Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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International Stud Opens To Enthusiastic Audience - A Hit!

TKO Closet Ball '85 This Saturday, March 16

TUCSON - The Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) will present their Sixth annual Closet Ball. Closet Ball '85 takes place this Saturday, March 16, at 9:00 p.m. in the BFR at the Fineline, 101 W. Drachman.

A group of contestants, vieing for big prize money - $100; $75 and $50 - will, with the help of their sponsors, change from their normal street attire into clothing and other personal effects of the opposite sex - and all of this transformation must take place within a limited amount of time, say about an hour! The other hitch is that the contestant must not have been a regular in a drag show. The main idea of the Closet ball is to have contestants sponsored who have never appeared in serious drag before.

Cosntestants will be judged on a basis of 25% from audience reaction. Two members of the audience will be randomly selected prior to the introduction of the contestants and sponsors to act as judges. In order to keep the contest as legitimate as possible, TKO has several other rules that they will enforce during the contest. These rules are printed on the formal entry form and must be adhered to by each contestant or an infraction could cause disqualification of the contestant.

As stated there are quite a few contestants already entered. Anyone else interested in entering can do so up to the last minute by using the entry form printed elsewhere in this issue of Observer or by securing an entry blank Saturday, at the Closet Ball, from Doc who will be outside the door of the BFR from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. to make sure that everyone has a fair chance of entering this fun contest.

Next issue we will have the photos showing the great transformation that can take place after shaving off a beard or moustache and adding a little make-up and a wig for the men or adding a beard or moustache and taking off a little make-up and adding a short wig for the women. There is a $15 entry fee for each contestant, and each contestant must have a sponsor who will assist in the application of make-up. In addition, sponsors and contestants are required to furnish their own make-up, clothing or any other needed supplies for the transformation.

Any other questions or inquiries concerning Closet Ball '85 should be directed to Doc at 325-8031 or during the evening. That's this Saturday, March 16, in the BFR at the Fineline.

Members of the cast, staff and some supporters toasting to the success of "The International Stud" after the permiere performance. See review below and an interview with cast members on page ten of this issue of The Observer.

TUCSON - Time Production's presentation of the Harvey Fierstein play "The International Stud" opened to a preview audience last Sunday, March 10 in the BFR "Little Theater" at the Fineline.

From the opening strains of a song sung a cappella by 'torch singer' Delyla, a kind of magic overtook the stage. And that magic built throughout the sixty minute period (the fastest 60 minutes this writer has experienced). At the end the audience was on its feet calling for several curtain calls by the talented actors in this first 'act' of the Tony Award winning broadway show "Torch Song Triolgy".

The International Stud is directed by Suzanne List, and the show stars Monte-Jon Gilmer as Arnold, Anthoney Alvarez as Ed and Delyla as 'Lady Blues'.

Monte-Jon Gilmer, in his first dramatic stage production, was a standout performer. His characterization of Arnold, a night club performer who falls in love with Ed and longs for them to be together forever, does a marvelous job on his long monologues. His biting humor coupled with a deep-seated warmth comes across the foot-lights trip hammer hard and engulfs the entire audience. Tears to laughter; laughter to tears come across more than once during the all-too-short performance.

Anthoney Alvarez' portrayal of Ed shows his professional experience. Alvarez has acted, directed and produced plays for some time. He was producer of this proformance as well as portraying Ed, a school teacher, who wants to remain in the "closet" because of his professional career, and has a difficult time coming to terms with his Gayness and affection for Arnold. Alvarez gives his audience just the right amount of sensibility and sensitivity that his character demands, but makes you want to kick him in the ass for the way he treats Arnold.

Delyla Pierson whose portrayal of 'Lady Blues' segues the scenes with the professionalism of a seasoned torch singer, even though this is her first effort at such a character. Each song is tastefully done, and one could sense the meaning of each of the 'standard' songs that she sang by the way the audience mellowed down during each solo singing performance.

Director Suzanne List is to be congratulated on this, her first, directorial job. The characters are perfectly type cast and the lines are delivered with the proper amount of humor and/or pathos. Born in Massachusettes, List appared in theater groups in New York City for 3 1/2 years before coming to Tucson. She appeared regularly in Le Theater in Tucson before it closed. List found directing The International Stud, her first directorial chore, a challenging one. She describes the play as "realistic and poignant and one that should be enjoyed by all people - heterosexuals, Gay men, Lesbian women and bisexuals.

Sets, lighting, sound, atmosphere all coupled to make this a very memorable evening of theater. Tucson should be very proud to have such capable actors in their midst.

Writer Harvey Fierstein wrote in the original program of The International Stud, when it was first produced on February 2, 1978 the following dedication which, in a way sums up the play, its feelings, and what it's all about: "There is a Gay bar in New York City called The International Stud. It boasts a pool table, a pinball machine and the jumpingest backroom in town. I dearly dedicate this play to all who made it their home.

"I wish for each of them the courage to leave it when they can, and the good sense to come back when they must."

Mr. Fierstein's writing is impeccable, and when it is flawlessly performed as it is in the Tucson performance, one could ask for no more - except that the other two acts of "Torch Song Trilogy" be produced by this talented crew so that we can all find out what happens to Arnold and Ed.

"The International Stud" is playing in the BFR at The Fineline, 101 W. Drachman. Playdates are Thursday, through Sunday, March 14 through 17 and again Thursday through Sunday, March 21 through 24. Showtime is 8:00 p.m. each night, except on Saturday, March 16 when showtime is 7:00 p.m. In addition there will be a matinee on both Sundays, March 17 and 24 at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are $3.25 in advance or $4.00 per person at the door. Tickets are available in the upstairs bar at the Fineline from 3:00 p.m. until closing every day of the week. In order to reserve seating, tickets must be purchased in advance.

Arizona Gay TV To Interview Parents

TUCSON - "Arizona Gay" a weekly forum about being Gay in a staight society on Cox Cable's public access Channel 37, will air the "most important program we have yet produced," said producer Jim Farias. The show will air at 9:00 p.m. next Wednesday, March 20, and is called "Our Children Are Gay."

The one-hour show will focus on interviews with parents who found out that their sons and daughters were homosexual and on the national support group: Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Discussions are about parents' shock, guilt, anger, desperation and ultimate education and acceptance of their Gay children.

Natalie Woodman of the National Association of Social Workers; 'Sheila,' local mother of a Gay son; and three members of the Phoenix Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays: Diane, mother of a Lesbian daughter, Faith and Ed, parents of a Gay son are interviewed by producer/host Jim Farias.

"We urge everyone to watch this program," said Farias, "because everyone is affected. One fourth of the families in America has a Gay child that needs love and understanding."

Farias has been invited to present a seminar on "Arizona Gay" the first program of its kind in the country, to a convention of Gay and Lesbian organizations from the five southwestern states to be held at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas on March 30 and 31.

Beside the original show of "Arizona Gay" on Wednesday, March 20, the show is re-telecast on Thursday and Saturday at 9:00 p.m. also on on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. This new schedule is true of each weekly "Arizona Gay" TV show.

CLOSET BALL APPLICATION FORM CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE FOUR OF THIS ISSUE.

Community Leaders Meet

TUCSON - On Sunday, March 3, many of the leaders of the Lesbian and Gay communities met for a cocktail party at the Broadway Holiday Inn. Invitations to the event had been sent out by Bruce Fowler, a leader in the Dignity movement. Fowler had observed that a large number of community leaders had never met each other and some knew little, if anything, about who the other leaders in the communities are. In an attempt to get channels of communication open, Fowler came up with the idea for a party.

After polling a number of obvious leaders about who they felt were the leaders in the communities, invitations were sent to leaders that were involved in the past and to those involved now. About 80 people attended the two hour affair which was introduced with a brief speech by Fowler on the history of the Gay and Lesbian movement in southern Arizona.

For the first time ever, leaders from the early '70's mixed with leaders of today, all exchanging stories about their experiences, their frustrations, their accomplishments and their reflections on the past 15 years of Lesbian and Gay activities in Tucson. Everyone said they felt a strong new feeling of unity as a result of being able to meet and get to know each other and many were amazed at the pool of talented and gifted people Tucson has as leaders. Old friendships were renewed and many new ones started. Those in attendance included representatives from almost every Gay and Lesbian club and organization in Tucson as well as representatives from many of the businesses owned by Gays and Lesbians. It was the first time many of the leaders from years ago had gotten together recently and it was the first time the newer leaders had talked to many of the older ones.

Fowler said that he was pleased with the outcome in that so many people who had not met one another before were talking and laughing together and were promising each other to "keep in touch".

B R I E F S

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBIT MARCH 24

TUCSON - An arts and crafts exhibit in conjunction with the Old Pueblo Business and Professional Association will be presented at the Fineline, 101 W. Drachman on Sunday, March 24. The exhibit will last from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be a no-host cocktail party from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. A $1.00 donation is requested to benefit the Arizona AIDS Fund Trust.

For more information call 624-2567, or contact OPBPA, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85733.

FIRE BENEFIT DRAWS LARGE CROWD

TUCSON - A show was held last Saturday, March 9 at the Graduate as a benefit for two members of the Tucson Gay community who suffered considerable damage when a fire swept their home. Brenda Starr, popular showgirl about town and Rodger Sweet, popular hunk about town, were treated to a benefit show that included some of the top performers in town.

A large crowd enjoyed the show and contributed nearly $500 to assist those two in recouping some of their losses.

The show, co-hosted by Aviva Diamond and Monte-Jon included great performances by Stephenie Price, Candy Plastique, Michael, Jacquleen De Savoi, Kelly Ryan and Dominique Jeante'. With Michael on lights, Jason on sound and Peter guest bartending, the entire evening went off without a flaw and the crowd enjoyed themselves throroughly.

We wish Brenda and Rodger the best of luck in the future.

MS. PICKS

NEW YORK, NY - Ms. magazine has named its annual selection of the top 12 women of the year 1984. Included in the choices are Geraldine Ferraro, former Democratic Vice Presidential candidate, and singer Holly Near.

Charity Grant, age 10, was honored for refusing a reading award from a men-only organization.

Other honorees include Ruth Rothstein, president of Mount Sinai Hospital in Chicago; writer Rosellen Brown; Gloria Molina, the first Hispanic woman in the California legislature; anti-nuclear activist Mary Sinclair; sociologist Rosabeth Moss Kanter; psychologist Sherry Turkle; Olympic marathon winner Joan Benoit; pop singer Cyndi Lauper; and Mary Hatwood Futrell, president of the National Education Association.

COUNTRY'S FIRST LESBIAN MAYOR HAS DREAMS

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA - Valerie Terrigno at 31 is the mayor of West Hollywood, and is a Lesbian. She is, as far as anyone knows, the first Lesbian mayor of an American city and the importance of that, she says, can't be underestimated.

"We were illegal not too long ago," she says. "The first consenting adults bill wasn't proposed until 1968. Ten years ago I couldn't have been elected, and not because I was too young. We've come a long way in a very short time."

But, she concedes now that those who predicted a "Gay Camelot" may be right. It occurred to her, she says, at the first city council meeting when a tough anti-discrimination law was adopted banning bias because of sexual preference.

"When people got up and cried when we adopted the ordinance, I realized that we had never had a place that was safe," she says. "We could still be fired from a job for being Gay. I never denied being a Lesbian. It never occurred to me to be in a closet. . . I had boyfriends when I was younger. But I always felt different on every level. I found out later that I preferred women."

For her parents, like those of most Gays, she says, "they were concerned about what it means to the family. How do you act at Christmas with a lover? It's not as much of a moral question as a social one."

In her own case, she says her parents have "met and accepted my partner." She declined to name the woman in her life, explaining, "It's not that committed a relationship or I would."

The Daily Report

HEALTH CARE WORKERS SAFE FROM AIDS

NEW YORK, NY - A study of health care workers accidentally exposed to AIDS contamination indicates that AIDS is not easily transmitted through non-sexual contact. Dr. Robert Gallo told United Press International that chances of lab workers catching AIDS "are so slim that it's not a problem in the lab, if you know what you're doing."

Gallo's research team tested 85 health care workers who had been contaminated with the AIDS virus during on-the-job accidents for HTLV-III anti-bodies. The tests showed no indication that the virus had entered their bodies, even in cases where workers were pierced with contaminated needles.

MAN WHO SUED BOSS ALLEGING AIDS BIAS DIES

DETROIT, MI (AP) - A suburban Detroit insurance salesman who sued his boss, contending he had been fired for having acquired immune deficiency syndrome, has died, authorities said.

Tim Trueman, 32, died of a respiratory infection less than a year after he was diagnosed as having AIDS, which destroys the body's ability to fight infection, said his attorney, David Plontkowsky.

Trueman filed a $5 million discrimination suit against insurance agent Hopward Camden of Farmington Hills, charging he was fired last April beause he was a homosexual with AIDS. The case is scheduled for arbitration, but no date has been set, Plontkowsky said.

Camden has testified that Trueman was fired because he lied about his credentials and was jeopardizing the compny's financial position.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Such a journey [to recreate the past] needs scapegoats - homosexuals, secular humanists, maybe even liberals - since it is not possible to say that the world has changed [for the worst] simply because it has changed. Someone must be blamed.

"Even without these bogeymen, though, Falwell and his movement would still represent an attempt to pervert faith by using it to smother the mind. Yet, from President Reagan on down, these preachers of anti-intellectualism are accorded both entry and respect even though they represent neither the future and progress nor the past and reaction.

"They are just history's latest apostles of ignorance. We have seen them before and we will see them again, but rarely have we seen them so welcome at the White House. Alas, it's a meeting of the minds."

- Columnist Richard Cohen, Washington Post

UNITING BEHIND E.O. 50

NEW YORK, NY (GCN) - Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and six mainstream civil rights organizations have joined together in support of Mayor Ed Koch's Executive Order 50, a ban on discrimination based on race, creed, age, sex, handicap or sexual orientation.

The groups filed an amicus curiae brief defending E.O. 50 against a challenge by the Archdiocese of New York and other religious groups opposing implementation of the order on the grounds that the city does not have the right to tell them whom to hire. Specifically at issue is the ban on discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians, which Archbishop John J. O'Connor has said violates the church's right to control who works with children in its social service programs.

Joining Lambda in the brief are the Puerto Rican Defense and Education Fund; The NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund; The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund; The New York Civil Liberties Union; and the Center for Constitutional Rights. The brief reads, in part, "Civil rights organizations filing this amicus brief support the authority of the Mayor to issue all aspects of Executive Order 50."

In another development, Archbishop O'Connor suggested on December 13, that he might consider operating the church's social programs without government funds rather than comply with E.O. 50, should the church lose its court bid to strike down the order.

HABITS OF TODAY'S TEENAGERS

Recent surveys revealed a major social trend among the teenagers of this country. Three years ago .41% admitted taking an occasional drink of some alcoholic beverage. A recent Gallup poll revealed at .59% of those aged 13-18 said they had used alcohol more than once, and 17% admitted trying alcohol once. Only 23% said they never touched it while 1% wouldn't comment.

Drunk or drug-impaired driving is the chief cause of death among Americans aged 15-24. Among teens who drive, 24% admitted they had driven a car after using drugs or drinking. One in three also admitted to having ridden with a drunk driver of the same age.

As regard drug use, the Gallup survey revealed that 27% of all American teenagers admitted using marijuana but that the percentage zoomed sharply to 39% among those over 15. In short, substantial portions of our teenage populationcan be classified as users of marijuana and drinkers of alcoholic beverages.

the hottest weekly in town.
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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER MARCH 13, 1985

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Panel Studying Gay Rights Accused Of Bias

PHOENIX - A citizens committee whose job is to recommend whether Phoenix's anti-discrimination law should be expanded to protect Gays and other groups was repeatedly accused of bias at a crowded public hearing on March 4.

And Gay rights opponents, led in part by ministers, vowed to take the issue before the voters in a referendum if the proposed ordinance were approved by the City Council.

One of the committee members countered that a "very small, militant religious segment" of the community was trying to stop the panel from carrying out its work.

Charges and counter charges flew as the meeting of a Human Relations Commission subcommittee drew to a close Monday night after about 200 people had spent three hours at the main library in a stuffy room suited to half that many.

"I've really lost control of this," subcommittee chairperson Cassandra Mason-Motz lamented to the audience. "I'm sorry."

Mason-Motz, who was chastised by one speaker for having already made up her mind to support Gay rights, added: "I'm afraid to walk to my car because I might be crucified by some of you folks because I'm really for equal rights ... I'm really nervous right now."

As it had at a public hearing in mid-February, the issue of Gay rights dominated the discussion. The proposal calls for expanding the city's civil rights ordinance so that it bars discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, age, disability and marital status in housing, employment and public accommodation.

The current ordinance encompasses the traditional categories of race, religion, national origin and gender.

Unlike the previous hearing, which was characterized by a smaller, more orderly audience of predominantly Gays, the overflow crowd Monday night largely consisted of opponents of Gay rights who didn't hesitate to shower their own speakers with loud applause.

Pat Shanghnessy, pastor of Northwest Community Church, said: "I'm appalled at the bias of this committee ... I believe you've made your decision, and I believe you're stacked." Shanghnessy warned there would be a referendum drive if Gay rights were included in the anti-discrimination law. "There's enough emotion involved in this issue that you can get it on the ballot," he said. "I believe it will cost this city a lot of money. I believe you (the committee) will be responsible for it."

After the meeting, commissioner Carl Brown denied he already has made his mind up on the proposed ordinance. He said the proposal was intended to be just a starting point for discussion, not a final draft. "It's not a question of whether I've made up my mind because there is no proposal to vote on."

A unfortunate side effect of the Gay controversy is that the issue of whether the developmentally disabled should be protected against discrimination is getting lost in the shuffle, he said.

A handful of people spoke on the handicapped issue. For instance, a blind man who was led to the podium by his seeing-eye dog, told of being turned down twice by landlords while he was apartment-hunting within the last two months. "They said, 'We can't rent to you because you have a pet," he said.

By Roy Schultze Reprinted from the Phoenix Gazette

SUNDAY MARCH 17.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SPECIAL SPECIAL

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TLGPC Report

TUCSON - I strongly urge all Lesbians and Gays who read this article to write and call Governor Babbitt and express your concerns regarding the pending "Moral Nuisance Law". If passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, this law will greatly increase the potential for discrimination against us. Under this bill, Lesbian and Gay meeting places, including bars, could be found to be a moral nuisance and thus prohibitied. Our freedom is at stake. Don't let a few drive us back into our closets.

We have now set the groundwork for a community-wide Health Committee to coodinate services and financial support for the Tucson area AIDS victims. Any one of us could be the next AIDS victim. The Tucson Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee invites you to volunteer some of your time and energy and join the Health Committee. For more information on how you can help, attend the next meeting of the TLGPC to be held on Monday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fineline. This committee is open to everyone.

Pride Week 1985 in Tucson is now set for June 23 through the 30th. TLGPC will again kick off the week with the traditional Pride Picnic on June 23 at Himmel Park. To pay for this week of free activities, TLGPC will be organizing several fundraisers including the annual mud wrestling at the Back Pocket, tentatively scheduled for June 16. Challenge someone, friend or foe to roll and tumble in the mud.

Jerry Falwell's visit to Tucson on March 21st will not go unnoticed by TLGPC. I have been directed by the Committee to schedule press releases in conjunction with his unwelcome visit. So that the Tucson community at large and Rev. Falwell, in particular, can be made aware of our presence, I am asking that we flood the news media with letters to the editors of the local papers expressing your concerns of the "Moral Majority" during the week prior to March 21st. Please support this effort and get out your pad and pencil.

Softball season is fast approaching. Local Gay and Lesbian bars are forming teams for challenge matches. TLGPC will be sponsoring these softball games beginning in mid-April. The Joshua Tree remains undefeated. Join a team at your favorite watering hole, have fun and at the same time support TLGPC who benefits by your donation of $2 for all the beer you can drink on softball Saturdays at Himmel Park.

UNITED NOT FRIENDLY TO WORKERS WITH AIDS

by Christine Gulfoy

SAN FRACISCO, CA (GCN) - United Airlines has placed two male flight attendants on medical leave because they have AIDS and company officials refused comment on the allegation that they are considering testing their flight attendants for AIDS infectivity.

The two attendants Gar Traynor and Bruce Hall, wiere placed on medical leave after they informed their employer they had been diagnosed as having AIDS. Although the airline told them it took such action because they might spread the disease in their capacity as food handlers, neither was offered a transfer to other departments.

United did not offer Traynor another position when he was placed on medical leave. Traynor, who is 37, said he was a United employee for ten years and it was his career. When Traynor was diagnosed with AIDS in December 1982, he informed United because he needed to arrange his work schedule around chemotherapy. Traynor said he worked a full schedule for six months following his diagnosis.

"Everything was fine for six months (but) in June 1983 I was called in and told 'effective immediately' I was on medical leave of absence. I would retain my insurance and partial flight benefits, but no salary. There was no discussion. Traynor said the loss of salary led him to lose his apartment, his savings and his car.

Bruce Hall was diagnosed with AIDS in September 1983 and missed work until January 1984 when he asked for reinstatement but was refused.

United claims that both Hall and Traynor are potential health risks to the public. They also said that working in the closed environment of an airline cabin would leave them vulnerable to more isnfections. United also doubted their ability to carry full schedules

ERIN GO BRAUGH!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SUN. MARCH 17

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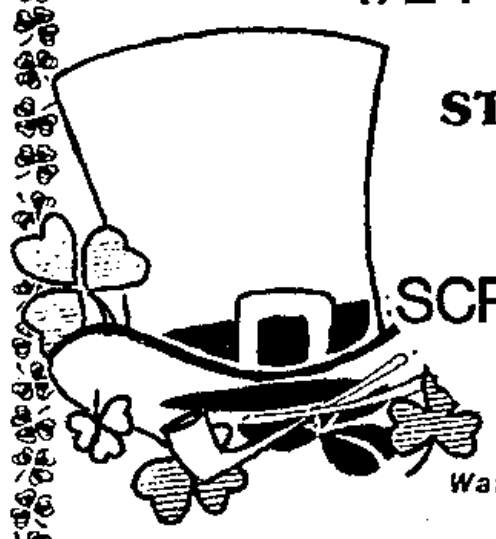

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PHOTO QUIZ.....

The last photo quiz proved to be a real stumper for many and quite easy for others. For those unfortunate people who have never visited Rita's Rendezvous, you have never had the opportunity to meet one of it's owners, Mac McKown. He and his partner Thom Swanson assumed ownership of Rita's Rendezvous last December. Mac is one of the real pussycats in the business (except when his photo appeared in the photo quiz). Really Mac, you look the same as you did when that Newsweek photo was taken in 1960! Now can we be friends again? Just kidding, we love ya, you know.....

When this week's photo arrived in the mail we just couldn't believe our eyes. It came from Hawaii, where two of our favorite people are toasting under the sun, and it could just be that the message accompanying the photo was designed to throw us off. It read:

"Alhoa. Just thought I'd send my picture so you could remember what I look like. Having a really good time. Wish I could stay. Say hi to everyone. See you soon."

Now the letter was signed Rita and Vinny, but, since it has been so long since we've seen them, we don't know if this photo is of Rita or Vinny. Probably we will have to wait until their return to clear up this entire matter. Until then, Alhoa, whomever you may be.

Old Pueblo Business & Professional Association

presents an

Arts & Crafts Exhibit

Sunday, March 24, 1985

in cooperation with **The Fineline**

101 W. Drachman

Exhibit 1:00-8:00

No-Host Cocktails 5:00-8:00

$1.00 donation requested to benefit Arizona AIDS Fund

For more information contact OPBPA—624-2567

P.O. Box 44033 • Tucson, AZ 85733

THE EDGE....

by Guy Edgerly

I am truly fortunate to be able to spend time in the humanoid form and on your beautiful planet. Guyonia is not nearly as breathtaking. I have transported myself to a swollen river near your Rincon Mountains. The surge of rushing water shuts out all other sounds and one is left alone with nature and one's thoughts.

After observing Earthlings for a few of your Earth weeks, I find my mind trying to make calculations based on the information and observations I have collected. My mind goes "TILT". So here on the boulders along the river I will try to make sense of the input. I seem to have more questions than answers.

For instance, why do I find beer cans, wine bottles, food wrappers and discarded clothing in such a lofty place? Do you not seek out nature to get away from such things? Does your soul not reach out for peace and harmony which exists in nature but not in your daily life? All the answers are there in nature. The creator of us all knew what it was doing. Listen to your inner self.

Inside all of us are the solutions. Nature accepts them, mankind usually does not. What are you fighting for. Your bodies are very complex. The hard part has been done for us. Like the Earth auto. You cannot build one but you have been given the responsibility of driving it safely through the streets.

Earth people continue to create an artificial life around them. Cities are man-made traps. You seem to feel that the more there is to see and do, the happier you will be. Does it work? Where is the peace? Where is the chaos?

It is in all of us. We can choose. Sometimes we do not know how to remove ourselves. All we know is that we must do something. An inner instinct is our creator-given safety valve. Trust it. Trust yourself. It doesn't take a genius. Sometimes, just sitting by a raging river, or a peaceful meadow, a mountain boulder, or an old oak tree can help us to see, hear and feel what is right for us.

Guyonians know that there are many answers. Each must find his own. My solutions may not work for you. Do not look to me for answers that are already locked inside of you. You have the key. What are you waiting for?

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TKO Closet Ball Application

(Please Print)

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ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

I the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that he/she has read the rules of the TKO Closet Ball '85 and agree to abide by them.

Signature: _____

SPONSOR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

ENTRY FEE $15 per contestant. Prizes $100 - $75 - $50. Applications can be placed in the TKO Closet Ball envelope at each bar. Please make all checks and money orders payable to the Tucson Knight Owls. Please do not put cash in this envelope, OR mail your form to: Tucson Knight Owls, P.O. Box 2332, Tucson, AZ 85702 prior to March 11, 1985.

SATURDAY MARCH 16
2:00 TO 5:00p.m.

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Gay Man Denied Custody

by Jim Ryan

RICHMOND, VA (GCN) - The Virginia Supreme Court recently ordered a Gay man to surrender custody of his ten-year-old daughter. The father identified by the fictitious name of David Roe, was declared an unfit guardian because he exposed his child to "his immoral and illicit relationship" with his lover of two years. The girl has lived with her father for six years; her parents were divorced eight years ago.

The mother had initially attempted to get custody of the child by threatening to make her ex-husband's homosexuality known to his employer. He refused to meet her demands and she was successful in having him fired form his position at the Central Intelligence Agency. He threatened to sue the agency and managed through an out-of-court settlement to win reinstatement.

The custody battle, meanwhile continued in court, and in August, 1983 Fairfax County Circuit Judge Richard J. Jamborsky decided to allow the father to retain custody of the child. He found that the mother had failed to prove that her ex-husband's lifestyle had had any detrimental effect on the child.

Jamborsky also raised concerns about the mother's health. Catharine Roe, as she is identified in court, has lost one lung to cancer and continues to smoke a pack and a half of cigarettes a day.

The Virginia Supreme Court unanimously overturned Jamborsky's decision, noting that homosexual conduct in this state is a Class Six felony, punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to $1000. The court focused on Roe's relationship with his lover, accepting the mother's allegation that the girl had "seen the two men hugging, kissing and sleeping together and had been exposed to other homosexuals who visited the home."

However, even the mother's lawyer Richard Byrd, conceded that Roe "has been a good father. He has done everything a father could do, given he wanted to be a homosexual."

Jamborsky had great praise for Roe, noting in the decision that "he was always there like a rock, providing the necessary help for the child."

David Roe's lawyer, Jim Lowe of Alexandria, said his client has not yet reached a decision about a course of action following the Richmond court's ruling. Federal courts almost never get involved in custody cases, although a case challenging a Florida law denying custody to parents in interracial marriages was recently heard by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Lowe concedes that his client is not in a strong position, since the Virginia law invoked by the State Supreme Court panel effectively denies custody to any parent who lives with an unmarried partner, and would apply to heterosexual parents, as well. As Lowe put it, "The Virginia courts have never been in the forefront of advancing or protecting anyone's civil rights."

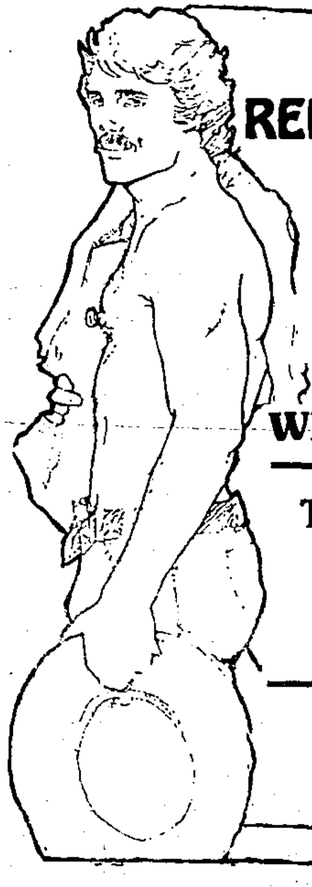
NO AIDS WARD

NEWARK, NJ (GCN) - By a three to one margin, the citizens of Newark rejected a plan to open a prison ward in the city for prisoners with AIDS, according to the *Newark Star-Ledger*. The vote on the ballot question, "Do you want prison inmates who are AIDS victims from throughout the state of New Jersey housed in the city of Newark?" was 25,060 against and 9,342 in favor.

West Ward Councilman Ronald Rice, who proposed the citywide referendum on the issue, called the vote "a victory for the people's position."

But an official of the state correctional system said plans for the center had been scrapped months ago. Gary Hilton, assistant state commissioner of corrections, said, "It is about as definite as anything can be definite that the Department of Corrections will not open an AIDS center in Newark.

He added, "Anytime there is a public vote, that certainly has to be a factor in planning."



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3455 E. GRANT.
TUCSON
327-3390
COUNTRY WESTERN EVERY WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY NIGHTS DRINK SPECIALS
KITCHEN OPEN

TUCSON

Funtime! Shots

The entire cast of the "Fire" Benefit Show at the Graduate last Saturday. They raised nearly $500 for Brenda Starr and Rodger.

Rev. Dave Gunton of MCC/Tueson shown with Romanovsky and Phillips after their terrific concert last weekend sponsored by MCC.

Linda and Gregg watch the lucky winner hang on to $88 in last Sunday's $500 Cash Grab at Tramps.

"The International Stud" Director Suzanne List and Co-Producer Russell Zespy having a nervous drink of champagne before the Prevue showing of the play at the Fineline last Sunday. See review and interview this issue.

Isidro of the Congress Hotel and Tommy of Rita's partaking of a cool one before going bar-hopping.

The INTERNATIONAL Stud

TIME PRODUCTIONS & R PRODUCTIONS
Presents
A PLAY BY
HARVEY FIERSTIEN'S

DIRECTED BY
SUZANNE LIST
STARRING
MONTE JON GILMER

ANTHONEY ALVAREZ
With
DELYLA
As
LADY BLUES
At THE FINELINE
101 W. DRACHMAN
MARCH 14-15-16-17
Thru
21-22-23-24
Performance Times:
8p.m. THURSDAY *Thru* SUNDAY
In The BFA Little Theatre (Upstairs)
With Special
MATINEES
On The
17TH *And* 24TH
At
4p.m.

Admission
$4.00 *Per Person At The Door*
Or At The Advance Ticket Price Of $3.25 *Per Person*

Advance Tickets
Go On Sale FEBRUARY 27th
And May Be Purchased In DICK'S At The FINELINE From 7p.m. to 1a.m.
Each Evening Until MARCH 13th

(To Receive Seating All Tickets Must Be Purchased In Advance)

SPORTS REPORT

TEAM STANDING
COMMUNITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE
AS OF MARCH 4, 1985

TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB
JOSHUA TREE	24	4	.875	--
COLETTE'S KILLER BEES	22	10	.687	4
CLEAN-UP ARTISTS	20	12	.625	6
SPEEDWAY JOCKS	17	11	.607	6
BACK POCKET	16	12	.571	8
FINELINE BOWLERS	15	13	.535	9
WE GOT HORNED	16	16	.500	10
H.O.T.	13	15	.464	11
SUPER TRAMPS	14.5	17.5	.453	11.5
NIGHT BLEEDING SERIOUS	12	16	.428	12
THE DISCIPLES	13.5	18.5	.421	12.5
FUN FLOWERS	5	23	.178	19
GUTTER TRAMPS I	4	24	.142	20

HIGH BOWLERS: BOBBIE R. 489-170 / CATHY R. 448-164 / PAM R. 448-180 / MARY B. 428-160 / MO C. 423-144 / BILL B. 580-221 / JIM G. 526-194 / MICHAEL ST. J. 521-177 / JOHN 521-177 / JOE K. 506-194 / FRANK M. 494-174 / MARK H. 488-206.

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

COMMUNITY MIXED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE
STANDINGS AS OF
MARCH 3, 1985

TEAM	WON	LOST	PCT.	G.B.
TEAM NUMBER ONE	12	2	.857	--
MEN AT PLAY	10	3	.768	2.5
COURT JESTERS	7	8	.466	5
YOUTH-N-ASIA	6	8	.428	6
TRAMPS	6	9	.400	6.5
MAN EATERS	5	9	.357	7
BACK POCKET	3	10	.230	9

SCHEDULE OF PLAY SUNDAY, MARCH 17, AT JOSHUA TREE COURT
Back Pocket vs Tramps / Man Eaters vs Youth-N-Asia / Men At Play vs Team Number One / Tramps vs Court Jesters / Youth-n-Asia vs Team Number One / Back Pocket vs Man Eaters / Court Jesters vs Men At Play.

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

TEAM STANDINGS
GRADUATE BOWLING LEAGUE
MARCH 6, 1985

TEAM	WON	LOST	PINS
1. LITTLE RUCK AND THE WHEATS	19	9	11745
2. BLANCHE'S BOMBERS	18.5	10	11841
3. HOT CROSSED BUNS	18	10	11782
4. BUTCHETTE'S	17	11	11774
5. LOOSE LIPS	17	11	9972
6. COQUETTES	16	12	11683
7. TOOTH FAIRIES	14	14	11716
8. COCO AND THE CHANNELS	12	16	11630
9. SNOW QUEENS	12	16	11463
10. THE THREE GRACES	11.5	16	12355
11. FAIRLANES	11	17	11745
12. WHITE SWALLOWS	11	17	11691
13. ALLEY...COPS!	10	18	11501
14. BAD BOYS	9	19	11329

the CLEAN TEAM
JACK & CHERYL
GENERAL CLEANING
327-5111

NIGHT Tucson SCENE

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE
2921 N. 1st Ave. 622-6233. Open daily from 2 p.m.-1 a.m. Sat. 11 a.m. - 1 a.m. Sun. Noon-1 a.m. Joshua Tree opens 9 p.m. for dancing.

COLETTE'S WEST
2849 N. 1st Ave. 622-9733. Open daily 1 P.M. Noon Sundays. A woman's bar where everyone is welcome.

CONGRESS TAP ROOM
311 E. Congress. 622-8848. Open daily 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. Noon Sundays.

FINELINE
101 W. Drachman. 882-4953. Upstairs opens daily 3 p.m. "Dicks" downstairs bar opens 7 p.m. Dancing on main floor 9 p.m.

GRADUATE
23 W. University. 622-9233. Opens at 11 a.m. Mon. - Sat. Noon Sun. Daily drink specials.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS
3455 E. Grant Rd. 327-3390. Opens daily 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Noon on Sundays. Lunches, brunches and dinners.

RUBY'S
2512 E. Grant Rd. 327-0114. Women's feminist bar.

STABLES
3820 E. 40th Street. 748-0088. Private Men's Bath. Open 24 hours. 1/2 price Tuesdays.

TRAMPS
616 N. 4th Ave. 882-0795. Open daily 8 a.m. 6 a.m. on Saturdays. Noon Sundays. Western and light disco dancing.

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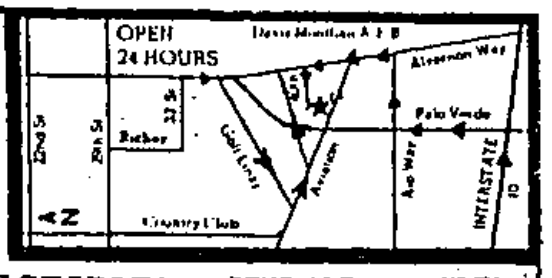

THE STABLES
748-0088
Men Only
RENE-ART
3820 E. 40TH ST.
TUCSON, ARIZONA
1/2 Price on Tuesdays

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An Organization of Gay Catholics And Their Friends
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Tucson, AZ. 85726
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297-6340

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Write for FREE LIST of Gay/Lesbian titles!
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SPECIAL CALENDAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

FINELINE - 7th Annual CLOSET BALL. Sponsored by Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) at 9:00 p.m. Applications and rules in all bars. "The International Stud" will be performed at 7:00 p.m. instead of regular time. See below.

TRAMPS - Larry from Charlie's in Phoenix will be giving Country/Western Dance Lessons from 2 to 5 p.m. Draft Beer for .10 a glass during lesson time.

MARCH 14,15,16,17,21,22,23,24

FINELINE - Live production of "THE INTERNATIONAL STUD" in the BFR. A play by Tony Award Winning Author Harvey Fierstien. Produced by Time and "R" Productions. Local cast includes Monte Jon Gilmer and Anthony Alvarez; directed by Suzanne List. 8:00 p.m. each night. (7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 16 only). Special matinees on the 17th and 24th at 4 p.m. Tickets $3.25 in advance or $4.00 per person at the door. Advance tickets on sale at "Dicks" downstairs bar at Fineline from 7 p.m. Reserved seating must be in advance sales.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17 (ST. PATRICK'S DAY)

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - St. Paddy's Day celebration with all green cocktails 1/2 price from noon to close, also Green Screwdrivers 1/2 price. Erin go Braugh.

COLETTE'S WEST - Big St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Special drink prices. Party all day!!! DJ Tunes from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

CONGRESS TAP ROOM - St. Patrick's Day celebration all day. See their ad, and come on down!

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Celebrates St. Patrick's Day with the traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner for $2.25.

TRAMPS - PATIO GRAND OPENING PARTY! Celebrate St. Patrick's Day on the new patio. Free Hot Dogs all day. Melon Balls .50 / Draft Beer .30 / Long Neck Domestic Beer $1.00 / Cocktails $1.00 all from Noon to 7:00 p.m.

THE TUCSON CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Draft Beer Bust 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. .40 per glass.
COLETTE'S WEST - Well Liquor $1.00 - 9 to Midnight.
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Open 9 a.m. Mon. - Sat. Noon Sundays.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens 3 p.m. Tall Neck Bottle Beer Night $1.00 - "Dynasty" on big screen TV in BFR.
GRADUATE - Watermelon Shots .75 - 9 p.m. - Midnight.
RITA'S - Kitchen open 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Country Western dance music from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Special drink prices if you're in some cowboy attire.
TRAMPS - Square Dancing with Tucson's T-Squares and country and western music with DJ Linda Fizdale.

THURSDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bottle Beer Night $1.00 domestic 9:00 - 1:00 a.m. "ARIZONA GAY" television show on TV at 7:30 p.m.
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Open 9 a.m. Mon - Sat. Noon Sundays.
COLETTE'S WEST - Draft Beer Bust 9 p.m. - Midnight $2.50.
FINELINE - Upstairs opens 3 p.m. Shots of Schnapps $1.00. 'Arizona Gay' TV show on big screen at 9:00 p.m.
GRADUATE - Country & Western music from 9 to closing.
RITA'S - "Party Nite" - Well Shots and Domestic Beer $1.00, Well Drinks $1.25 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Kitchen open 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Open 9 a.m. Mon - Sat. Noon Sundays.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 3 p.m.
GRADUATE - Watermelon Shots .75 - 9 p.m. - Midnight.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY

COLETTE'S WEST - Free Pool from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Opens 9 a.m. Mon - Sat. Noon Sundays.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 3 p.m.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m..

SUNDAY

BACK POCKET - Beer Bust 4 to 6 p.m. .40 per glass. 6 to 9 p.m. Beer, wine and well $1.00. Steak Dinner 3:30 to 7:30 $3.50.
COLETTE'S WEST - Sunday Sick Call - All Juice Drinks $1.35 Happy Hour Prices 4 - 9 p.m.
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Opens at noon.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 3 p.m.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open Noon to 9:00 p.m. Brunch till 3:30; Special Bar-B-Que Dinner 5:30 to 9 p.m.
TRAMPS - Sunday Beer Bust 3 to 7 p.m. $3.00 All the draft you can drink. $500 cash "Grab Bag" drawing begins at 11 pm

MONDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bowlers Special Night. 1/2 price drinks to Monday night bowlers. Schnapps .75
COLETTE'S WEST - Monday Night Madness - $1.35 Margaritas 9:00 to Midnight.
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Opens 9 a.m. Mon - Sat. Noon Sundays.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens 3 p.m.
GRADUATE - Watermelon Shots .75 - 9 p.m. to Midnight.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m.

TUESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Rocky Horror Picture Show" - the movie shown every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. plus Different Drink Specials.
COLETTE'S WEST - Pool Tournament from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight on alternate Tuesdays. Long Neck Beer Bust $1.00 begins at 9:00 p.m.
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - Opens 9 a.m. Mon - Sat. Noon Sundays.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens 3 p.m. Michaelob Classic Dark $1.00
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Kitchen open 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
TRAMPS - "PROMOTION NIGHT" check for special schedule each week. "Rock 'n Roll Night too!

Farrahs
A GENTLEMAN'S VIDEO DANCE BAR
your hosts
RON & LON 957-2820
4017 E. Indian School, Phoenix, Arizona 85018

LETTERS

DEAR EDITOR:

We are writing on behalf of your readers (as well as millions more across the nation) who annually face income tax penalties -- because they are single. As Lesbians and Gay men, the insult is double. First, we are legally forbidden to marry. Then, we are told that as singles, we must pay higher taxes! Under current law, a single taxpayer pays as much as 20% more tax than paid by a married person on the same taxable income.

Of great concern is the plethora of "tax simplification" plans which have been proposed by various members of the Congress as well as by the Administration. Thus far virtually all the measures which have been put forth would greatly increase the tax penalty for being single.

There was a bill (H.R.37) as introduced by Mr. Annunzio in the 97th Congress. That bill would have lowered the income tax rate for singles down to the rate paid by a married person. (further, in the case of two-income heterosexual married couples, each partner would have been taxed only on his/her own income, at the lowest rates, without having to combine both incomes and ending up in an artificially high bracket. This would totally eliminate the "marriage penalty", which was partially corrected a few years ago with a tax deduction of about 10% of the lower-paid spouse's income.

In order to achieve tax justice and equality on behalf of the readers of the Observer, we urge that the principles contained in that bill be included in any tax legislation -- "simplification" or otherwise -- which may be considered by the Congress. CO$T has written a letter supporting this position to every member of the Congress and included a copy of Mr. Annunzio's bill.

However, your readers can help to bring this about much sooner by writing to their representatives in Congress, as well as to the Ways and Means Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, urging that they co-sponsor and vote for a bill equivalent to the 97th Congress' H.R. 37. (Since the 99th Congress is now in session, it is very important to note in letters to our representatives that the H.R. 37 in question was introduced in the 97th Congress. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Glen Spencer
Director - CO$T
Bowie, Arizona

Theatre REVIEWS

The Tucson community was treated to a busy weekend of song, theater and shows. One of the foremost entertainment values was the appearance by the San Francisco-based singing team of Romanovsky and Phillips.

The large crowd who attended this evening of merriment at the Fineline last Saturday, March 9 were the lucky ones. A lot of professionalism was displayed by this young duet.

Billed as an out-of-the-closet act Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips proved to be that and a whole lot more. Ron and Paul had the audience splitting their sides laughing at the many absurdities of being a Gay person. Several of their songs were ballads which told their story "like it really is".

The comedy patter between numbers or while introducing another song was deftly handled. This likeable singing duo won over this predominantly Gay audience in a hurry, but they could have won over any audience with their cheerful patter and singable songs. The predominantly original material was witty and insightful.

Romanovsky and Phillips' Tucson appearance was sponsored by MCC/Tucson. These Gay singers are heading east from Tucson on a 30 city, three-and-a-half month jaunt that will take them literally from Tucson to Boston and from Ft. Lauderdale to Settle. The Tucson audience looks forward to the speedy return of this dynamic duo.

by Doc

Well here we go for another article from the clubs in Tucson and again I've got to dream up something to write on for each. Thank goodness TKO is having their Closet Ball '85 this coming weekend.

That's right, Saturday evening, March 16, is the big night for a large group of contestants who are looking forward in seeing how they appear as the other gender. Doors for this event will open at 9:00 p.m. in the BFH room at the Fineline. Tickets can be purchased at the door starting at 8:30 p.m. This year, for the first time, there will be a ticket drawing, prior to the re-introduction of each contestant, for a special prize to be announced. The winner for this prize will be chosen by drawing from the audience. Also, don't forget, for the first time two (2) people from the audience wil be randomly chosen as audience participation judges, which will count as 25% of the judges final vote.

For anyone who still would like to enter this contest and have not been able to get hold of an application or for one reason or another made a last day decision, I'll be at the BFH around 7:30 with applications. At this time I want to wish every contestant the best of luck and may all of your preparations, practice dressing and walking prove profitable for you.

Just a final reminder, all mailed applications should already have been received by TKO and last minute door applications should be turned in to me no later than 8:00 p.m.

I haven't heard a word from the SOS, TALL, SCLC, or the T-Squares in the past week so nothing to report on from them. Next Monday I'll be able to give you not only the results and possibly pictures of this year's Closet Ball '85 winners, but give you information on both TKO's Spring Fling '85 and the Old Pueblo Run to be held over the Memorial Day Weekend.

TBBS: I feel so sorry for Nancy. She had to work longer this past Friday. It's about time she did some honest work for a change....Paige - I'm sorry. I saw you checking my column out last week to see if you made it. But, you are just like me. How can I write about someone who is so sweet and innocent?

The next time you walk into your favorite bar, walk up to a stranger and introduce yourself. Carry on the friendship and brotherhood, that Tucson has always been famous for.

TUESDAY MARCH 19
A NEW FACE BEHIND THE BAR

COME AND MEET
TOM
GUEST BARTENDER FOR THE DAY
DRAFT BEER 50¢
9a.m.–5p.m.
311 E. CONGRESS
Tucson,Az 622-8848

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR SIGNS QUEERBASHING BILL

by Sue Hyde

SACRAMENTO, CA (GCN) - Governor George Deukmejian, whose veto earlier this year of a Gay employment bill (AB 1) evoked an angry response from Gay men and Lesbians, signed into law a bill providing that victims of queerbashing may sue their attackers.

Deukmejian said he signed the bill because "I don't believe anyone should be singled out for violent attacks for any reason." He also said he will offer legislation that would further amend the Ralph Civil Rights Act to grant all persons the right to recover actual and punitive damages from attackers.

Democratic Assemblyman Tom Bates [Oakland] introduced the bill (AB 848) which adds sexual orientation, age and disability to the protected categories of the Ralph Civil Rights Act. Under the bill, elderly people, disabled people and Gay men and Lesbians may sue attackers for actual damages plus $10,000 for punitive damages. The attorney general or local prosecutors may seek injunctions against any individual or group engaged in campaigns of harassment against the protected persons.

Amy Hewes, an aide to Assemblyman Bates, said those people who worked on the bill were pleased that Deukmejian had signed it into law. She called it a step forward in recognizing the civil rights of Gay people. Hewes noted that Deukmejian had supported the Ralph Civil Rights Act when it was enacted and that it would have been "extraordinarily hypocritical" of him to veto AB 848.

According to Hewes, Gay men and Lesbians gave "significant and solid support" to AB 848. Not so, said Frank Ricchiazzi, vice president of Los Angeles' Log Cabin Republican Club.

Ricchiazzi told GCN that just one week before Deukmejian signed the bill, letters and calls to the governor were running 1000 to 1 against enactment of the bill. Ricchiazzi said that he and other members of the Gay Republican club mobilized Gay Republicans around the state to lobby for the bill.

Ricchiazzi believes that support for AB 848 sagged because Gay Democrats around the state were convinced the Deukmejian would not sign the bill. "I think they gave up on it because they were convinced a Republican governor would not sign a bill involving Gay rights issues."

"But," he continued, "it's with a Republican governor that we now have enacted the first statewide legislation to refer to sexual orientation."

Amy Hewes said her office has gotten no phone calls from people wanting to put AB 848 to use, but that she hopes the law will be utilized. "I hope people will stand up and seek redress under this law," she said. "When they start using it, it will reinforce the notion to these kids that they can't keep [attacking Gay people]."

LEARN ABOUT YOUR STATE

STATE FLOWER

The white waxy flower of the Saguaro (Sahuaro) or Giant Cactus, is the state flower. The word Saguaro is a Spanish word for sentinel. It was adopted as the state flower by the territorial legislature in 1901.

STATE BIRD

The state bird is the cactus wren that builds its nest in the saguaro.

STATE MOTTO

The state motto is Ditat Deus, which translated means God eneriches.

agba

ATTENTION

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

ALL MONIES DONATED WILL GO TO THE ARIZONA AIDS FUND TRUST

ALL MONIES DONATED WILL STAY IN ARIZONA TO HELP ARIZONA A.I.D.S. VICTIMS.

ARIZONA GAY BAR OWNERS ASSOCIATION
SERVING THE NEEDS OF ARIZONA'S GAY COMMUNITY

INTERVIEW with the cast of "The International Stud"

INTERVIEW WITH INTERNATIONAL STUD CAST HELD AT FINELINE MARCH 7, 1985 WITH CAST MEMBERS ANTHONEY ALVAREZ (T), MONTE-JON GILMER (M), DELYLA PIERSON (D) AND DIRECTOR SUZANNE LIST (L).

O - DO YOU CONSIDER THE INTERNATIONAL STUD TO BE GAY THEATER ESSENTIALLY BECAUSE IT IS BEING PRODUCED IN A GAY THEATER IN A GAY DISCO?

T - IT WASN'T A CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION. THE INTERNATIONAL STUD IS A GOOD PLAY - THEATRICALLY IT IS GOOD, AND THAT WAS THE REASON FOR OUR CHOICE. IT COULD HAVE BEEN "T-SHIRTS", WHICH IS A GAY PLAY. IT COULD HAVE BEEN A ONE ACT PLAY BY CHEKOFF. BUT I DON'T THINK THE INTERNATIONAL STUD WOULD EVER GET PLAYED ANYPLACE ELSE IN TUCSON.

O - COULD IT HAVE BEEN PRODUCED AT 'LE THEATER' FOR INSTANCE?

T - NO. NOT AT INVISIBLE THEATER AND NOT AT ATC.

D - IT IS TOO DARING. I THINK WE COULD SAY THAT TUCSON THEATRICAL PRODUCERS ARE VERY CONSERVATIVE, WITH A CAPITAL "C", AND I MEAN POLITICALLY, MORALLY, ALL THE WAY AROUND. THEY'RE AFRAID THEY MIGHT OFFEND SOMEBODY.

L - I THINK ALSO THAT THEY ARE AFRAID TO LOSE MONEY.

D - I DON'T KNOW THAT A PLAY LIKE THIS MIGHT NOT BE A HUGE SUCCESS, BUT IT'S SUCH A RISK AND THERE'S SO MUCH MONEY TO BE LOST IN THEATER, UNLESS YOU HAVE A KIND OF BUILT-IN AUDIENCE. WHICH THIS PLAY HOPEFULLY HAS. THIS KIND OF THING IS JUST A BIG RISK, UNLESS YOU HAVE LOTS OF MONEY AND REALLY BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND DON'T CARE, OR CAN AFFORD TO LOSE THE MONEY.

O - IF THIS IS SUCCESSFUL, WOULD YOU ALL LIKE TO DO ANOTHER PRODUCTION, AND TRY TO GET A WIDER FRINGE OF ACTORS AND DO SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE AMBITIOUS. MAYBE TAKE THIS PLAY TO PHOENIX?

T - TO START THE QUESTION IN REVERSE. NO TOURING AT ALL. PHOENIX IS PHOENIX. THAT IS THEIR COMMUNITY, THEY HAVE THEIR OWN THINGS GOING. THIS IS TUCSON. A SEPARATE IDENTITY, A SEPARATE CULTURE, JUST BY SIZE, IF YOU WANT TO COMPARE THAT. THIS IS A ONE TIME SHOT, AND IF THERE IS A GOOD REACTION TO IT, THERE MIGHT BE ANOTHER SHOT.

O - BUT THAT IS A POSSIBILITY IN YOUR MIND?

T - OH, IT HAS TO BE, SIMPLY BECAUSE WE WANT TO KEEP WORKING, AND ONE OF THE THINGS ABOUT TUCSON ACTORS, TO QUOTE A LINE FROM "STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE", "I'VE ALWAYS DEPENDED UPON THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS." TUCSON ACTORS HAVE A TENDENCY TO DO THAT. THEY WILL WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO PRODUCE, FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO DIRECT. THEY WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO FIND A SPACE, FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO TALK TO THE PRESS. AND NOTHING GETS DONE.

I AM IN THE POSITION WHERE, AS PRODUCER, I'M NOT PAYING THESE PEOPLE A SALARY. THESE PEOPLE ARE WORKING ON A PERCENTAGE, OUT OF THEIR INTEREST IN THE ART, AND OUT OF THEIR INTEREST IN THE SHOW, IT IS ALL THESE THINGS. IF, AT THIS POINT, WE DO CONTINUE, IT WILL BE A BASIC CORE GROUP.

O - A REPERTORY COMPANY?

T - IN A SMALL WAY, YES. SIMPLY IN THAT WAY WE CAN GIVE PEOPLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACT, DIRECT, PRODUCE, ETC. ETC.

O - I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE GOING TO BE INTERVIEWED AND REVIEWED BY THE NON-GAY MEDIA.

T - NO COMPANY WANTS TO LIMIT ITSELF. WE WANT THE LARGEST DIVERSE AUDIENCE WE CAN GET.

D - I HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS WHO ARE THEATER PEOPLE. THEY ARE THE PEOPLE I WORK WITH AND THEY ARE COMING EN-MASSE'. SOME OF THEM ARE COMING BECAUSE IT IS A NEW PLACE. A PLACE WITH A DIFFERENT KIND OF ATTITUDE. THEY ARE COMING, AND I THINK THAT'S WONDERFUL BECAUSE THIS PLAY HAS A VERY LOVING, HONEST LOOK AT A LIFESTYLE THAT THEY'RE AFRAID OF. AN THEY SHOULDN'T BE.

O - HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEBUT AT LEGITIMATE THEATER, MONTE?

M - IT MAY BE MY DEBUT, AND IT MAY BE MY CLOSING. I AM NOT SURE.

O - NO, NO, NO. BUT LET'S HAVE A LITTLE BACKGROUND ON YOU, PLEASE.

M - WELL, YOU'VE GOT JEKYLL'S, THAT WAS TEN YEARS AGO. I SAW THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THAT PLACE. I ENJOYED THE UPS AND GOT OUT WHEN THE DOWNS CAME. THEN I STARTED DOING "FEMALE IMPERSONATION". THE REASON I DID IT WAS BECAUSE IT WAS A WAY TO GET MY FOOT ON A STAGE WHICH I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO EVER SINCE I WAS A KID. SO, FINALLY, I FEEL THAT ALL THOSE YEARS OF DOING THAT HAS FINALLY PAID OFF BECAUSE I AM DOING SOMETHING NOW THAT IS A LITTLE MORE REAL. NOT THAT I AM SAYING THAT GOOD FEMALE IMPERSONATIONS ISN'T REAL, I THINK IT IS DEFINITELY A GOOD FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT ALL OF ITS OWN. BUT, YOU CAN'T PANTOMIME TO RECORDS FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE. I HAVE WORKED 'LIVE' FROM TIME TO TIME DURING THOSE YEARS. IN ARIZONA I THINK BILL MARLOW, MYSELF WERE THE FIRST TO WORK 'LIVE' AND NOW CASONDRA IS DOING IT.

O - DO YOU WANT TO CONTINUE DOING 'LIVE' THEATER?

M - OH YES. I'D LOVE TO. I LOVE IT.

O - HOW DID YOU GET DISCOVERED FOR THIS PART?

M - I DON'T KNOW, TONEY THAT'S YOUR'S. YOU FIELD THAT ONE.

T - INSTINCT, I THINK. WE DIDN'T HOLD AUDITIONS FOR THIS PLAY. SIMPLY BECAUSE THERE WERE A LOT OF ACTORS WHO WERE HESITANT TO EVEN DEAL WITH IT. SOME GAY ACTORS WHO DIDN'T WANT TO APPEAR IN A GAY PLAY OR IN A GAY BAR, WHICH IS UNFORTUNATE.

O - THERE ARE THOSE PEOPLE?

T - YEAH. OH YES, THEY EXIST.

M - TONEY SAID, 'HERE, I'VE GOT THIS PLAY. READ IT AND SEE WHAT YOU THINK OF IT. AND THEN I REALIZED THAT IT WAS MY LIFE, SO I WENT FOR IT.

O - YOU WEREN'T FAMILIAR WITH THE PLAY BEFORE THAT?

M - NO. I HAD NEVER READ IT. I HAD HEARD OF THE 'TORCH SONG TRILOGY' BUT I HAVE NEVER READ IT. BUT I THINK THE PARALLELS BETWEEN ARNOLD AND MYSELF ARE PRETTY FRIGHTENING. ARNOLD IS PRETTY MUCH OF ALL OF US, EVERY MAN - AND WOMAN.

O - DELYLA, WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND IN THEATER. YOU ARE DOING THIS SINGING....

D - AND ALL I'VE DONE IS ACT

O - AND A CAPPELLA AT THAT

D - I'M NOT BUT A LITTLE FRIGHTENED. I CAME BACK TO TUCSON, I HAD BEEN VISITING IN NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO BECAUSE I WANTED TO SEE WHAT THEY LOOKED LIKE, AND I GET THIS CALL FROM A FRIEND OF MINE WHO SAYS THAT TONEY AND SUSIE ARE LOOKING FOR ME. I THINK THEY JUST WANT TO PARTY, SO I DON'T GET HOLD OF THEM FOR A WEEK OR SO. THEY ASKED, "WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN. WE WANT YOU". SO, I AUDITIONED AND THEY CAST ME. I HAVE ALWAYS FANTASIZED ABOUT BEING A TORCH SINGER. I THINK THEY'RE A LOVELY ENTITY. THEY'RE KIND OF EARTY AND DIFFERENT. AND I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT I COULD DO IT, NEVER THINKING I WOULD HAVE TO PROVE THIS. AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I DO. BUT I LOVE THE MUSIC, AND I LOVE THE SHOW, AND THEY ARE ALL BEING VERY SUPPORTIVE. SO WE SHALL SEE IF I HAVE A CAREER AS A SINGER. BUT MOST OF MY BACKGROUND IS ACTING. I HAD ABOUT TEN YEARS OF COLLEGE THEATER.

O - WHERE ARE YOU FROM DELYLA?

D - FROM HERE. I MOVED TO TUCSON WHEN I WAS EIGHTEEN AND I'M NOT TWENTY-SEVEN SO I WOULD SAY I'M FROM HERE. I DID GO TO THE UNIVERSITY BUT MY BASIC TRAINING HAS BEEN AT PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE. I'VE DONE LIKE FOUR FESTIVAL SHOWS WITH THEM.

O - TONEY, YOU'RE THE PRODUCER OF THE SHOW. IT WAS YOUR IDEA. YOU'VE GATHERED THIS WHOLE GROUP TOGETHER. HAVE YOU DONE LOTS OF PRODUCTIONS BEFORE?

T - I HAVE PRODUCED BEFORE. HERE IN ARIZONA, I STARTED IN HIGH SCHOOL.

O - WHERE WAS THAT?

T - SAN MANUEL. A SMALL HIGH SCHOOL ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN. I'M A SMALL TOWN BOY FROM ORACLE, ARIZONA. I HAVE PRODUCED SOME SHOWS IN ALABAMA AND IN FLORIDA. TWELVE YEARS, OR SO IN THIS BIZ. WRITING, ACTING, DIRECTING, PRODUCING. I WANT TO SAY THAT I HAVE NO PAST AT THIS POINT. I'VE HAD EXPERIENCE THAT I CAN CALL UPON IN A KIND OF DREAM VISION, BUT I HAVE NO PAST. THIS IS THE PRESENT AND THIS IS THE BEGINNING AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED. I'M NOT EQUITY AND I'M NOT S.A.G. BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME ANY LESS PROFESSIONAL, IT DOESN'T MAKE ME ANY LESS DEDICATED. I AM OBSESSED WITH THEATER. I AM SICK AT HEART; I AM ILL, PHYSICALLY, SPIRITUALLY AND EMOTIONALLY IF I AM NOT IN A PLACE WITH THESE PEOPLE. I REALLY AM AND I'VE GOTTEN TO THAT AGE WHERE IT'S NO MORE PRETENDING THAT I CAN CURE IT. OR THAT IT'LL GO AWAY.

D - THAT SOME DAY YOU'LL GROW UP AND BE A REAL PERSON WITH A REAL JOB. IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN. WE'RE TOO OLD. WE'RE OBVIOUSLY STUCK.

T - SO IT'S HERE. IT'S NOW. IF NOT IN TUCSON, THEN SOMEWHERE ELSE.

M - MY BIGGEST HOPE IS THAT OUR COMMUNITY WILL COME OUT AND SUPPORT THIS EFFORT. I HAVE SAT IN NUMEROUS WATERING HOLES IN THIS TOWN AND LISTENED TO PEOPLE RAG DRAG SHOWS INTO THE GROUND AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN. YOU KNOW, "WHO WANTS TO GO SEE THAT SAME OLD SHIT?" WE ARE HOPING THAT THOSE PEOPLE WHO SIT IN THOSE TAVERNS COMPLAINING ABOUT NOT HAVING AN ALTERNATIVE, THAT THEY GET OFF THE BAR STOOLS AND SPEND $3.25 TO COME AND SEE A REAL PLAY. WE'RE PUTTING OUR NECKS ON THE LINE HOPING THAT THEY REALLY WANT TO SEE SOME OTHER ALTERNATIVE TO THE DRAG SHOW. IF THIS ONE DOESN'T WORK, THEN THE CHANCES OF DOING ANOTHER ONE ARE KIND OF SHOT.

D - I WOULDN'T SAY NEVER. WE ALWAYS SEEM TO RISE ABOVE IT. BUT IT'S MUCH EASIER DOING IT AGAIN WHEN THE FIRST TIME IS SUCCESSFUL.

M - PEOPLE SAY THEY WANT IT, THEN PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS AND COME SEE US.

O - YES. AND THAT GOES FOR THE STRAIGHT COMMUNITY TOO. EVERYBODY IS GOING, "THERE'S NO THEATER TO GO TO". NOW HERE IS A NEW THEATER. PULL OUT YOUR WALLET, LET'S SPEND THE MONEY, SUPPORT IT. EVEN IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH THE LIFESTYLE, EVEN IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH THE PLACE THAT IT'S BEING PRODUCED IN. YOU DO THINK THE THEATER SHOULD LIVE AND THRIVE. BE HERE.

O - WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT THEATER IN TUCSON HAS HAD SUCH A HARD TIME.

D - I THINK IT'S BASICALLY THE FAULT OF MANAGEMENT AND ALSO LACK OF MONEY TO START WITH. MOST PEOPLE TRY TO GET INTO IT AND DON'T REALIZE THAT FOR THE FIRST YEAR THEY CAN'T MAKE ANY MONEY; ALSO IT MUST BE SOMEONE WHO IS WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK, WHO IS WILLING TO SEE CONTROVERSIAL PIECES, FAST PIECES, FUNNY THINGS. TO PUT THEM IN A CLICHE - YUPPIES. YOU KNOW, THE THIRTIES PROFESSIONAL, WHO HAS MONEY, WHO ISN'T THAT STUCK IN HIS LIFESTYLE WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK. THERE'S THE TRADITIONAL THEATER LIKE ATC WHO OCCASIONALLY TOUCH ON THE CONTROVERSIAL. AND THE UNIVERSITY BUT LOTS OF PEOPLE DON'T GO TO COLLEGE THEATER.

AND THEN THERE'S INVISIBLE THEATER WHO DO LITTLE THINGS THAT ARE CLEVER AND NICE. BUT, I THINK THAT THERE'S A HUGE THEATER AUDIENCE IN TUCSON THAT IS UNTAPPED. THERE'S A PLACE FOR ABOUT THREE MORE THEATERS IN THIS TOWN.

T - I MIGHT DISAGREE WITH THAT. AS FAR AS I SEE IT THIS IS A BIG BLACK HOLE. I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN IN COLLEGE I WENT TO THE HEAD OF MY DEPARTMENT AND ASKED HIM THE UNGODLY QUESTION DO YOU THINK THEATER IS DYING. HE SAID OF COURSE NOT. IT WILL GO ON AND THRIVE FOREVER. AFTER THAT LITTLE SPEECH, I THOUGHT ABOUT IT AND I KEPT THINKING ABOUT IT AND CAME THE REALIZATION THAT IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE THEATER - THE ACTORS, DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS, ETC., WHO WANTED THE THEATER TO EXIST IT WOULDN'T BE HERE NOW.

AS A PRODUCER, I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE GAY COMMUNITY AND SAY THAT I AM A HOMOSEXUAL. THE GAY COMMUNITY IS ALWAYS SPECIAL. IT'S ALWAYS DIFFERENT. THIS PLAY IS ABOUT TWO GAY MEN AND SOME QUIRKS THAT ARE INVOLVED IN TWO MEN BEING IN LOVE, AS OPPOSED TO A MAN AND A WOMAN BEING IN LOVE. IF THE GAY COMMUNITY HAS ANY SALT, HAS ANYTHING TO THEM, THEY WILL SURELY VENTURE OUT, NOT TO SUPPORT US, THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT, BUT TO LEARN, TO EXPERIENCE STATEMENTS MADE ABOUT US, BY US.

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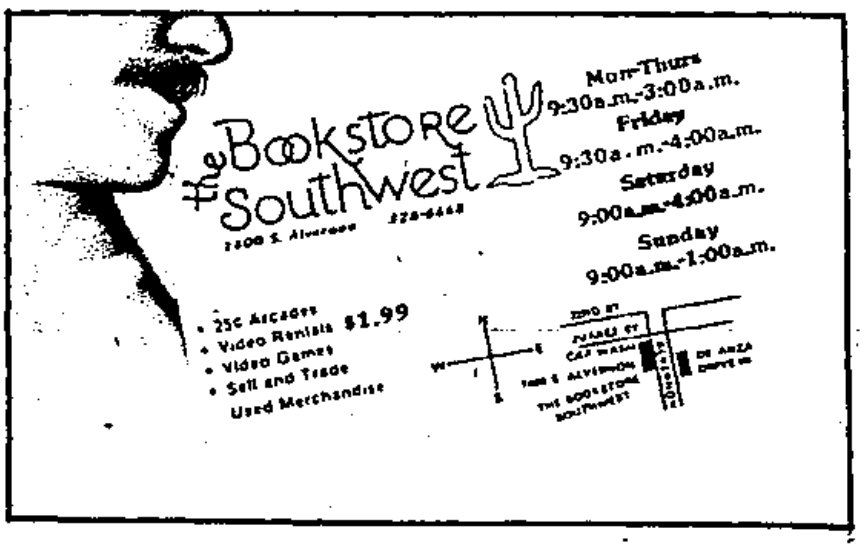

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NOTICES

GAY OR LESBIAN???
AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM???
Call A.A. 624-4183. 24-Hour Hotline, for information on Gay and Lesbian meetings.

TUCSON ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLE HEALTH ASSOCIATION (TALHA) Gay men's clinic. Located at 101 W. Irvington is open from 6 to 8 p.m. every Friday. A $5.00 donation is requested. TALHA is in need of doctors and nurses to volunteer their services.

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

TUCSON LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE (TLGPC) meets every second Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Fineline. Everyone welcome.

THE ARIZONA LESBIAN AND GAY TASK FORCE, your organization aimed at furthering human rights, education and networking with other national and local organizations, invites you to participate. Come and attend our meetings and input your ideas. Visitors and new members always welcome. Meetings: Every Monday. Membership: $10 per year. Contact: Lesbian/Gay Community Switchboard (7 p.m. - 11 p.m.) 234-2752 or write P.O. Box 1405, Tempe, AZ 85281.

NOTICES

ROOMMATE REFERRAL OF TUCSON. Men and women both welcome. NO FEE. Call Bill James 622-3808.

T-Squares, square dancing group meets at 7 p.m. every Wednesday at Tramps.

TUCSON YOUTH GROUP meets every Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m. at 560 S. Stone. All Lesbians and Gays under 22 invited 792-3772

You are invited to join a discreet group of Gay men and women ages 24-40 who meet at each others homes in a relaxed, social environment for the purpose of sharing good conversation, pot lucks, outings, etc., as an alternative to the bars. If interested, please write with means of contact to P.O. Box 11102, Tucson, AZ 85734.

TUCSON GAY HELPLINE - 742-7558

MEN AND WOMEN
Interested in Aerobic Classes at the Fineline? For information call Mickey Flowers 889-3291 in Tucson. 30

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PERSONALS

CHRIS: I met you at Trax on the 17th of February. I mayu have been a bit of a pest; you left and I never did get your number. I am moving to Phoenix and would like to let you get to know the real me. I'm not always a pest! If you don't ant to hear from me again please also be kind enough to drop me a note. Awaiting your advice. Stephen, P.O. Box 14197, San Francisco, CA 94114. 33

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MUSIC:

by Mark Cooper - London

BRONSKI BEAT

"Gay"

has never been a permissible word in the whacky world of pop music. Britain's new teenage heartbrobs still pretend to be determinedly heterosexual while the new crop of "gender benders" remain surprisingly quiet on the subject of their own sexual proclivities. Even high energy Gay disco tends to be covert in its celebration of male sexuality, drafting in a succession of "divas" to perform anthems with titles like "So Many Men, So Little Time".

Frankie Goes To Hollywood's Holly and Paul were perhaps the first pop performers to declare themselves Gay as a matter of fact. Yet the success of de scandale of "Relax" soon had the boys claiming that "sex and horror are the new gods." While Bernard Rose may claim that the banned video of "Relax" was not about sex but exuberance, more detached observers saw a display of titillation that crossed early Tubes with memories of the Village People.

Bronski Beat are a trio of Gay humanists barely out of their teens. Blending synth-pop with the throb of Giorgio Moroder's disc anthems, the Scottish threesome have already scored two British top Ten hits - "Smalltown Boy" and "Why?". Both singles openly address the persecution suffered by Gays while singer Jimmy Somerville's extraordinary falsetto suggests an outraged but anguished innocence, coupled with their avoidance of all Gay stereotypes, that has endeared them to a wide, mixed audience.

Jimmy, Larry and Steve are extraordinarily direct about their homosexuality. "We feel we're oppressed," explains Jimmy, "but not self-oppressed." Asked how being Gay affects his world, Larry is quick to reply, "Let's say it changes the world's attitude to us!" Bronski Beat may borrow from the camp traditions of Gay disco but they choose to present themselves as determinedly normal, steadfastly unglamorous. "We come onstage and wear the same clothes as we do offstage," grins Larry Steinbachek. "We don't want to put on any pretense. People can't believe it when Jimmy cycles home after a concert, but that's the kind of people we are. We've climbed from nothing to success but we haven't changed..."

From the first, Bronski Beat determined to simply be themselves. "We're not really into stereotypes at all," explains Larry. "We wanted to take away all that sleaze and leather image that people insist defines all Gay men...."

The video for "Smalltown Boy" shows Bronski Beat dealing honestly and directly with the difficulty of growing up Gay in a straight town. Yet such is the humanity of Jimmy's lyric and Bernard Rose's direction that the promo enlists our sympathy not only for Jimmy but for any innocent driven from the nest. Beaten up after an encounter in a swimming pool, Jimmy leaves his bemused father and mother for the London train.

"We wanted to do it as a narrative documentary," explains Larry, "not just another piece of fluff. We didn't want to glamorize anything. A swimming pool is actually a likely place for a young boy to see another male body for the first time whereas for heterosexual males, the media make women available from the first. Certain things had to be played down; we tried to take a Gay subject and handle it in a sensitive way."

Bernard Rose directed both Bronski promos. He's well aware of the constraints under which "Smalltown Boy" was shot. There's a tougher censorship visually than orally in Britain's media," he complains. "Jimmy had no problems with the lyrics but the video was never shown by the BBC. It wasn't a scandalous or sensationlist representation of the song but it was still too much for the Top of the Pops. Unlike most videos, "Smalltown Boy" doesn't make up with pyrotechnics what it lacks in content. What's good about it is that it's about the situation that created the music. Actually, I think the promo is of more interest to straight audiences than Gay ones. The Gays know all about the situation while non-Gays will find it educational. Pointing out their situation in a simple story makes it easier for straight people to see what Gay people go through and to understand them."

"Why?, the follow-up, is an even more direct meditation on Gay oppression, Jimmy's hurt vocals swinging between lament and celebration." Yet the very success of "Smalltown Boy" posed problems for the next video. "The lyrics to 'Why?' are very personal," explains the group,. "So we wanted the video to be a little less personal..." "After the last one," adds Bernard Rose, "I didn't want them to be known as merely a miserable group." Yet both director and group are disappointed with the result, an attempt to offer "an Hieronymous Bosch portrayal of a society operating on split-levels with a mean white-bearded God on top." Larry feels the end result is "a bit too flash" while Rose reckons "market forces made us rather skirt the Gay issue."

Despite this relative failure, Bronski Beat have largely remained true to their first principles. Their debut LP "The Age Of Consent" is currently in Britain's Top Ten and their first major tour is going well. By addressing themselves simply and directly to the facts of their lives, they've won a large, mixed audience. Bronski Beat neither hide nor camp it up, they simply disarm the opposition. We should be grateful for their honesty.

VIDEOFILE/December 1984

ED NOTE: Bronski Beat have recently been signed to MCA Records in America. Look for "The Age Of Consent" to be appearing in the homes and on the turntables of consenting adults here soon.

NEWS FROM MCC/TUCSON

This past week was a busy one for the church and this coming week is also a busy one. Last Saturday, we had a busy work crew working on the Church Sanctuary. Most of the cracks, splits and crumbling of the walls are plastered and repaired. Now for the big joy (job?) of painting. Do we hear a big "yeah" from volunteers out there?

Also, last Saturday night was the concert by "Romanovsky and Phillips" which was held at the BFR at the Fineline. All of you who missed the show really did miss out on a great evening of entertainment. Those two young guys from San Francisco are really great. We want to extend our heart-felt thanks to Dick Plowman of the Fineline for permitting us the use of the room for the evening. We would also like to give a very special thank-you to Rod Coyle for the lighting and sound for the performance. And to you, Bob Ellis, for the coverage in this paper, what can we say. These are very special people to work with and we really appreciate all that they did. And a big thanks to all within MCC/Tucson who helped to make this concert the success that it was - especially to Glenn, who we still can't believe what we saw during intermission.

This coming Saturday, March 16, Rev. Judy Dahl, our Southwest District Coordinator will have a special workshop "Imaging God" starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Church. All are invited to be with us while Rev. Judy Dahl addresses the questions, "What does God look like to you?" and "Is an image for God important?" These and many other questions will be brought into this workshop. Following the workshop, there will be at 5:00 p.m., one of MCC/Tucson's Potluck Suppers. Then at 7:00 p.m., a motion picture will be shown. "The Hiding Place" starring Julie Harris, Eileen Heckart and Arthur O'Connell. This is the story of Corrie ten Bloom, a Dutch Christian who risked it all to hide Jews during the Nazi Holocaust.

Sunday morning at 10:45 a.m., Pastor Dave Gunton's sermon will be "God's Got A Gift For You". Everyone is invited to join and share with the family of MCC/Tucson. Regular worship services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays, and at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings. Pastor Dave Gunton has office hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Fridays. The Church office is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. If anyone would like to call for an appointment for consultation, call the Church office at 622-4536.

Thought for the week: Remember when the only drug problem we had was trying to get a prescription filled on a late Sunday afternoon.

A View From Within

by Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

GOOD MANNERS COST NOTHING

"Oh, gosh," I can hear you sighing. "Here he goes again..." Well, yes, I am about to get up on my high horse again and bitch and complain. (I'm sorry...)

I had a very good upbringing: loving parents, a good home, the best of schools; the whole bit. I am the quintessential example of a product of the middle-class doctrine. In my text-book upbringing I learned many things while making that often perilous journey towards adulthood. One of my most important lessons was on manners.

I learned which fork to use for the salad, when to put my serviette on my lap, how to make proper chit-chat with friends of the family. Everything. I hated it. Yes, every bit of it irked me.

I trudged through this mire of etiquette past puberty and into my adult life relatively unscathed. I moved to California, started my business and began to see how important -in practice- were the theories of manners I had been forced to learn.

I used these sterling qualities (Thank you Mom and Dad) in every circumstance in which I found myself, and was (unconsiously) amazed at how easy things were. I was surprised at how much I could achieve with a "yes, sir" here, and a "thank-you" there. It was like an Aladdin's lamp.

As I began meeting people -the right people in San Francisco- I was like a shining star. I knew they watched me, like hawks, at first, to see if I would stumble and trip, but I flew gracefully through each and every challenge like a pro.

I am saddened to see how many people try to get what they want (and, mistakenly think they deserve) by force: they use rudeness, bitterness and intimidation. They might succeed, temporarily, but their best opportunities will fly out the door due to their lack of manners.

What difference would that make? Well, listen closely... The people that count have good manners. (So what?) These same people will readily recognize those other persons who have good manners. (Again, so what?) I have seen, with my own eyes, people lose jobs, contracts, and customers because of their poor manners. Well, they were told it was some other reason, but the real (and often obvious) reason was that they had no grasp of the importance of etiquette.

I, too, have made decisions based upon someone else's manners, or lack thereof. I have refused to do business with some companies because when I call, or visit, I am treated with discourtesy, or totally ignored. I have complained to managers of retail stores when their employees act curt, or rude. And written leetters in praise of competent employees.

Look at it from the eyes of a manager. If you had a nice store that sold curios, for example, would you want to hire someone who was rude, short-tempered, and discourteous? How many customers do you think would come back, let alone buy anything if they were treated poorly? Not many.

Poor telephone manners, poor social manners (Please. Thank-you. Excuse me.), poor manners with clients: the list is, unfortunatly, almost endless.

The November 5, 1984 cover story for TIME magazine profiled the renewed interest in proper manners. It also profiled Judith Martin, who we have all learned to respect as "Miss Manners". It reviewed her first book 'Miss Manner's Guide To Excruciatingly Correct Behavior,' other books and her thrice-weekly column. They are all MUST reding for anyone who expects to succeed in this world. (My prized literary possession is a 1949 copy - 73rd printing- of Emily Post's 'Etiquette, The Blue Book of Social Usage'. Some things never change.

I try to be correct in my manners although I do slip once in a while. But think next time, before you give someone the finger, try a simple apology instead. Allow an older person to take your seat on a bus, or train. Hold a door open for anyone behind you. (And say "Thank you" if someone does it for you.) Send a simple thank-you note when someone does you a kindness, or remembers your birthday with a gift.

And the simplest, (And perhaps the most polite gesture) costs nothing: A SMILE. Manners are just as inexpensive, and the rewards are many.

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