



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

MARCH 20, 1985

ISSUE 35

Dangers Of AIDS Blood Test

NEW YORK, NY - An advertising campaign launched here last week warns of the dangers in the new "AIDS Blood Test". The test detects antibodies to the virus believed to cause acquired immune deficiency syndrome but, according to medical experts, it does not show whether someone has AIDS, will get it or will be immune from it. Scientists, physicians and Gay leaders are concerned that the test may not be useful and it is certainly dangerous. (Observer, Jan. 23). The test kit is already being used by researchers; it is in the hands of several blood banks and private physicians will have it very soon.

Although the new test is not diagnostic, Gay leaders fear that it could be used to discriminate against those who test positive. "It could be our worst nightmares come true", said Roger McFarlane, Executive Director of Gay Men's Health Crisis. "If insurance companies start misusing this test, they could deny coverage to anyone with a positive test. From there it could spread to employers and even the military. The government has already proposed a national registry for blood donors and, although that idea is on hold for the moment, there will be local lists.

Scientists are concerned that fears over confidentiality might obstruct vital research. Dr. David Lyman, an epidemiologist at the University of California at Berkeley, promised to burn records in violation of any court subpoena that might be issued. "We simply could not have got an accurate sample without it at this time", he said. The Federal Government has existing legislative power to ensure that these records cannot be subpoenaed or used by other government agencies. These regulations are already used to protect studies involving intravenous drug users but have not been extended to all AIDS studies (Lyman's study was eventually given this protection).

Physicians worry that the test will be seen as a diagnostic tool. "There is no reason to take it", said Dr. Stephen Caiazza of New York Physicians for Human Rights. "It doesn't tell you anything about your health and it will be in your medical record forever." Caiazza is also concerned that unscrupulous physicians might try to sell the procedures as a "test for AIDS".

It is not even certain that the test can help protect the blood supply. Authorities feel that most people in high risk groups have refrained from giving blood since asked to do so two years ago. Now, it is feared, many will give blood in an attempt to find out their results on the antibody test. Because the test fails to detect the presence of antibodies five or more percent of the time, a great deal of exposed blood may slip through.

Almost as worrying as these "false negatives", are the "false positives". Studies indicate that the blood test registers antibodies where none exist in many people. Thousands of people may be told that they have been exposed to HTLV-III when, in fact, they have not.

GMHC has prepared a print advertisement that highlights some of the dangers of the test and stresses the group's position that people in high risk groups should only take it as part of a legitimate research study that guarantees in writing that it will never pass on the name of the participants (a study protected by the regulations mentioned above). The theme of the campaign is: "The Test Can Be Almost As Devastating As The

Disease". The ad features a photograph of a male body torn in half. It was prepared by volunteers at a major national ad agency. The advertisement appears in this issue of the Observer and will appear for the next several issues as a public service to our readers.

GMHC issued a statement with the release that stressed that the group was not opposed to research. "In fact," it said, "we are concerned that vital research is being jeopardized by a failure to safeguard the confidentiality of results. It will be more difficult to recruit study participants and the samples will be skewed since they will exclude Gay men and others who are informed and educated enough to know of the dangers of the test."

GMHC also advised people in high risk groups to continue voluntarily excluding themselves from the pool of blood donors.

International Stud In Final Weekend

The critically acclaimed Tucson performance of The International Stud now appearing at the Fineline is in its last five performances this weekend. The first act of Harvey Fierstein's Tony Award winning "Torch Song Trilogy" will play this Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings with a special matinee performance on Sunday (March 21, 22, 23, 24).

The production produced by Time Productions in conjunction with R Productions has received some excellent reviews from the non-Gay media and has boosted the size of the audience significantly in its premier performances last weekend.

Chuck Graham, entertainment writer for the Tucson Citizen, wrote, "The production was done sensitively and was thoroughly professional... Monte-Jon Gilmer was especially good as Arnold... It is to Gilmer's credit that he can take such a hopeless character and find the doughty inner determination that he shapes into Arnold's saving grace. There is much more than intuitive acting at work here.... Both Gays and straights will find worthwhile moments here."

Graham continues, "The action is kept entertaining enough by Arnold's flippancy humor. 'I never wanted to be a drag queen,' he says in Scene One, while wearing a blond bouffant wig and putting the finishing touches on his make-up. 'But try as I might, I just never could learn to walk in flats.'"

In the Arizona Daily Star, M. Scott Skinner reports, "This short play was first performed in 1978, well before the AIDS epidemic changed New York's casual Gay sex scene into a game of life and death. The boldest scene in the play shows us Arnold's first-time ventures into the notorious back room of a club called the International Stud, where sex is fast and faceless. It is an unsettling scene, and remarkably, a very funny one.... 'The International Stud', aside from being genuinely funny, works well for a reason that has nothing to do with its Gayness: In a mere 60 minutes, the author does what many plays fail to do in twice the time. He introduces us to two very different, terribly complex and entirely convincing characters and proceeds to make Gay and straight audiences understand what it is that makes them tick.... As Arnold, Monte-Jon Gilmer displays an excellent sense of comic timing in his sincere and winning performance. Gilmer had considerable stage presence for an actor with such limited experience, and

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Arizona Gay Show Wins Award



TUCSON - James Farias producer/director of "Arizona Gay" the locally produced weekly Television is shown above flanked on the left by Peter Brandlen, and on the right by Gary Clark. Mr. Brandlen produced a weekly cablecast television show on holistic medicine "Expanded Health" and Mr. Clark is arts

and entertainment editor of the Observer. The occasion was the First Annual Awards Ceremony held last Monday at the Doubletree Inn in which Mr. Farias won a trophy for Excellence in Entertainment for his program "Arizona Gay". Thunderous applause greeted the announcement. See story below.

TUCSON - Last Monday evening at the Doubletree Inn over 100 persons gathered for the Tucson Community Cable Corporation First Annual Oasis Awards Ceremony. Nominated in four categories (Documentary; Local News Magazine; Arts and Cultural Expression; and Entertainment), James Farias, producer/director of Arizona Gay won the Award for Excellence in Entertainment on the Community Cable. Arizona Gay tied with "Video Art Music" for first place and both shows were awarded a trophy for best in entertainment.

There were seven other entries in the Entertainment category. They included Comedy Show; Post Hypnotic Daffodil; Singles Only; Sunset Years; T.W.I.T.; Warren Franks Video EP and Video Waves I - II - III - IV.

During the cutting of each of the

categories of which Arizona Gay was nominated the show drew very loud audience response via applause. The predominantly non-Gay audience viewed a shortened version of Arizona Gay's presentation of the Tucson and Arizona Leathermen Contests which were held at Colette's West and at Tramps. When the show was finally announced the co-winner in the Entertainment division, the audience met the announcement with thunderous applause.

Jim Farias and his crew of dedicated workers and participants in the programs are to be congratulated for this achievement in such a short period of time. Tucson can well be proud to be part of this unique weekly television program, a first of its kind in the country. More cities are sure to follow, but it is nice to know that Tucson was the pioneer in this type of educational effort.

T.I.P.S. Seminars To Be Held For Tucson Alcohol Servers

TUCSON - In its ever increasing awareness to the problems encountered daily by barowners and their employees who handle and serve alcohol, the members of the Tucson Arizona Gay Barowners Association (TAGBA), will have the opportunity to send their employees to a special alcohol handlers seminar. There will be two seminars held enabling as many owners and employees to participate as is possible.

The six hour seminar will be held at the Fineline on March 27 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and again on March 28 at the same times. The program called Operation Alert: Training for Intervention Procedures by Servers of Alcohol (T.I.P.S.), is produced by Anheuser-Busch, Inc. and is produced locally by Golden Eagle Distributors.

The T.I.P.S. course is complete with printed and slide materials. The program was developed by Dr. Morris Chafetz, a Washington, DC psychiatrist who was the founding director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Everyone knows that a successful retailer must have training in the proper handling of alcoholic beverages. By the same token, retailers across the country are coming to the realization that formal training also is needed in how to handle customers during the course of an evening, to avoid situations of alcohol abuse.

Dram shop laws and increasing legal liability make it almost mandatory that bar employees learn how to handle intoxicated customers. Several programs have been developed across the country for training bartenders and waiters and waitresses on how to intervene if it appears that a customer has had too much to drink. Some of the techniques are simple, common sense approaches - such as offering a customer a menu, to encourage consumption of food. Other strategies are more complicated, such as how to keep a customer away from a car until he or she has sobered up. The T.I.P.S. program is one course that will familiarize the server of alcoholic beverages how to handle such situations.

Operation A.L.E.R.T. (Action and Leadership through Education, Responsibility and Training) was begun out of fear that freedom to market alcoholic beverages is in danger of being destroyed by people who are attempting to solve the alcohol abuse problem by attacking all use of alcohol. Actions like this are causing the some 480,000 honest and conscientious retailers in this country to be very frustrated. There have been proposals to ban happy hours; to reduce the number of hours per day during which an establishment can operate; to drastically increase the excise tax on alcoholic beverages so that people will not be able to

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D R I E F S

THE SEARCH IS ON

TUCSON - Metropolitan Community Church of Tucson, in an effort to increase the effectiveness of its ministry in our city, has created a Building Search Task Force, whose purpose is to find a new location for their congregation. While the congregation enjoys their present location on South Stone, they feel that a more accessible and functional building will help serve more people in Tucson.

The Task Force is currently searching for either land to build on or a building that would be suitable for their needs, including adequate parking space. If anyone in the community knows of a potential site for sale, please contact the church office at 622-4536, and a member of the Task Force will return your call.

YWCA: WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

TUCSON - Confusion. Questions. No answers. What to do.... Help might just be found in the Women Helping Women Program at the City Center YWCA, 738 N. 5th Avenue in Tucson.

Every Monday evening from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., there are counseling sessions in matters concerning legal, financial and career problems. These are 30-minute individual counseling on a one-to-one basis. The counselors are practicing women attorneys and accredited professional counselors of the city of Tucson. These women donate their time and expertise to help women in need of such services.

For appointments, call 84-7810, Winnifred Wallace. Donation required: Legal, \$10., Financial and Career, \$5.

GREAT OUTDOORS UPDATE

TUCSON - "Poppy Time" in Southern Arizona has arrived. The plentiful rains of winter should produce a good harvest of colorful Spring wildflowers. Great Outdoors will take advantage of this with a "poppy run" and polluck picnic on Sunday, April 7. Maxine (747-2875) will give you all the answers about departure time, carpooling, gasoline sharing expense, etc. For information about our next meeting on April 4, or if you would like an events calendar mailed to you, call Wayne at 623-4897. Happy Trails!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I have always been bothered by the definition of homosexuality as a behavior. Scratching is a behavior. Homosexuality is a way of being, one that can completely influence a person's life and shape its meaning and direction."

- Judy Grahn, from the introduction to "Another Mother Tongue: Gay Words, Gay Worlds".

INTRINSICALLY DISORDERED

PHILADELPHIA, PA (CNN) - The Archbishop of Philadelphia issued a statement attacking Gay activists for causing a "true scandal" in society, according to the Philadelphia Gay News. The statement, apparently prepared two or three years ago, was released after numerous requests for an explanation of the Archdiocese's new proclamation forbidding members of Dignity, the organization for Gay and Lesbian Catholics, from speaking at Campus Newman Centers.

The statement also declares that "homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered and can in no case be approved of... It is our hope and prayer that more and more responsible Christians will work for the full realization of more positive sexual values in our society."

"The list of insults is endless," said Dignity president Michael Flynn.

L.A.D.S. THANKS COMMUNITY FOR MONTE CARLO NIGHT SUCCESS

PHOENIX - "Our recent Monte Carlo night drew turnaway crowds," says a spokesperson for Los Amigos del Sol (LADS). "The success of this event -- our sixth annual -- was due in no small part to the generous participation of the many members of the community who donated prizes. We thank them."

Among the donors: Buddy's Flowers of Mesa; The Sisteks; Mainwain All; Phoenix Hilton; Continental Hair Fashions; Hair at La Posada; Dr. W.R. Sterling; Salon Copenhagen; BJ's of San Diego; Bob Branch Florist; Camelback Inn; Grand Camel.

Also, AAMCO Transmission (Cave Creek Road); Turf Soaring Club; Raggedy Ann & Andy's; First Travel; R. Hegyi; Thunderbird Lanes; Olive Branch Florists; Gallery 3; Stage 1 Salon; Incognito; Tommy & Clyde's; the sponsors of the Sweetheart Ball; Bath House; Rawhide; Shamoo's; Trax; New Moon; Tuff Stuff; Little Jim's 3-0-7; Charlie's; Cruisin' Central and Cattlemen's Exchange.

"In addition, we're most grateful for the assistance of the Sons of Apollo (SOA), whose members oversaw parking and security for the event."

L.A.D.S. is a men's and women's social club which recently celebrated its ninth anniversary. It's next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. at Farrah's. Guests are welcome.

CRANSTON MOVES TO PROTECT FOREIGN GAYS

WASHINGTON, DC - Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA), has reintroduced legislation to eliminate "sexual deviation" as ground for denying entry to foreigners seeking to visit or immigrate to the United States. A Cranston aide told the Washington Blade that the bill "may or may not have a shot" at getting out of the Judiciary Committee. "There hasn't exactly been a rallying around this bill," the aide said.

GAY NEW YORK JUDGE REAPPOINTED

NEW YORK, NY - Mayor Ed Koch of New York City has reappointed openly Gay William Thom to a judgeship. Koch appointed Thom to complete the unexpired term of another judge last summer, but Thom lost his re-election bid in November. Thom, once again New York's first and only openly Gay judge, has one year remaining in his new position.

NEWS FROM MCC/TUCSON

Did you know that tomorrow, March 21st is the first day of Spring? It is the first of the two equinox of the year. The sun will rise exactly in the East and will set exactly in the West. There will be exactly twelve hours of daylight and exactly twelve hours of night. Spring is the time of year for all dormant plants to renew their growth for another season, it is the time of year for the birds to make their nests and start their new families.

In just a little over two weeks, all Christian churches will celebrate the greatest of all celebrations - Easter. Easter commemorates Jesus Christ rising from the grave, with the promise that He had died for us and will come again to claim His followers. And that all of His followers shall have everlasting life. Now is the time of year to renew our faith, how can anyone of us deny Him, He would deny no one.

This coming Sunday, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Pastor Dave Ganton's topic for his sermon will be "Getting The Most Out Of Worship". Come and join us for this important message. Regular worship services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays and at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening. Pastor Dave has office hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. 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: Think of what others ought to be like, then start being like that yourself.

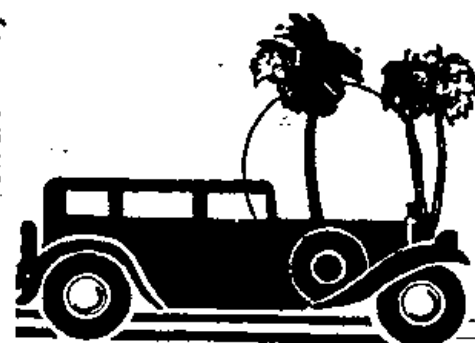
EDITORIAL

Last week's issue of the Observer carried an ad by The Fineline which warned customers who are underage that they were not welcome at that establishment. Checking with other bars we find that each of them are taking extraordinary precautions in keeping not only minors from these establishments but troublemakers as well.

In a conversation with Fineline owner Dick Plowman, he states that because of that particular advertisement their security force has fared much better in stopping teenagers entering the premises with fake or altered identifications. Plowman states that he has confiscated six fake or altered IDs in the last two weeks.

All of the Tucson Gay bars are members of the Tucson Arizona Gay Barowners Association (TAGBA), and are equal in their fight to enforce the age law which went into effect the first of the year, as well as stepping to the forefront in educating their employees in proper control of alcoholic beverages in their places of business through a seminar program as described on page one of this issue.

Everyone is aware of the increased vigilance by local authorities in addressing the issue of alcohol and substance abuse. If customers of these establishments are to be protected, and stay out of trouble, they must look to TAGBA to continue their educational program to their employees and continued surveillance of their places of business, which will take the pressure off of these establishments, and thus decrease the pressure on its legal patrons.



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AND
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THE FINELINE

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the hottest weekly in town

OBSERVER

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Closet Ball '85 is now in the history books, all the make-up is washed off and the dresses are hung back in the closet awaiting the next show. Each of the contestants now know how to appear in full drag. This year's Closet Ball Queen was sponsored by S.O.S. and serves your favorite liquid refreshments at the Graduate during the afternoons. The Closet Ball Queen for 1985 was Jason M. Having been a part of every Closet Ball ever held in Tucson, I can honestly say that Jason is the best example as to what the Closet Ball is all about. His transformation was great thanks also to his make-up artist David O. I do have to say once Jason got the dress and all on, his personality sure turned to sleazy fem! (Just kidding!) Congratulations Jason and I hope the following year brings many beautiful Closet Ball Queen surprises for you - all good.

Second place this year went to Jimmie J. and third place to David F. Other contestants were also (how should I put it?) beautiful. All five are to be congratulated because of your transformation the judges had to work hard to choose the winners. At this time I want to personally congratulate each contestant and thank them for the splendid performances and outstanding transformations.

As stated before, David O. of S.O.S. was Jason's make-up artist. Yes, he did a super job, but let Jason enjoy the crown - get off the stage, (just kidding).

The Tucson Knight Owls and I would like to thank all the contestants and make-up artists for the superb, professional performance each of you displayed, and in general for your help in making Closet Ball '85 one of the best ever held in Tucson.

Now that the Closet Ball is over, TKO is gearing up for their "Spring Fling '85", April 26 to 28. This year's version will be held in and all around Tucson. Reservations have already been received from Phoenix and San Diego and we expect more from Phoenix and Albuquerque and possibly other cities around this beautiful Southwest. If anyone would like to join us on this fun-filled weekend, contact me (Doc) at 325-8031. I'll get you all the info and/or an application very soon.

Moving over to TALL, I'm informed they are having their famous and delicious Sunday buffet at the Graduate this Sunday, March 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. Joining them again, S.O.S. is having a bake sale at the same time. I've had both (one of the meals and sampled some of the baked goods) and I can honestly tell all of you - don't miss out - be there!

Speaking of S.O.S., their two (2) sponsored contestants in the Closet Ball both won. Congratulations, and I hope baking and make-up artist is not what S.O.S. is all about. I know that isn't true and I am personally very proud to have their club in Tucson. They are fun to be around. Just think, S.O.S. will be celebrating their first year birthday party during TKO's Spring Fling.

I need a little more info on the "Old Pueblo Run" over Memorial Day Weekend but the meeting isn't until tonight and Bob is waiting on this article, so I'll get it to you next week. At this time I do know this event, run, or call it what you want, is expected to have 100 or so participants - Party Time!

TBBS: Speaking of this year's Closet Ball Queen, she must have been having pre-Ball jitters because at the Graduate Bowling League last Wednesday, Jason bowled an "88". I wonder what he will bowl this week?.....As for Paige, I'm not sure what she was getting ready for. The same night she tried to bowl backwards. (?) (1)..... Nancy's mother was in town this past week, but Nancy wouldn't let her near me. I wonder why?.....Welcome to town Pat Maru, and I hope your visit was very enjoyable. Now send me some information on both of your daughters here.

Another Fine Food Resource For Tucson

TUCSON - In a new small shopping center on North First Avenue is a very well stocked, bright, cheery delicatessen, J.R.'s Gourmet Deli and Produce. Jay and Rob have moved to Tucson from Denver, Colorado and have opened this emporium of gourmet foods to little fanfare, but the word is spreading and all who enter this world of imported and domestic delicacies are proving to be repeat customers.

Featuring over 200 gourmet items for starters, and the list grows daily - 20 different kinds of gourmet coffees each ground especially to your taste and an assortment of over 30 different varieties of cheese makes one's selection difficult.

J.R.'s opened a mere two weeks ago. One is taken by the size of the store - over 3,000 square feet. Plenty of airy space to display the footstuffs as well as a cozy dining area where one can eat deli sandwiches (corned beef, pastrami, turkey, ham, Italian subs, tuna, etc.), salads, soups, hot dogs, etc. The deli also features a complete selection of fresh produce that is of very high quality and hand selected.

Jay says that his specialty is making up the party trays. Reasonably priced and of the highest quality and most quantity meats and cheeses of any deli in town. Rob takes great pride in his fruit baskets that are laden with the freshest apples, oranges etc. Mouth watering to look at and even better to eat. And he says to compare J.R.'s prices with the rest of Tucson.

It is always pleasant to shop where the staff appreciates you and where your likes and opinions count, says Jay and that is the premise that both Rob and Jay are building their business on.

J.R.'s Gourmet Deli & Produce, 3550 N. First Avenue, Tucson, 85719, (602) 888-8585. Hours: M - F: 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 - 6:00 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Sundays. Take out or eat in.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22 TAKE HOME A LEGEND LIVE!



MIDDLE OF THE ROAD

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Bluegrass Cajun

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TUCSON, ARIZONA

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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

YOUR OWN I.R.A.

The usual question is "What is an I.R.A.?" I am asking, "Who is your I.R.A.?" The what is simply money set aside now for your Individual Retirement Account. All banks have them.

My I.R.A. is not that easy to come by. Bank do not offer them. Few people have one, but we all hope to find one. My I.R.A. was the man I loved. Without him, I could not retire. Without him, I would not be well off, for he enriched my life. He was, above all, my inspiration; someone to emulate, someone who made me want to go beyond myself. In him I placed my Respect and my Admiration. Michael was my I.R.A.

Who have you invested in? Is he long or short term? Will he be there when you need him? Is he a solid, sound investment and will your I.R.A. pay off? How well do you check things out before you commit yourself?

Personal relationships are not unlike good business dealings. We often think harder about where to invest our money but little thought seems to go into where or with whom to invest yourself. People can be sound investments. I'm all for love, but shouldn't it be based on fact and not fantasy. If it were money, we'd think twice before investing it. We'd check everything out before laying it on the line. Why do we stop short of checking out our personal involvements? Why are we afraid to find out the facts? What good are your fantasies if they are not true, or don't stand a chance of coming true? Hiding the facts (burying your head in the sand) rarely gets us what we want - a successful investment, business or personal.

Find a great I.R.A. If you don't find the Inspiration, Respect and Admiration, don't invest. Aren't you worth it?

J.R.'S GOURMET DELI And PRODUCE

• DELI SANDWICHES
• FRESH PRODUCE
• GOURMET FOODS

• FINE CHEESES
• GOURMET COFFEES
(20 Varieties)
COFFEE & DANISH, 99



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3550 N.1st AVE, TUCSON

888-8585

Sixth Annual Closet Ball A Roaring Success Last Weekend

TUCSON - The Tucson Knight Owls held their Sixth Annual Closet Ball at the Pineline last Saturday evening and to say that it was a big success would be putting it mildly. The BFR was packed with people who came to see what "fast transformation" was all about. And they got their eyes full. The idea of the Closet Ball is to enter a contestant with a sponsor, present them on stage at the beginning of the evening, send them backstage, and for the men shave beards, moustaches etc., or add moustaches, beards etc. in the case of the women. A complete "gender change" in a matter of 60 minutes, and one of the toughest rules is that the contestant must never have appeared in "drag" on stage before.

There were five contestants for Closet Ball '85, and all entrants and sponsors did a great job of make-up. The judges had a hard time picking the three winners but in the end chose Jason First Place Winner along with his sponsor David who made him up. First place prize was \$100. The \$75 Second Place Prize went to Jimmie J. and his sponsor Penny, the \$50 Third Place Prize was awarded to David Floyd and his sponsor Aviva. But pictures speak for themselves. Here they are, in all their glory, before and after. Here is Closet Ball 1985:



First place winner Jason, on the left, daytime bartender at the graduate with his sponsor David, before the moustache went.



First place winner Jason, after the moustache went and the addition of several pounds of make-up etc. Congratulations.



Last year's winning contestant was on hand to pass on the crown to this years winner. Larry Mann shown on the right accompanied by his/her escort Patrick from Tramps.



First Runner-up Jimmie shown above with his sponsor Penny. That's Jimmie on the left! Penny did a great job of transformation as can be seen by the next photo.



First Runner-up Jimmie after sixty minutes in the dressing room with razors and girdles and wigs, and no telling what else. Congratulations.



Second runner-up was, of course, David Floyd with his sponsor Aviva Diamond. That's David on the left! But that's the last you will see of the cowboy hat. See our next photo.



Second runner-up David with a complete new hairdo and new headdress. Very striking but a little hard to maneuver behind a bar. Congratulations.

SPEEDWAY

WE ARE NOW OPEN "24 HOURS" ON WEEKENDS

FILM AND VIDEO ARCADE

IT'S HERE!!
SEXUAL TRIVIA GAME
\$24.95

Adult Bookstore

NEWLY RELEASED VIDEO MOVIES AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

Adult Video Tapes ... \$29.95
VHS, Beta, or Spanish formats available

CLEARANCE SALE
New Film 8mm and Super 8 \$10.00
Used Film - \$6.00

CLOSEOUT ON 1985 CALENDARS

HOURS: Mon. and Tues. 9 am - 2 am
Wed. 9 am - 4 am
Open Thursday at 9 am - Open Continuously till Sunday at 2 am.

- 1/2 PRICE

WE ARE NOW OPEN "24 HOURS" ON WEEKENDS

3660 E. Speedway 795-7467

SALVATION ARMY LOSES CONTRACT

MADISON, WI - The Salvation Army recently lost a city contract in Madison because of a Wisconsin law prohibiting discrimination against Gays and Lesbians.

The law requires all agencies signing contracts with the city to pledge that they will not discriminate against homosexuals and other protected groups. The Salvation Army signed a nearly half-million dollar contract with the city to provide shelter for the homeless, but attached a statement supporting discrimination "dictated by religious purposes." As a result, the city severed its contract with the organization.

The contract was awarded to Madison's Catholic Social Services after the city received assurances that the organization would have no problem complying with the anti-bias policy.

DAYTON ADOPTS ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE

DAYTON, OHIO - The Dayton City Commission recently adopted a revised policy statement on non-discrimination in employment by the City of Dayton. The revised policy statement now includes the phrase "sexual orientation" for the first time.

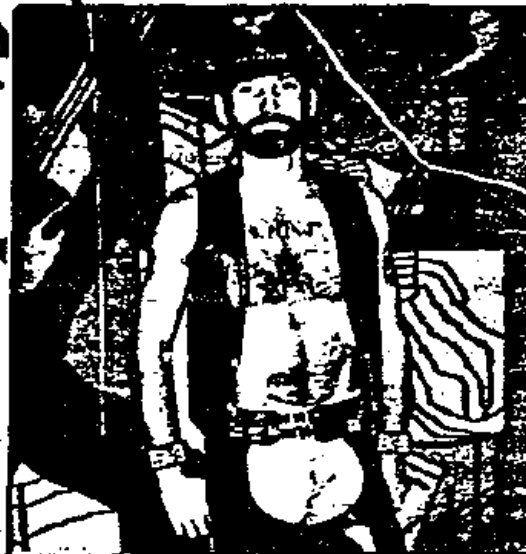
Dayton became the 51st municipality to provide protection for Gay people. Tucson adopted their non-discrimination ordinance in February 1977.

INTERNATIONAL STUD**CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE**

his loose body language made perfect sense for the character."

Skinner continued, "Anthony Alvarez is the tough 'fraidy-cat Ed, and his is a successful characterization. Delyla Pierson contributes to the production as a singer of suitably dramatic torch songs... 'The International Stud' generates powerful emotions and although it works better with the rest of 'Torch Song Trilogy' it is undoubtedly a production that should be seen and appreciated."

"The International Stud" is playing in the BPH at The Fineline, 101 West Drachman. Remaining playdates are this Thursday through Sunday March 21 through 24. Showtime is 8:00 p.m. each night. In addition there will be a matinee on Sunday, March 24 at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$3.25 in advance or \$4.00 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. [ED NOTE: If the demand for tickets remains at this high level, there is a possibility that the play will be held over through next weekend also, watch for announcements.]

ACADEMY AWARD PARTY**MONDAY, MARCH 25****7 to 10p.m.****BALLOTING FOR YOUR FAVORITES****3 TV SCREENS PRIZES****DRINK SPECIALS****COME VISIT WITH RICK****Monday Thru Friday 2 To 8p.m.**

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**INTERNATIONAL**

The Stud

FINAL WEEKEND MARCH-
21-22-23-24 at THE FINELINE

SPORTS REPORT

TEAM STANDING COMMUNITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE AS OF MARCH 11, 1985

TEAM	W	L	ECT.	PTS
JOSHUA TREE	24	8	.750	--
CLEAN UP-ARTISTS	24	12	.666	6
SPEEDWAY LOOKS	21	11	.656	3
COLETTE'S KILLER BEES	22	14	.611	4
FINELINE HAMMERS	18	14	.562	6
BACK POCKET	17	15	.531	7
WE GOT HANDED	19	17	.527	7
SUPER TRAMPS	17.5	18.5	.486	8.5
NIGHT BLOOMING SERIOUS	15	17	.468	9
H.O.T.	14	18	.437	10
THE DISCIPLES	13.5	18.5	.421	9.5
SUN FLOWERS	6	26	.187	18
CUTTER HAMMERS	5	27	.156	19

HIGH BOWLERS: PAM R. 159-183 / MD C. 448-151 / CATHY R. 439-180 / MARY B. 435-171 / LISA L. 420-159 / JIM G. 601-231 / JACK S. 558-210 / MARK H. 544-183 / JOHN D. 540-216 / GREG R. 539-181.

COMMUNITY MIXED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE STANDINGS AS OF MARCH 10, 1985

TEAM	WON	LOST	ECT.	G.P.
TEAM NUMBER ONE	16	2	.888	--
MEN AT PLAY	14	3	.821	2
COURT JESTERS	9	10	.473	4.5
TRAMPS	8	11	.421	8.5
YOUTH-N-ASIA	6	12	.333	10.5
BACK POCKET	5	12	.294	11
MAN EATERS	5	13	.277	11.5

SCHEDULE OF PLAY SUNDAY, MARCH 24, AT JOSHUA TREE COURT
Team Number One vs Man Eaters / Court Jesters vs Back Pocket / Youth-N-Asia vs Tramps / Back Pocket vs Men At Play / Tramps vs Team Number One / Man Eaters vs Men At Play / Youth-N-Asia vs Court Jesters.

TEAM STANDINGS GRADUATE BOWLING LEAGUE MARCH 13, 1985

TEAM	WON	LOST	PINS
1. LITTLE JACK AND THE WEATERS	22	10	13520
2. BURLAPETTE'S	21	11	13533
3. HOT CROSSED BUNS	19	13	13506
4. BLANCKIE'S BOMBERS	18.5	14	13444
5. TOOTH FAIRIES	18	14	13434
6. COQUETTES	17	15	13343
7. LOOSE LIPS	17	15	13507
8. GOLD AND THE CHANNELS	15	17	13385
9. THE THREE GRACES	14.5	17	13133
10. WHITE SWallows	14	18	13401
11. FAIRJANS	14	18	13397
12. SKIN QUEENS	13	19	13098
13. ALLEY...LOOPS!	11	21	13147
14. BVI NUTS	10	22	12891

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NIGHT TUCSON SCENE

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE
2821 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. 622-9713. Open daily 1 p.m.- Noon Sundays. A women's bar where everyone is welcome.

CONGRESS TAP ROOM
311 E. Congress. 522-8848. 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. 622-9333. 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.

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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 9 a.m. 8 a.m. on Saturdays. Noon Sundays. Western and light disco dancing.

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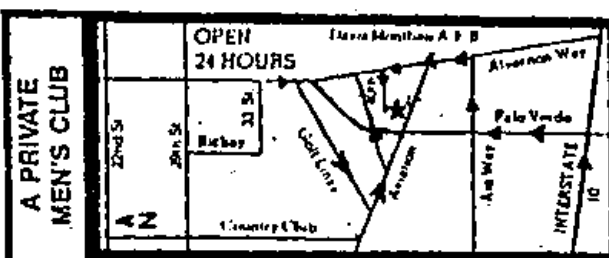
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SPECIAL CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MARCH 22
COLETTE'S WEST - Live band "Middle of the Road" plays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dance and listen to the best in country, country rock, bluegrass and Cajun.

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
MARCH 21, 22, 23, 24
FINELINE - Live production of "THE INTERNATIONAL STUD" in the BFR. A Tony Award winning play by author Harvey Fierstein. Produced by Time and "R" Productions. Local cast includes Monte Jon Glimmer and Anthony Alvarez and Delia; directed by Suzanne List. 8:00 p.m. each night. Special matinee on Sunday, the 24th at 4 p.m. Tickets \$3.25 in advance or \$4.00 per person at the door. Advance tickets on sale at the FineLine. Reserved seating must be in advance sales.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24
GRADUATE - Benefit Dinner sponsored by TALL. 6:00 p.m. S.O.S. donating dessert and will be serving.

MONDAY, APRIL 1
CONGRESS TAP ROOM - "April Fool's Day" party planned with some super special prices. And that's no April fool!

FRIDAY, APRIL 5
COLETTE'S WEST - "HOLD AS A ROCK" nite with live DJ. Old Rock, new rock, country rock and blues rock from 9 p.m. until closing.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9
COLETTE'S WEST - "Rock 'n Break" Pool Tournament, second Tuesday of every Month. \$25 first prize. Minimum 10 entries. Check it out.

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-Squires and country and western music with DJ Linda Elzdale.

THURSDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bottle Beer Night \$1.00 domestic 9:00 - 1:00 a.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 Sleek 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 (11 3:30) Special Bar-B-Que Dinner 5:30 to 9 p.m.
TRAMPS - Sunday Beer Bust Noon to 7:00 PM. .30 per glass of draft. \$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 6:00 p.m. to Midnight on second Tuesday of the month. \$25 first prize. 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!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

afford the product.
The ink was barely dry on the new federal law to raise the minimum drinking age when another group was announcing a nationwide drive to pull beer and wine advertising off television and radio. It was because of the rising tide against the consumption of alcohol that these training courses evolved, and the hopes are that with the increased awareness and education of beverage handlers, this problem might be solved.

The Tucson Arizona Gay Barowners Association is to be commended for undertaking such an educational program for its employees, all being done to increase the safety and enjoyment of those members of our drinking community.

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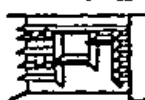
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CLASSIFIEDS



THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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.

CLASSIFIED: 20¢ per word. \$4.00 Minimum.

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 Satur-
day 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 alter-
native 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.

SOURCES UNLIMITED

Are you a Lesbian or Gay organization
or club? Perhaps you're a business in
the community? Here is your chance to
promote yourself by letting the
community know who you are. Women's
and Men's resources too. No Charge!
888-7445 Tucson.

NOTICES

VOLUNTEERS are currently being sought
for Gay Information and Referral. You
must have your own phone and be
willing to commit one night a week.
Training will be provided. Call
792-3772 and leave your name and
number with the volunteer. The
coordinator will return your call.

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Moving to Hawaii! Selling everything
except my body. 740 East Blacklidge
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24 from 10:00 a.m. to dusk. The crown
does not go!

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Call me, Wayne, 623-4897, Sierra
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For information call Bill in Tucson at
887-0819.

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL has over
80 resources for Gay men and Lesbians
in Tucson. Call 792-3772

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

PERSONALS

CHRIS: I met you at Trax on the 17th
of February. I may 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 want 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.

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SHARE 2 BEDROOM HOME. Earthy, natural
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Furnished. Speedway/Country Club
area. Rent \$200 includes utilities.
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NOTICE

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advertisers, we do not accept
responsibility for any claims made
pertaining to their products and/or
services.

WHO SAYS TUCSON IS A SMALL TOWN?



by Loretta von Oystershucker

AND THE WEDDING WENT ON.

Yes, the wedding was lovely for Loretta von Oystershucker and Isidro. Peter celebrated a wonderful service even though Loretta had it memorized, and telling him to skip the part about obeying. Then again it was a little embarrassing when Loretta went back for the wine at Communion six times! What was more embarrassing was when one flower girl, JB, refused the wine and asked for Red Label and water and to make matters worse, DPOP left a bookstore token for a tip! Another sour note was when Tom B. broke out with his rendition of "It Should Have Been Me," but then consoled himself with one of Loretta's ex-husbands, George G. So the ceremony continued and when ended, everyone left the BHI room and headed off to the Rooftop Terrace at the Congress Hotel for the reception.

Now, at the Rooftop Terrace, Loretta and Isidro stood in the reception line greeting all of their guests. One by one, the hundreds of friends came by to congratulate the happy couple. As each person approached, Loretta thought about the person and this is what she was thinking:

Oh God, I'm sure Thom S. is going to want to compare rocks!

I wonder if Miss Ellie is going to eat Bucky L's meat at the reception like he does every morning?

Here's Dan P. I bet he could care less about this and is just looking for a place to sit.

Oh, here's Jackie W. I thought I heard him mumbling the ceremony. God knows, he's been through this enough too.

Good old Bucky L. I wonder if he is going to dance to the "Stripper" with Arthur L. like he does at the bar.

I wonder how long Don A. is going to stay at the reception before he wanders down to the Esquire.

Peter S. and Roger B. look so nice. I bet Roger is hoping Peter will remember what they did on their wedding night and Peter is probably hoping Roger forgets.

I see H/T Tom brought his telescope with him. He'll be watching the freeway off-ramp to see if someone new comes into town.

What is that thing Ron T. is dragging behind him? It looks like a safe. Well, with his luck it is better to keep money locked up.

Hmmm, that blonde girl with Louis from the Back Pocket must be the one he is in lust with. I thought it was with Bobby Jr.

Well, just because everytime he comes to the Congress he gets married, that is rude of George R. to be carrying a leather wedding dress with him.

Why is Mary B. looking at all the tables and asking Bob B. if we are going to play Bingo.

Just my luck to get married and Sally B. comes with a new boyfriend. I could be on my knees consoling Eddie W.

Big Gordon may make a great cheerleader for volleyball at JT/BP, but when Isidro and I kissed, he didn't have to jump up and shout, "Do it again, do it again, harder, harder!"

My goodness, Fred McG. and Victor/Victoria A. look so cute together. I wonder if they are the ones that gave us the book "Bareback Riding Made Easy."

Del S. and Steven. How nice of them to offer us the use of their hot tub for the honeymoon. But Denny W. and Loyd H. offered their's with only 6 other people instead of the after-hours party they offered.

Here comes Charles N. He looks puzzled. He probably thinks the wedding is just starting. Late as usual, Charles!

I see Gary C. has his sketch pad with him. I hope he doesn't draw the two of us with me having a whip in my hand like he did with me and a former husband I met at the bookstores. If Gary only had known, it would have been a gun!

Kathryn C. and Rusty H. look so cute standing in the reception line. I just wish some of these guys wouldn't shake Kathryn's hand and try to kiss Rusty.

Oh, Colette is here with her

entourage. I wonder which one is her wife - I see her with so many different women.

John T. is here without Arthur. Well he has been seen out and about quite often lately. I guess Arthur must still be out of town.

What a nice wish Michael M. and Lloyd B. just said to us, but why did Michael say we were wearing too much cologne. Oh, I see, Don P. is right behind them in the reception line.

Oh Dirk and Peter, they must be the ones who left the card saying they had something to give us at Del and Steve's Honeymoon After-Hours Party. I've heard how they act at those parties.

Here are James G. and Rudy, but why is James saying "no pictures, no pictures." Well, after he got caught by the camera at the St. Patrick's Day party at the Congress, I can see why he doesn't want his picture taken. At least this time Rudy is with him.

Charlie O. looks so nice in her hot pants, but people are supposed to be looking at me. Lady, not your legs!

Well Tiger. I have to have a little chat with him. He's been going to the dog races so long now, I heard he placed a bet with the odds 20-1 that I wouldn't make it down the aisle without stopping for a cocktail.

So Shorty made it to the wedding. He wasn't sure he would be here on time now that he is getting paid to clean Tiger's house.

Oh thank God we didn't get married on a Wednesday. Billy McT. would be wearing that same Country/Western tent he wears every Wednesday night.

Neal C. is on his knees again. I haven't seen that since he went from his barstool onto his knees in front of Tom C. and all Tom could say was "Where are all the men in this town?"

What are those two bulges under Eddie F's pants? My God, he is wearing those designer knee pads he got from the guy who installed the new tile floor at Rita's!

Here's Ricky D. and that drag queen Jason. I hope this time when we do the wedding toast, they remember to put champagne in their glasses before they toss them at each other!

I suppose now that John R. and Ricky are here, they are going to ask again to see Isidro's tattoo.

Oh, Marshal K. is here with Bruce. I wonder what he did with Brian? Well Brian probably left after the other night's performance at Rita's with Dan and Kurt plus Bonnie swinging from the rafters.

My God, Brian M. does come out during the daytime. JoJo and he work so well together. For every table Brian waits on at Rita's, JoJo does a shot.

George M. - the last of the party girls. I just wonder if he'll let that breed die out now that he has met James?

Well, Lady Casandra and Candy Plastique are here together. I wonder if they are part of the entertainment? I hear they have put an act together and call it "Modern Maturity".

Monte-Jon and Michael W. I always knew they were more than just f--- buddies. What I want to know is if the rumor is true that Monte spent all the money he made from "The International Stud" on stamps to mail in votes to the Reader's Choice Awards?

So Richard W. stayed awake for all this. His organ playing was great, but a box of old bookstore tokens is not the greatest gift, even if Isidro does spend a lot of time visiting Terry at Books Etc.

And so it went. The reception was fabulous and for those of you not mentioned, I guess you couldn't attend the wedding. But not to worry, you can still send a wedding present. I hear that Jim F. from JT/BP said he would clean up after the reception because he just loves to clean. Oh, by the way, there will be no column on the Honeymoon!!!

A View From Within

by Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

GO WITH WHAT YOU FEEL IN YOUR HEART

I was out and about town the other night, when I ran into a friend that I had not seen for quite some time. He appeared, and came up to me, and we began catching up on what has occurred to us both since last we saw each other.

He began telling me how he and his boyfriend were on rocky ground. When I asked him why, he said it was because his boyfriend wasn't sure whether he wanted a wife and family, or if he wanted a Gay relationship. (As unfortunate as this situation is, it is one that I have heard of all too often before).

My surprise came when he asked me what he should do. He knows I write this column, and reads it each week, and (for some unknown reason) felt that I could utter those few precious words of wisdom that would make everything right in the world.

I have always been the kind of person to whom people go when they have problems, and need an ear to bend. (It is a curse, I guess...) I try to help them; offer some advice. Mainly, though, I try to get them to help themselves; think for themselves about what THEY want, not what they think they are SUPPOSED to want.

I told my friend to tell his lover to go away for a while, think about what he really wants with his life, and, when he finally decides, to come back and the two of them would talk about it in a reasonable manner.

I went on to qualify my advice by saying that he (my friend) was making things difficult for his lover by being around. His presence could influence an already confused mind into making choices which may not be ideal. I also told my friend that he was not being fair to himself either by sitting around waiting for his lover to make up his mind. Life is short, and there is too much to do and experience to waste time by sitting around waiting for someone else.

I found my advice sound, and -apparently- so did he. He said,

"Thank you, I'll follow your advice." I told him, "Don't follow my advice. You must do what you feel - in your heart - is right. If you feel - truthfully - that what I said is the right thing for you, then do it. Do not do it because I said so, but because you feel it is the best course of action for you to take."

I meant that very seriously. I am amazed at how many people do what they think they SHOULD instead of what they WANT. Life is too short to worry - to the exclusion of all else - about what your peers think is right for you. (Or society, or your boss, or your parents, or even government, for that matter).

Henry David Thoreau wrote, in his famous essay, that a person who does what others say he should do, is giving his time and energy to them: A person who does for himself is truly living.

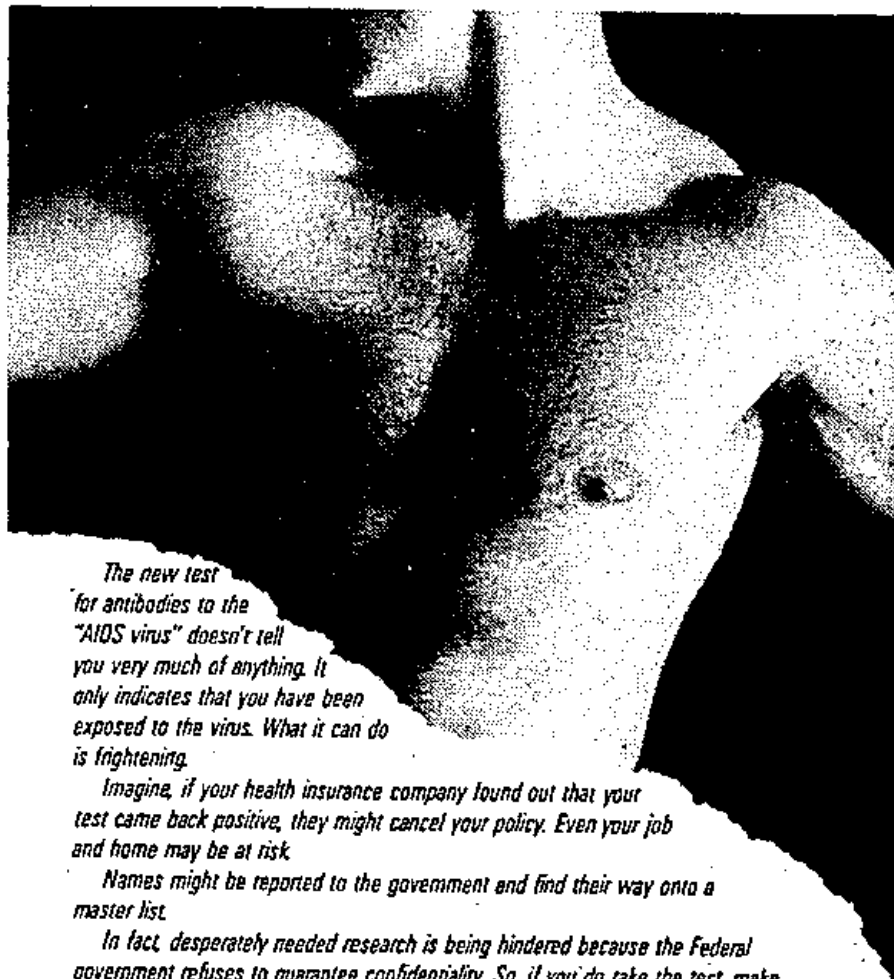
I know that with responsibilities one must sometimes do things less than pleasant to pay rent, buy food, rent Joan Crawford movies, whatever. But if, for example, you wanted to be a painter of fine art but could not make a living at it, then work toward the day when you can. One small step at a time, if necessary, but steps forward. A famous philosopher said, "Anything the mind can think, it can achieve."

If you want to be an actor, take acting lessons, or become involved in little theater. ANYTHING TO MOVE FORWARD TO YOUR GOAL! If you want to be a lawyer, begin to study law. If you want to learn to fly an aeroplane, begin reading about planes, flight, and the laws of aerodynamics. Do SOMETHING! Don't sit around wishing and hoping: DO!

How did I get - you may be wondering - from a friends' problem with his lover all the way to a dissertation on achievement? Simple:

- * Live YOUR life for YOURSELF.
- * Make your own MISTAKES and SUCCESSES.
- * Each minute you wait is 60 seconds LOST FOREVER.
- * Go with what you FEEL in your HEART, and live life.

THE TEST CAN BE ALMOST AS DEVASTATING AS THE DISEASE



The new test for antibodies to the "AIDS virus" doesn't tell you very much of anything. It only indicates that you have been exposed to the virus. What it can do is frightening.

Imagine, if your health insurance company found out that your test came back positive, they might cancel your policy. Even your job and home may be at risk.

Names might be reported to the government and find their way onto a master list.

In fact, desperately needed research is being hindered because the Federal government refuses to guarantee confidentiality. So, if you do take the test, make sure you get a guarantee in writing that your name and the results of your test won't ever be released to anyone.

Otherwise, our advice is, stay away from the test. It's bad news. GMHC Hotline 212-807-6655. Sponsored by GMHC. © GMHC 1985. Model: John Butts.