its operation that AIDS could occur. Even the most promiscuous gay man would have a hard time indulging in enough sex to seriously effect the lightning power of his immune system. I'm afraid the conclusions you have drawn from this study reflect your prejudice instead of true objectivity."

"Or yours, huh? I think you're missing the point. When the body has to make antibodies to fend off sperm in the blood, it reduces its ability to resist other types of infection. Powerful infections like whatever it is that causes AIDS. If sperm wasn't being pumped into the body several times a day, the strength of the immune system would be good enough to prevent AIDS. So you see, sodomy doesn't promote health, it tears it down. The promiscuous behavior of homosexuals is responsible for spreading AIDS. The disease is epidemic. It kills people and not just homosexuals. Am I getting through to you?"

"If gay men were promiscuous in their behavior, there might be something to what you say. They aren't. Some gay men are promiscuous, that's true. Most are not. There's a relationship between overdoing anything and the increased possibility of suffering ill effects from it. We've known that since the beginning of time. If sodomy helps to cause AIDS, why is it that women who practice anal sex don't have much of a history of AIDS?"

"They do. There was a story about a prostitute with AIDS on 60 Minutes not long ago."

"I recall the story you're referring to correctly, the lady was also a drug addict. What I'm talking about is women as a group. Healthy, happy, average women who include sodomy in their sexual behavior. Few of them have contracted AIDS. How do you explain that? How do you explain the fact that Haitians are more inclined to catch AIDS than other ethnic groups?"

"I don't have to explain them. They're anomalies or something like that. The fact is that AIDS is epidemic. Epidemic among homosexuals. That makes homosexual behavior a threat to society. It breeds promiscuous, indiscriminate sex and the spread of the disease."

"Epidemic is a medical term, a medical standard. I don't argue with its judgement of the danger we face in AIDS, but I must emphatically point out to you that only a small number of the total gay population is afflicted with AIDS, a very small number. That says something you ought to understand. If promiscuity has anything to do with spreading or catching AIDS, it seems obvious that the vast majority of gay men are either not promiscuous or have extraordinarily effective immune systems. Like Legionnaire's Disease, Polio and many other diseases, AIDS happens to have struck a single group of people, gay men, more intensely than anybody else. That is unfortunate. Blaming the occurrence of the disease on their sexual habits as a group, however, doesn't help to solve its problem. It is absurd a position to take as blaming the way Chinese people live for the occurrence of Asian Flu or the way all humans live for the annual pandemic occurrence of the Common Cold."

"Baloney! Who do you think you're kidding? Everybody knows that homos are promiscuous and responsible for a whole host of health and moral problems. You're wasting your time trying to cover up their behavior or make it seem normal. You can preach homosexual purity from now until the end of time, but it will still turn out to be deny stuff."

"I see what your problem is. You judge everybody by the behavior of a few if it suits your prejudice. I'll bet you don't judge straights the same way you do lesbians and gay men."

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Are most straights promiscuous? Of course, not. How do you know? You know because you're in touch with what's happening to straight people."

"I'll buy that."

"How can you argue that lesbians and gay men are sexually promiscuous and responsible for a host of health and moral problems when it's plain as day you aren't in touch with what's happening to them?"

"It's a well known fact, that's how."

"It's a well known fact to people who know little or nothing about lesbians and gay men. On the average, lesbians and gay men reflect the same moral values as straights and are just as healthy. Their behavior is comparable, not dissimilar, over the entire lifespan. As youths they are inclined to dating, the break-up of relationships and pursuit of new ones. Some lesbian and gay youths are steady as a rock. Others have to sow their oats before settling down. They may get married or stay single. They seek true and lasting love. The divorce rate among lesbians and gay men illustrates the same dissatisfaction with the quality of mate relationships as divorce among straights. Some homosexuals live in family like groups sharing each other's interests and goals in life. The children of straight marriages that ended up in divorce sometimes become part of a new family created by homosexual remarriage. Lesbians and gay men aspire to the same things in life straights do."

There are superficial cultural differences here and there, to be sure, but the similarities far outweigh them."

"Hey, ca'mon now, how can a bunch of perverse sex addicts be like straight, upstanding family folks. It ain't possible. Queers undermine family life. They shop around and play around. In no way are they like members of a family. It's ridiculous to make the comparison."

"So, we're back to queers, faggots and dykes — the bigots mentality?"

"We never left it fellas. You made sure of that. I've been nice to you. I've tried to reason with you, but you're a clever faggot. The Devil's own kind, I guess. You've got a neat answer or hokey one that thou attitude for every big and little bit of the evil homosexuality really is. Don't you know that incest, child abuse and homosexuality helped wreck every great nation that ever was? What do you think we're facing today? Why do you think our country is going downhill? Because immoral behavior of every kind is allowed to flourish in the name of freedom, that's why. Well, liberty and justice for all can't survive in the absence of moral responsibility. That's a fact of life you faggots are going to have to learn, like it or not. You know what I'm saying is right. You just won't admit it."

"I know that competitive stress and economic distress caused by too many people struggling to get the same things out of life at the same time decreases the real value we put on each other and increases the chance that we will hate and hurt others and be hated and hurt ourselves. This hate and hurt strikes hardest at the family."

"I know that the bigger our population gets, the faster it grows, and that unemployment and underpaid employment grow with it. Not only does the number of people competing for each job go up, the amount of money paid to those who have jobs goes down, slowly, but surely. That not only reduces the standard of living, it impairs our ability to improve the quality of life on a steady basis. If there's any doubt in your mind about how and why the situation works out that way, ask people who were once employed in the steel, auto, textile and appliance industries in this country. Ask unemployed people who have lost their jobs to immigrants willing to work for less money. Ask people who have had to take pay cuts because of foreign competition. Check the number and incomes of permanently unemployed people. Ask the person who has been 1 in 5, 10, a 100 or literally thousands of people applying for the same job or a mere handful of jobs. What kind of feeling do you think is generated in the hearts and minds of persons who have to face that much competition? How long can they or anyone else feel secure in the present or future? We compete on a worldwide basis today. Trade barriers are relatively useless, counterproductive. With population constantly on the rise in most parts of the world, the economic fate of the individual and family is driven ever downward toward a lower and lower standard of living by ever increasing competition by more and more people for every available job. Homosexuality helps to stop that trend and can eventually reverse it because it slows down pop growth."

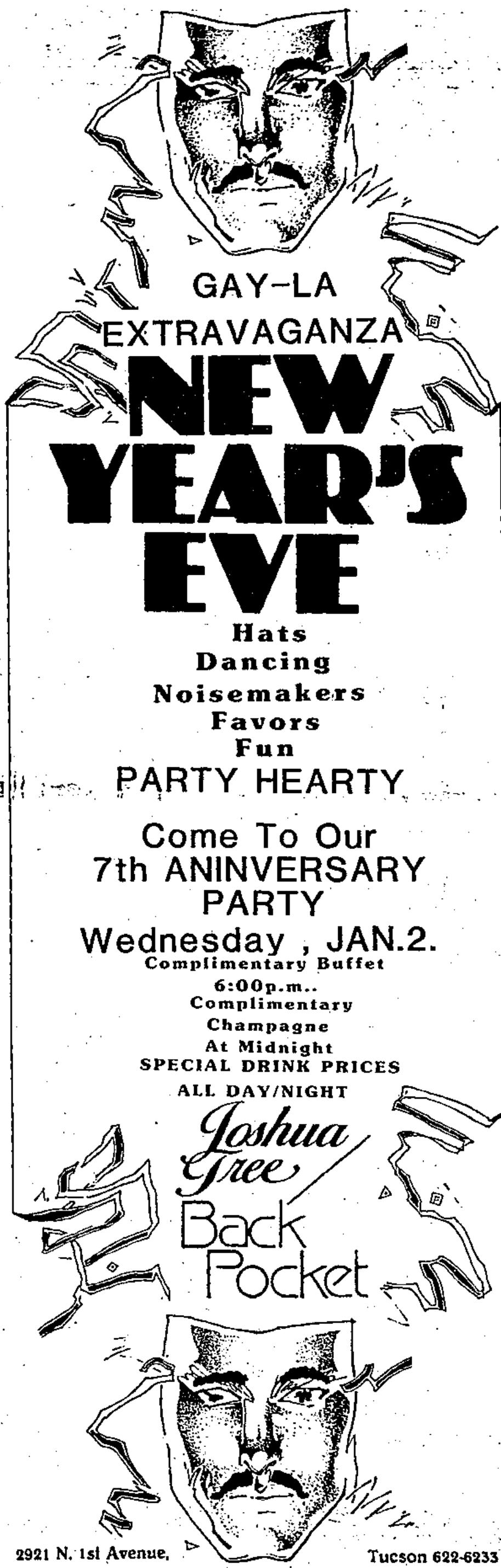
"I know that unemployment and underpaid employment cause poverty out of which demoralization grows and festers on the social body erupting into running sores of crime, apathy, indiscriminate violence, child and spouse abuse, alcoholism, drug addiction, suicide and mental and physical illness. Greater risk to our personal safety and financial security accompanies the development of these conditions. They threaten the well being of the family and social integrity — not homosexuality which is designed to help prevent their underlying cause — overpopulation — from happening."

"I know that the disillusionment and desperation poverty breeds causes people to organize or join religious and political cults. Our principal adversary in the world today, communism, was born and raised in the poverty excessive pop growth creates. It continues to spread throughout the world for the same reason. Economic instability and political unrest divide society and the world into opposing factions ready and willing to kill each other for the bare necessities of life and its rewards, as well. Lesbians and gay men strive to alter the course of straight reproductive prodigality responsible for the will to go to war by behaving non-reproductively. That helps preserve society and its institutions, including, of course, the family."

"I know that our taxes keep going up and up and government deficit spending keeps rising higher and higher because we have to support more and more people who can't support themselves, and at the same time, keep our armed forces in a constant state of readiness to go to war. The tensions generated by ever growing competition between ever increasing numbers of people in every nation on earth leave us no choice except to lend and spend until the money runs out or war obliterates us. Sure, we could feed, house and clothe every person on earth a couple of times over if we weren't for all the money we spend on military preparedness, but we can't afford not to spend that money until there are fewer people in the world who will try to grab what we've got if they think they can get away with it. Population pressure dictates its own terms. social, economic, political, military, environmental."

"I know that ever increasing pop growth and the ever increasing degree of civilization it takes to accommodate it is contaminating our environment and destroying wildlife, plant and animal, at a faster and faster rate of speed each year. How long human life can survive it we go on poisoning our air, water and food is a matter of debate. The fact that we find ourselves arguing the issue shows how dangerous a position we've put ourselves in."

"I know that we want to slow down pop growth, repressing homosexual behavior is not the way to do it. Repressing homosexuality speeds up pop growth. The presence of lesbian and gay parents in society proves it. The staggering growth in our population over the last 1700 years from approximately 100 million people to nearly five billion proves it. Throughout that period, everytime lesbians and gay men tried to re-assert their population reducing place in society, they were hounded, tormented, beaten, ostracized, jailed and/or





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3:00 - BUFFET (\$5 Donation)
9:00 - SHOW with Aviva Diamond and Company. (\$1 Donation)MONDAY, DEC. 31.....3:00 - FREE KEGGER
4:30 - INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & HANGING OF CLUB COLORS.
5-7 P.M. - BUFFET (\$5 Donation)

****Our warmest thanks to AVIVA DIAMOND, STEPHANIE PRICE and CANDY PLASTIQUE for making our benefit such a success.

agba

ATTENTION

ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, A VOLUNTARY DONATION OF \$1.00 WILL BE COLLECTED BY ALL ARIZONA GAY BAR OWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS (AGBA).

ALL MONIES DONATED WILL GO TO THE ARIZONA AIDS FUND TRUST
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LEATHERSPACE

A few weeks ago, while relaxing at my favorite watering hole dressed in my leathers, a young man nervously came up to me, introduced himself, and started to ask questions relating to my wearing leather. He said he likes leather but was afraid people would think he was into heavy S&M, which he wasn't. He wanted to know what I thought. My response was that S&M means different things to different people. To me, S&M means Sensitivity and Maturity. Sensitivity in being aware of where a person is in his development and limits and Maturity in acting within these limits in a responsible way.

My answer to his question describes my reaction to Copperstate Leathermen's Leatherfest 1. Leatherfest 1, held over the weekend of December 14-16 in Phoenix, was the first of a series of runs designed to inform and educate Leathermen.

Seminars were held on Saturday that imposed no value judgements, focusing instead on safety, hygiene and mature attitudes in relation to topics of interest to Leathermen. Lectures, demonstrations, and question and answer sessions were appreciated by both novice and seasoned Leathermen.

GAY FINANCIAL NEWSLETTER

LAUNCHED

NEW YORK, NY - The first issue of the "Lambda Financial Advisor", the first financial newsletter specifically geared toward Gay men and Lesbian women, has come off the press with an initial press run of 10,000 copies.

Traditionally Wall Street has been concerned with the investments of the so-called "straight" society. As single people, Gay men and women have their own special investment needs. They have more disposable income, can assume greater risk, and don't have the same worries about providing for dependents as the so-called "straight" family has. Their investment goals and objectives are different.

The main purpose of the "Lambda Financial Advisor" is to help increase the wealth of the Gay community by encouraging Gay men and women not to underestimate their investment power. The goal of the "Lambda Financial Advisor" is to help them make the transition from consumers to investors.

Julius J. Spohn is the publisher and editor of the newsletter and is president of the Julius J. Spohn & Co., Inc. He has a BS in Economics from Rutgers University and has done graduate work in economics at the New School for Social Research in New York. He has worked on Wall Street since 1970, and was an over-the-counter securities trader and arbitrageur of foreign securities. He is a member of the National Security Traders Association, the Security Traders Association of New York and the New York Bankers Group. He is active in Dignity, New York, and is one of the co-founders of the Dignity Gay Veterans Association. (212)233-3608.

UNION OFF THE HOOK

WASHINGTON, DC (GCN) - A government worker's union has been cleared of charges that it illegally encouraged its members in a Social Security office to strike when it advised them to "refrain from face-to-face interviews" with people with AIDS who filed claims for benefits, according to the Washington Post.

The workers never went on strike over the issue but the Social Security Administration contended that an American Federation of Government Employees local in New York called for a strike or slowdown when it sent out a precautionary notice about interviews with AIDS claimants to its members.

The union claimed, and the Federal Labor Relations Authority agreed that the instructions were of an informational nature and not a call for a strike. Strikes or slowdowns against the government are illegal.

Before being approved for Social Security benefits, people with AIDS, like all other applicants, must be interviewed by Social Security workers.

by Jay Cunningham

seminars were separated by a lunch at The Ramrod which was appreciated by a bunch of hungry men in leather.

Later Saturday evening, a Black and Blue Party offered an opportunity to put into practice topics discussed at the Seminars for anyone who wanted to participate. I will let your imagination work on this one.

Sunday, a Survivor's Brunch was held at Trax followed by a Leather Fair at Phoenix Power and Supply. The Leather Fair included booths where Piercing, Tattooing and Leather Goods were available. Hamburgers and hot dogs were sold to help send Mr. Arizona Leatherman to Chicago in May.

Sunday evening, the Copperstate Leathermen hung their Colors in Phoenix Power and Supply. The ceremony was remarkable for its mixture of solemnity and fun. The Colors Ceremony was followed by a Leather Ball at Trax. Music and dancing were fine with drink specials and a \$100 Gift Certificate from Tuff Stuff raffled off.

Copperstate Leathermen can be proud of Leatherfest 1, and I'm sure I speak for all who attended when I say novice and seasoned Leathermen. The Leatherfest 2.

DELETE THOSE QUEERS

HARRISBURG, PA (GCN) - A newly formed group called Citizens Who Care (CWC) will attempt to replace by petition or referendum their city's law protecting Gay men and Lesbians from discrimination, according to Philadelphia's Gay News.

The group's chairman, Rev. Edgar B. Murphy III, told the Gay News that his organization hopes to replace Harrisburg's ordinance 8 with a "human rights ordinance" that does not mention sexual preference because "we feel no one should have special privilege because of sexual preference." Murphy's ordinance would cover all other categories included in the ordinance, passed by the Harrisburg City Council in March 1983.

Murphy said his group formed in the middle of August after the City Council passed a proclamation which designated August 24 as Gay Pride Day. "Two ladies and myself who had written letters to the (local) paper got together. We prayed and we decided to start the group," said Murphy.

One Gay activist in the area said he didn't anticipate the council "would back down" on Ordinance 8. But if the question takes the form of a ballot referendum, Roger Beatty said Harrisburg's Gay men and Lesbians will "need to broaden our base (of support) because if it comes to the community versus Gays and Lesbians, we won't get anywhere."

FIGHTING THE FIREFIGHTERS

FIGHTING THE FIREFIGHTERS
SAN FRANCISCO, CA (GCN) - The man who was the victim of a physical assault by five San Francisco firemen at a restaurant on October 20 has filed a \$250,000 suit against the city, according to the Bay Area Reporter.

William K. Moore, who is not Gay, alleges that the firemen taunted him with anti-Gay remarks and then punched him repeatedly in the face. Moore says he acted to protect himself and did not attack the firefighters in any way.

The five firefighters have been disciplined - three with suspensions, two with formal reprimands - and two face charges of battery. Also still pending is a police probe of the officers called to quell the melee. The officers refused to enter the restaurant or interview witnesses, and when taken to the nearby firehouse, refused to arrest suspects identified by the victim.

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hair 'n' things
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Roger Sweet

A View From Within

by Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

BOOZE AND PILLS: GO AHEAD. KILL YOURSELF

The next time someone wrinkles his answer? I thought not. nose, and makes a distasteful wrinkle out of his face when I tell him I don't do drugs. I swear I'll drop him right there on the spot! I DON'T do drugs of any kind! I DON'T drink anything with alcohol in it! and I DON'T smoke. Anything! (I'm not only justly proud of it, I'm smug about it! And frankly rent? More money going to booze than I don't give a damn if you believe me or not!!)

Everyone seems so nonplussed when I tell them. Then, after an uncomfortable pause lasting, usually, about ten minutes, they say, "That's real good, I only smoke a little. I'm trying to cut down, though." Look, I know that I am not alone. There are many other Gay men who don't need to escape reality by doing drugs or getting drunk. (There MUST be...) There have got to be other people of strong moral fiber who indulge in natural highs: dancing, old Joan Crawford movies, (sex...), Monty Python...

You and I both know being Gay is no picnic. Life isn't either. We all have problems, but there are many more intelligent solutions than getting wasted. (How appropriate a term). If there is a problem, face it! Head-on! Why hide? When you awaken with a hangover, is the problem gone? OF COURSE NOT! So, why debase yourself?

Why indeed! Oh, I always hear, "It's so much easier to do coke than worry about from where I will get the rent money." Or, "I drink to be happy, and forget my problems." (Drinking probably IS your problem). Am I being moralistic? You bet! With all of the medical evidence against drug use, smoking, (et.al), what good is it? (Did you know, that drugs, alcohol, and smoking lower your body's defenses and make you a better candidate for AIDS? And if you don't know what AIDS is, then...). You hurt only yourself and do nothing toward solving your problems. If you are really that self-destructive, why not just slice open your wrist, and put yourself out of our misery!

I come under stress like anybody else. I panic. I get upset. Why haven't I ever taken a drink, or found the need to take drugs? HMM? I'm a person just like you: no better... if I can manage to struggle through my problems, and come out (usually) unscathed, then why can't you? Any

Well listen! I HAVE HAD IT! I am tired of dodging your cars on the highways, wondering if your car has my name on it. I am tired of telling my drunk friends something, and having to repeat myself tomorrow! I am tired of reading your names in the obits. A senseless, stupid waste of human life.

Buddy, look: do us all a favor. Get help. Go to a doctor or counselor, and do it NOW! Before you take another drink; before you drop another 'fude. Do it now, and enjoy life sober.

The New Year is right around the corner, how about a resolution that will save your life?

DEAR READER:

If you have a question, or a problem that you cannot find help with, please write to this column in care of Post Office Box 50733, Tucson, AZ 85703-1733. All letters received will be kept in strictest confidence. If you would like a discreet, personal reply, enclose an envelope, addressed to yourself, with postage. You may have a problem of great interest to others in the Gay community, and the OBSERVER wants to help.

Thank you.
Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

GAY HEALTH Exposure to Immunity

by Ron Lewis, M.D.

In the past year or so, interest in Gay health has centered around the AIDS crisis and theories concerning etiology and prevention of the disease. Not a week has gone by when we have not read about a new discovery or heard about some young person succumbing to the disease. The community has been well inundated by information about what can be done to prevent the spread of AIDS, but little has been mentioned about what can be done to strengthen and maintain our own immune systems and insure our own good health.

The diseases that plague the Gay community, although not unique, are found in greater frequency than in the heterosexual community. The reason for this being that sexual practices among homosexuals are different and the number of sexual partners often also higher, thereby ensuring a greater chance of exposure to potentially harmful bacteria and viruses.

Our immune system is not indestructible. It functions much like soldiers on a battlefield with the enemy being the attacking bacteria, viruses, fungi and cancer cells. The "overload" theory of AIDS states that with each exposure of the immune system by an offending organism, the system becomes weakened until it finally breaks down - leading to an immunodeficient state. Therefore, if we can limit our encounters with potentially harmful organisms we could help preserve and protect our immune system, and hence our general health.

Exposure to bacteria and viruses is not the situation that tends to weaken the immune system. Another area being researched is the relationship between diet and host resistance. In other words, what role does nutrition play in maintaining a healthy immune system? My investigation into that topic was disappointing and revealed that our knowledge of how diet affects immunity is far from complete. What we do know is that malnutrition will impair T-lymphocyte function and the ability of other white blood cells to migrate to the sites of bacterial and fungal infection, and to kill these harmful invaders.

Deficiencies in vitamins such as folic acid, pyridoxine, vitamins A and C have all been shown, in laboratory experiments, to cause an impairment in the T-lymphocyte response to infection. The mechanisms by which vitamin



deficiencies produce immunodeficiency are not uniform.

The role of trace elements in the regulation of immunity function is also under investigation. Deficiencies in such trace elements as zinc and iron appears to influence immunocompetence, the mechanisms operating are still unclear.

In other experiments, it has been shown that excess cholesterol and large amounts of polyunsaturated fatty acids produce alterations in the anatomy of white blood cells.

What does this all mean? It is very unlikely that nutritional deficiency is the key to the AIDS mystery, but we can postulate that it may facilitate events leading to the establishment of the disease.

Not only is nutrition important, but we must also begin to utilize our knowledge of prevention of the more common infections such as the influenza and cold viruses, gastrointestinal bacterial infections such as Shigella and Campylobacter, and the parasitic infections of Amoebiasis and Giardiasis.

Only by decreasing the exposure of our immune systems to these agents and others like them - along with good nutritional support - can we maintain our present state of good health. (Sentinel)



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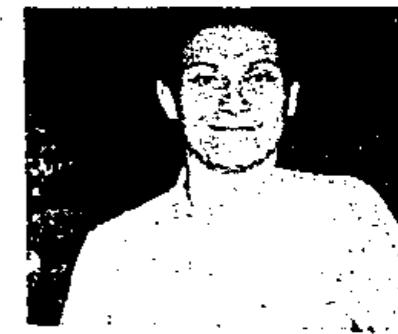
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PHOTO QUIZ....



This week's Photo Quiz will probably be a toughie for most of you. Although he is a very familiar figure at most events and gatherings and bars, today he doesn't look like he did when he was sixteen in this photo.



We don't know how so many of you picked the correct name of that cute little tyke from last week's photo but many of you guessed that it was our own tapper and sometimes hostess Mr. Monte-Jon Gilmer. You will notice that he was in correct gender attire at that time of his life, but, from the looks of that smile, he was sure getting off on the male photographer!



SPECIAL CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29
COLETTE'S WEST - Live music by Rare Breed. Dancing.
TRAMPS - Sun Country Leather Club begins 3-day celebration at 1 p.m. with free kegger and from 2 to 6 p.m. buffet, \$5 donation requested for buffet to benefit S.C.L.C.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30
TRAMPS - Sun Country Leather Club continues celebration with free kegger at noon, buffet at 3 p.m. and show at 9 p.m. \$5 donation requested for buffet to benefit S.C.L.C. Show starring Alvia Diamond and Company starts at 9:00 p.m. benefits S.C.L.C.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31 (NEW YEARS EVE)
BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - New Year's Eve Extravaganza, noise makers, etc. Free Champagne at midnight. No Cover.
COLETTE'S WEST - New Year's Eve Party. Free Buffet and all the trimmings.

FINELINE - New Year's Eve Party. No Cover. Fun, favors, Complimentary Champagne at midnight.
GRADUATE - New Year's Eve Party. Special drink prices, fun and favors. No Cover.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - New Year's Eve Gay-La Spectacular. Showtime 8:30 p.m. starring Lady Cassandra and guests from Phoenix. Complimentary buffet follows show. Complimentary Bottle of Champagne for everyone at midnight. Hats, horns, noisemakers, etc. No Cover.

TRAMPS - Sun Country Leather Club Celebration continues with free kegger at 3 p.m. At 4:30 Installation of Officers and Hanging of Club Colors. \$5-7 p.m. Buffet. \$5 donation requested for buffet to benefit S.C.L.C. NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. No Cover. Party favors. Dance to DJ's Johnny Eckhardi, from Probe in L.A. and Linda Fazdale.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1 (NEW YEAR'S DAY)
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - "Get Well Party" - Bloody Mary's and Screwdrivers - 75 cents each!!!! Get Well!!!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2
BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - BIG 7TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY. Special drink prices all day and night. Complimentary Buffet at 6 p.m.

THE TUCSON CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Draft Beer Bust 9-11, All you can drink \$2. 11 p.m. - 1 a.m. \$5 a glass of draft.
COLETTE'S WEST - Well Liquor .75 - 9 to Midnight.
FINELINE - TALL Neck Bottle Beer Night .75 - "Dynasty" on big screen TV in D.F.R.
GRADUATE - Watermelon Shots .75 - 9 p.m. - Midnight.
RITA'S - Lunches 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Limited Menu 3-9 p.m. "Dynasty Nite" on big screen TV. Alexis Champagne Cocktail .50 from 8 to 10 p.m. Well Shots .75
TRAMPS - Square Dancing with Tucson's T-Squares and country and western music with DJ Linda Fazdale.

THURSDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bottle Beer Night .90 domestic 9:00 - 1:00 a.m. "ARIZONA CAY" television show on TV at 7:30 p.m.
COLETTE'S WEST - Draft Beer Bust 9 p.m. - Midnight \$2.00.
FINELINE - Shots of Schnapps .75 -
RITA'S - "Party Nite" - Well Shots and Domestic Beer .75, Well Drinks \$1.00 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Kitchen open for lunches 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Limited menu 3-8 p.m.

FRIDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Shots of Schnapps .75.
GRADUATE - Watermelon Shots .75 - 9 p.m. - Midnight.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open for lunch 11 a.m. 3 p.m. Limited menu 3-9 p.m.

SATURDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Shots of Schnapps .75.
COLETTE'S WEST - Free Pool from Noon to 4 p.m.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open for lunch 11 a.m. 3 p.m. Limited menu 3-9 p.m.
TRAMPS - Saturday morning with Daddy David begins at 6 a.m.

SUNDAY

BACK POCKET - Beer Bust 4 to 6 p.m. All the draft you can drink for \$2.00. 6 to 9 p.m. Beer, wine and well \$1.00. 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dine, Steak Dinner 4 to 8 p.m. \$3.00.
COLETTE'S WEST - Sunday Sick Call - All Juice Drinks \$1.00 Happy Hour Prices 4 - 9 p.m.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Sunday Brunch Noon to 3 p.m. Bar-b-que Dinners served 5 to 9 p.m.
TRAMPS - BEER BUST 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. All the draft beer you can drink \$2.00. \$5.00 cash "Grab Bag". Drawing begins at 11 p.m.

MONDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bowlers Special Night. 1/2 price drinks to Monday night bowlers.
COLETTE'S WEST - Monday Night Madness - \$1.00 Margaritas 9:00 to Midnight.
FINELINE - All Well Drinks .75
GRADUATE - Watermelon Shots .75 - 9 p.m. to Midnight.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Lunch served 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Limited menu 3-9 p.m.

TUESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Shot Nite - Well shots .75.
COLETTE'S WEST - .75 Domestic Beer. Pool Tournament from 9:00 p.m. to Midnight on alternate Tuesdays.
FINELINE - MIKARIBO CLASSIC DARK .75
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Lunch served 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
TRAMPS - "ROCKIN' ON NIGHT" check for special schedule each week. "Rock 'n Roll Night too!"

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On December 19, Collette's West learning several instruments, Gillian celebrated their anniversary and chose to march to the beat of her drums. As an accomplished percussionist, she has performed with jazz, rock and symphonic groups at school and was.

Hawkins and DeLear is certainly a unique musical duet whose style embraces both the contemporary and the traditional.

Ranging from Rock to Jazz -- Folk to Funk, and utilizing several acoustic and electronic instruments. Hawkins and DeLear's original music includes lyrics that speak from the heart of the experiences of women growing up in Midwestern America.

Chris Hawkins has performed in St. Louis for three years as a single and in duos at various clubs, universities, coffeehouses and benefits. She received a degree in classical music from Indiana University. Although she has had no formal voice training, Chris considers a strong vocal style an important characteristic of her music.

Gillian DeLear grew up in a musical family, playing musical instruments since she was five years old. After

Chris and Gillian met in November 1983, and shortly thereafter shared music together for the first time at the St. Louis Women's Coffeehouse. Since that performance, Chris and Gillian have become an established duo in St. Louis, performing at a variety of functions. They hope to release a recording within the next few months.

Chris said she enjoyed her performance in Tucson very much and hope they will return in the very near future. The audience reaction to the duo was outstanding, affirming that these two new musical performers will make that return to Tucson -- and soon.

We hope so, - they were certainly one of the brightest live musical stars the local entertainment scene has seen in

Happy New Year!

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Events

by Doc

As this 1984 comes to an end, I want to wish everyone out there the happiest New Year possible. I hope 1985 proves to be one of the happiest and that all of your fondest dreams come true.

At this time, each of us sit down (by ourselves) to make New Year's Resolutions we know we are not going to keep. Here are some I overheard, and just had to report on:

(IN TUCSON)

...TOMMY M. - smooth running club functions and meetings.

...GARY T. - a willing and workable deep throat.

...BERT H. - take Jimmy on all runs.

...JIMMY F. - a stand in for himself.

...TJ - a serious Master for birthdays.

...LEE R. - a year without raising hell

...IP - keep track of my 1800 and rain-coat.

...MIKE D. - find Mister Right.

...CHESTER B. - a year without an accident.

...BILL H. - a way to keep up with Elmer.

...MIKE W. - someone serious.

...PARTICK T. - fewer limits and less detours.

...RAY D. - a true swinger from the straight bars.

...MURRAY L. - projects on time and completed without being called more than twice.

...ROGER B. - more active bed times.

...PETER S. - a 300 game.

...RON T. - give my help more money and time off.

...THOM S. - a full house for lunch daily.

...MAC M. - more private time with Thom

...TOMMY S. - not to talk to Doc.
...BOB E. - news columns early from all
...MARK - a daytime position - top or
bottom.
...EDDIE - clean up the tape for the
Holiday Inn East.
...EDDIE F. - keep my feet on the
ground, not in the air.
...HOPI - take singing lessons.
...GLENN D. - just a good year.
...DOC - not always hear everything to
report.

(FROM PHOENIX)

...BILL L. - go to the Grand Canyon run and not have anyone report anything on me.

...EDDIE D. - stay home.
...RON - stay off my knees at Ramrod.
...ART - stay away from truck stops.

...TOM - no work and sleep on the Grand Canyon Run.

...JOHN - do all of Tom's work at the Grand Canyon Run.

...PHIL - buy less shoes.
...BRIG - one less Bloody Mary for the year.

...LADY C. - have a hit show so she can retire.

...MOTHER J. - just help.

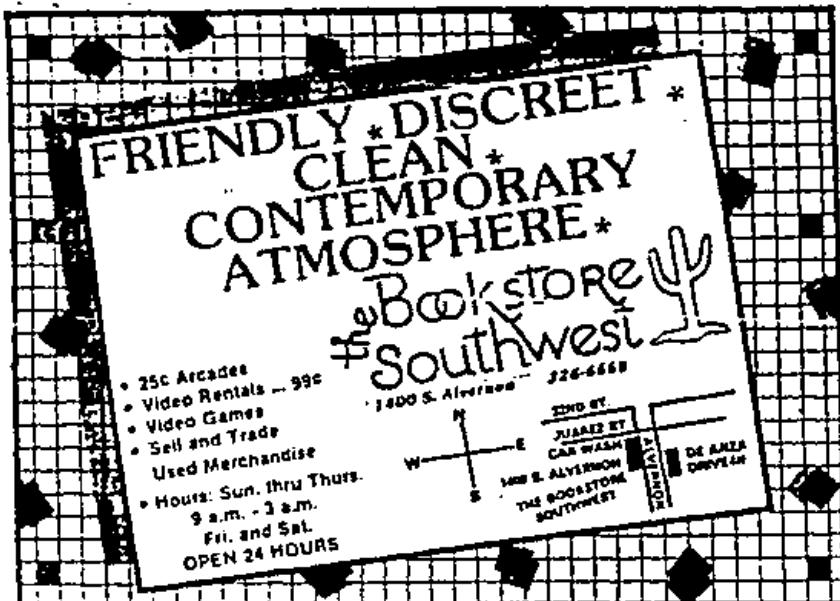
DRONENBERG REHEARING DENIED

WASHINGTON, DC (OCN) - the 11-member Court of Appeals here has refused to review a decision upholding a former Navy petty officer's discharge for having sex with another seaman, according to the Washington Blade.

The ruling lets stand the opinion written last August by Circuit Judge Robert Bork in the case of former petty officer James Dronenberg. Bork contended that Dronenberg and Gay people in or out of the military do not have a constitutional right to private, consensual sexual relations.

Bork wrote that "a right to homosexual conduct is [not] 'fundamental' or 'implicit in the concept of ordered liberty' unless any and all private sexual behavior falls within those categories...."

Four judges dissented with the majority opinion not to review the case and charged the original three-judge panel with writing "a twelve-page attack on the right to privacy," and faulted the panel for substituting "its own doctrinal preferences for the constitutional principles established by the Supreme Court."



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THE EDGE...
by Guy Edgerly

ON PAIN AND HURT

To be avoided at all cost. For most of us, these two heartaches control our lives. Isn't it about time that WE took control of them?

There are, as I see them, two approaches. One easy, one hard. The easy one is the hardest in the long run because it requires only that we stop feeling; stop being vulnerable; turn off; keep it all in; build a wall and keep others out. It ends up drawing us of life. People are feeling animals. We want and need each other; some more, some less, sooner or later. To deny feelings is to deny life. It ends up hurting everyone involved.

But who wants to experience pain? We don't volunteer for it. It is simply a fact of life that somewhere along the line there will be pain. So why not prepare for it? How? Start by realizing a few truths. Pain and hurt can be controlled. Each of us is totally responsible for not only our actions, but our reactions. No one is free until we realize our responsibilities toward our feelings. No one can control you unless you allow it to happen. No one can hurt you unless you choose to react by feeling hurt or pain. It's too easy to blame an outside source for our pain. No matter what is said or done, you ultimately are the final word on how you choose to react. Pain (except physical violence) is usually self-inflicted. It is a truth that is hard to swallow since most of us do not have (or want to have) that much control of ourselves. Are you so willing to let someone else decide things for you? Then indeed, you are a prisoner and you will never experience happiness until it is in your hands and not someone else's.

The hard way is actually the easiest. The trick? See what is

really there. Try honesty and communication. Throw away your rose-colored glasses and stop trying to see what is not there just because you want it to be true. Love is grand when you know it is based on fact, not fiction. Then when you are on could nine; you know you have a concrete base from which to float and return. Anything less breeds insecurity. Pain cannot be avoided even by step #1, for our wall keeps life from reaching us and we slowly die. The pain is simply in smaller doses.

When someone is reaching out to "hurt" you, be aware that they are the one hurting. Care enough to reach out. We tend to take everything personally rather than stepping back to see what's really being said. This works even with total strangers.

Everyone is entitled to their own opinions based on their experiences. You may not know where his head has been. Just listen - he'll tell you. Recently a man approached me at the bar. I never saw him before. "You think your shit doesn't stink" he said. Having just come out of the men's room, I knew he was wrong, but I realized I had a problem. I knew the truth. What he said was not taken personally, and we sat and talked a bit. He wanted to meet me and out of fear of frustration and possible rejection and other fantasies, he made his statement. He was afraid to meet me because he thought I was so handsome but stand-offish. His attempt to cause hurt didn't work.

We choose our reactions. We are all in charge of ourselves, except for those who choose to give up their power to others. They have no one to blame but themselves for their pain or hurt. Choose well.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE

killed. They were excommunicated from church and society. Would-be lesbians and gays quickly learned as youths to blot all thought and feeling of homosexual inclination out of their minds and bodies. To get anywhere in life, to be socially accepted and entitled to the same rights as others meant going straight, getting married, having children. Only the brave or foolish dared to be lesbian or gay. Their numbers were meager, compared to the urgent need for more and more of them to do their part in slowing down human pop growth.

"I know that the cry for gay/lesbian liberty is more than a minority demand for equal rights and social justice. It's Nature telling us in no uncertain terms to slow down our pop growth and survive as a species or go on increasing it and die! If you really care about yourself, your children and the future of human kind, you should thank your lucky stars for every lesbian and gay person you know or know of and do everything you can to make them feel welcome and wanted in society."

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The National Edition includes listings for the entire US as well as Canada. New edition available in May \$6.95 third class; \$8 first class; outside North America \$9. (Canada first class only: \$8 US funds).

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LESBIAN/GAY RIGHTS
SAN FRANCISCO ▼ 1984

At the Democratic National Convention this summer, history was made for the Lesbian and Gay Community. Among the accomplishments of the National March were:

- Hundreds of millions of people learned about gay rights from positive news accounts in papers and on T.V. around the world.
- Tens of thousands of journalists were educated about our community.
- Thousands of Democratic Party leaders were moved to support our issues. Eight of the twelve National March demands were included in the Party platform.
- Hundreds of thousands of Lesbians and Gay men marched.
- Millions of closeted Lesbians and Gay men throughout the world learned they were not alone.

Although hundreds of people gave money and donated time, it wasn't quite enough to cover the costs of this enormous event. The National March Committee is approximately \$6,000 in debt.

Now a very few volunteers have gathered to complete the success of the March by paying off the debts owed to a few community businesses.

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Lesbian/Gay Rights
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FICTION: "THE ACCIDENT"

DECEMBER 27, 1984

PAGE ELEVEN

by John Feddersen

Just as I turned. "Oh, God! I'm sorry," he said as I watched the paper cup slip out of my hand, land with a splash. Coke everywhere. I felt my face turn hot and red as he began laughing uncontrollably.

"I really am sorry," he choked. "I know it's not funny, but I can't help it." He tried to force his mouth closed while the chuckles fought to break free. He scooped up the cup and tossed it in the nearby trash can.

"Please, I'll buy you another one."

I stood in disbelief, at what had happened in front of all those people and at what was standing before me. His chest was so developed, so big. But it was the smile... those teeth, the lips... and why did I feel like I was falling into liquid gold? I couldn't tear away from his eyes.

"Are you okay?" He reached out and grasped my arm. I burned.

"Yuh...uh...I'm all right." I had to get away.

"Let me get you another soda. Coke, isn't it?" he asked letting go of my arm. I was sure I had a burn mark from his hand.

"Yuh...No, thanks. It's all right." I was so embarrassed, I turned and all but ran. It felt like everyone in the food stand line had been staring at me. And he was so handsome. Surely all those people could see I was just standing there staring at him like a complete idiot. I felt so foolish, walked away, fast.

God, why me? All I wanted was a hot dog and Coke. Now the hot dog tastes lousy. And no Coke. How can anyone eat a hot dog without something to wash it down?

I concentrated to get back some semblance of control, slowed my pace and reached the beginning of the beach area. I stopped near another trash can and forced down the last of the tasteless food.

"Here!"

I looked down at the filled Coke cup shoved in front of me. I looked into that face again and stared. Hot and red returned. He wasn't laughing, but couldn't he stop smiling? Please? My chest was heaving and I had trouble breathing. We just stood there. Staring. He at me, and I at his smile.

His lips started moving. "I'm really sorry. I got shaved. I know you were awfully embarrassed, but I couldn't stop laughing. You know how it is when something happens and you know you shouldn't laugh and the harder you try not to, the worse it gets?" He extended the cup closer. "Please?"

I reached for the cup and clumsily took it, trying to avoid his fingers. My hand began to shake, splitting the Coke over the edges of the cup, onto my hand, dripping into the sand. I got hotter and redder.

"Thanks," was all I could say.

"Isn't this a perfect day for the beach?" he began as he looked up at the clear, blue sky. "We got here a couple of hours ago and it was full of people then. Now look at us. Hardly a spot to put down a towel. Did you just get here?"

"Uh...no," I stammered. "About ten this morning." A quick glance over at him. Golden brown hair, slightly lighter than his dark tan. Thick curly hair gathered around his ears, down his neck, spilled over onto his forehead. DANG CURLS! Of course, he HAD to have curly hair.

"Same time as us. I like to catch rays between eleven and one so I try to get out by ten and settle in. Have to watch myself, especially at the ocean. The salt water is deceiving. You feel cool from the breeze off the ocean but the salt in it makes those rays stronger somehow. I burn real easy if I'm not careful. Have to use lots of oil with sunscreen."

God, don't think about him glistening with suntan oil! Oh, no...my bathing suit will never hide this...got to get away.

"Yuh, well...uh, thanks for the Coke." I started to walk away. Things were happening and I didn't want him to see THAT!

Somehow I managed to find my beach towel and somehow I had managed to drink the Coke without knowing it. I filled the cup with sand and propped it next to my radio. I'd dump it in a can later. Picked up the towel and shook it, letting it drift back into place. Then stretched out on my stomach.

His suit looked transparent. What kind of material

I felt it hard under me. Good grief! Had anyone noticed? I didn't dare look up. This is ridiculous. Get into the cold water. That'll make it go away. Stop thinking about his thick thighs. Quit remembering his hand on your arm, his flesh against your flesh. On swimming, QUICK!

I jumped up and ran toward the water, hoping no one would see what I was trying to hide. Dived into the water and came up gasping. It was so cold. I swam out a short distance where I thought I could stand waist deep, where it wouldn't be seen.

The waves were small but large enough to catch a ride on. A good one was heading toward me. I turned, facing the beach. No one was in front of me. Then I watched the oncoming wave over my shoulder. It began to build. I moved to catch the swell, and as it reached me I jumped, pushing forward, riding the crest as far as it would take me.

I slid on the sand at the shoreline, coming to a grinding halt. I felt great. Stood up, laughing, turned to run out for the next one. Another was just rising. I made it out in time to catch that one too, but didn't do as well, not jumping off in time. The wave rolled over me and I tumbled in the trough it left behind.

Got to my feet and splashed out for the next wave. Saw it coming. Timed it. Moved again to catch the peak. PERFECT! I could feel myself being propelled forward at breakneck speed, knowing that the ride would be fast and clear to the beach.

I crashed into someone.

I rolled on the bottom getting sand into every crack of my body. I came up laughing and sputtering.

"Sorry!" I began in apology. And couldn't continue... HIM again!

"Hi, it's you. Now I know YOU didn't get shaved. If you're trying to pay be back, we're even." He started laughing, standing there, steady, with his huge legs spread as if I hadn't just crashed into him.

"I'm sorry. Forgot to check in front of me." I mumbled, brushing sand off my legs and arms.

"It's okay. I know what it's like to catch a good one and forget the rest of the world. Come on. Here comes a beauty!" He started running out. "Come on!" he yelled back at me. He wanted me to go body surfing with him!

I didn't think. I just went...

Trudged numbly out to where he was standing.

"Get ready. It's almost time. Don't go yet, it's too soon." He turned toward the beach. "NOW!" he yelled, and we jumped with the wave.

I missed it and stood to see him rushing past me. Stopping my head. He got up with a smile and lunged back out beside me.

"Fantastical! How'd YOU do? Quick! The next one's coming!" And off he went with me trying to believe what was going on. Trying to handle it. Trying to understand why the cold water wasn't working!

He caught the next one before I could reach it and flew by me again. I just stood and watched his hard, flat body carried toward the beach, foam spashing around him, jealous of its caresses over his skin.

He ran back and stood facing me. The ever-present smile once more holding me in a trance.

"Hey, we don't know each other's names. Mine's Brad." He extended his hand.

"Michael," I said, not wanting to touch him but knowing I had to. I gripped tightly knowing he would do the same. Not wanting him to feel a squishy hand with our introduction. He didn't hold on that "unnecessary moment longer" that all the books describe when you're supposed to know in an instant that the guy is gay and on the make for you. I was stupidly disappointed.

"Nice to meet you Michael. Looks like the next batch'll be real high. When the waves die down like this it usually means big ones are backing up." He turned to face the ocean and ducked completely down into the water, coming back up with eyes closed, face tossed skyward, letting the water cascade through his curly hair that wouldn't slick down. I watched as the shining liquid ran down the crevice in the center of his back. He spread his legs for balance. I was staring again.

His suit looked transparent. What kind of material

could do that? It clung in disarray all over his hips and...

"My God, is he hard? I can see how big he is through the suit. He's HUGE and it's standing out so far! If he isn't hard I'd hate to see...I'd love to see what it looks like when it is. So big...but he isn't hard. Why would he be? It just sticks out like that sometimes when cold water sort of makes it that way."

He almost looks naked.

As if sensing the object of my attention his hand nearest me reached up and grabbed the top of his shirt, pulling it down enough for me to see what a dark tan he had and how white he was beneath his suit. The other hand dipped inside and did some adjusting. But when he had finished he only looked more revealing, more naked, harder yet!

"Look, Mick!" He pointed. "A huge one's coming."

My mother was the only person I ever knew who affectionately called me Mick. I couldn't take it anymore. I'd seen a huge one long enough and if I didn't get out of there immediately I'd be the one coming!

"I'm getting out, Brad. I've had enough for a while," I said as I turned and headed back.

My hands flew forward and my knees buckled. I splashed into the water barely having time to hold the gasp of breath that came with the sudden impact. I struggled, attempting to regain my balance when the horror of what was happening hit me.

Brad had tackled me from behind, grabbing the back of my bathing suit with both hands, dragging me under. Now while I was trying to regain control I could feel him tugging at my suit to pull it down.

God, if he did...I couldn't let him...everyone would see... Brad would know...I'd die!

I clutched at my suit and pulled. He let go. I desperately inhaled when my head surfaced only to disappear again, but long enough for me to hear his laughter in my ear. His hands were everywhere. Our legs were a jumble. Then he had me held tight against him, his left arm around to the front of me, the hand cupped over my breast. I could feel the lower part of him...could feel it pressing into that hungry crevice as he pulled me backward, onto him. His huge chest, his flat stomach, hot against my skin despite the cold water. I was hard and I couldn't help it...couldn't do anything about it as we toppled over into the water.

Then his right hand seemed to be caressing my thigh as it stroked quickly over my burning flesh, his fingertips searching. In a flash he reached through my legs, pushed his hand flat against my hardness and picked me off my feet.

I flew over his shoulder and splashed behind him in the water. I was mortified! He'd felt me! He knew...

I turned and stood to see him all shining and gorgeous, laughing his head off and heading at me again. He reached me and put a hand softly on my shoulder. He stopped laughing. I had my head bent. I couldn't look at him.

"Come on, Mick. Let's get out." He could tell I was shamed unbearably.

We headed back to the beach. He didn't say a word to me.

Good God, would this beautiful torture never end? I was embarrassed at what had happened, what he'd felt, to have to walk with my hands so ridiculously positioned in front of me, certain that everyone looking at us could tell what I was hiding. I was miserable wondering when and how I could end this hopeless temptation. At the same time felt a strange pleasure at discovering that heads were turning not to see my aroused state but to gaze longingly at the beautiful guy walking beside me, knowing they must think he was with me, that he was my friend. And here I was, trying fruitlessly to get away from him.

He followed me to my towel and stood spread-legged as I plunged face down onto it.

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(ED NOTE: John Feddersen is a former Tucsonan who will be submitting short stories to The Observer on a regular basis. We thank him for his contribution to our paper.)

Conclusion Next Week



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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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GAY AND LESBIAN SOCIAL RAP GROUP TUCSON meets every Tuesday evening at 8 P.M. AT MCC, 560 S. Stone. Call Galen, 883-1328.

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GMM, 22, 5'11", 155, NICE LOOKING. Want to meet same to 30 for friendship or more. No fags or fems. Not into S&M etc. Only sincere need answer. Send photo, get same, to Boxholder 62001, Tucson, AZ 85734-6001. 18

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