



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

JANUARY 15, 1986

ISSUE 78

Stephanie Price Named Miss Gay Tucson



Pictured above is Miss Gay Tucson 1986-87, Stephanie Price with trophy and flowers after winning the Pageant held last Sunday. See story below.

TUCSON - The evening was one of great anticipation. The entrants in the first annual Miss Gay Tucson Pageant were on edge after a day and a half of rigorous interviews and rehearsals. The actual pageant got underway at the Fineline, last Sunday, Jan. 12, about one half hour late with Miss Gay Arizona, Tamara and co-host Monte-Jon giving the rules and regulations and introducing the judges, plus some fine live entertainment by Tucson's Don Henkle.

The contestants were first viewed in their white Pageant gowns and then, as entertainment was provided by some fine talented performers - Moosale and Deja Vu the contestants changed into their sportswear apparel and were again introduced. They again went back to the dressing rooms to get into their evening gowns while the crowd of about 150 were entertained by Tamara and Zenobia both from Phoenix. Then the contestants were again on stage for the judges and crowd to enjoy their evening gowns. It was Miss White - Miss Gay Phoenix - time to entertain the crowd, while awaiting the contestants' reappearance for the third, and most important Talent Competition.

The contestants all deserve a great deal of praise for being put through the 'grinder' so to speak. They all did themselves proud and the crowd was very appreciative. As the evening drew to a close, the tension mounted, and when James Curl, JEC Production head came on stage to present the awards the crowd grew tense. It was apparent that the judging was close. The first award for Best Talent of the evening went to Stephanie Price. Miss Congeniality was announced next and Candi Plastique won that award. Second Runner-Up to Miss Gay Tucson was Jacqueline de Savoy. Aviva Diamond (first runner up in the Miss Arizona Pageant held last year) won First Runner-Up in this contest also. And the winner of Miss Gay Tucson 1986-1987 was Stephanie Price.

Congratulations to the contestants and to all the performers who did such an outstanding job entertaining the audience. To all the staff of JEC, the judges, and everyone connected with this event - congratulations for making the first annual Miss Gay Tucson Pageant such a success.

For more photos, see inside.

Isherwood dead at 81

SANTA MONICA, CA (AP) - Christopher Isherwood, called by Virginia Woolf "the great hope of English letters" and whose semi-autobiographical short stories on pre-war Berlin inspired the film "Cabaret", has died of cancer.

Isherwood, author of 25 books, collaborator with W.H. Auden on several plays and a sometime Hollywood screenwriter, was 81. He was working on an untitled biography when he died at his beachfront home Saturday, Jan. 4, artist Don Bachardy, his friend of 33 years, said.

There will be no funeral because "he didn't want any," Bachardy said.

Isherwood once a medical student at the University of London, willed his body to the UCLA Medical Center for Research, Bachardy said.

"He holds the key to the English novel in his hands," W. Somerset Maugham once said of Isherwood.

Isherwood was born to upper-middle class parents in High Lane, Cheshire, England, on Aug. 26, 1904. His father, a career officer in the British Army, was killed in World War I. He met Auden with whom he wrote "On The Frontier," "Ascent of F-6," and other plays, at St. Edmund's School. He spent two years at Cambridge before being expelled in 1925 for writing scurrilous verse answers in his exams. He published his first book, "All the Conspirators," at age 24.

Isherwood visited Auden in Berlin in 1929, where they took part in the avant-garde nightlife and watched the rise of Nazism. He taught English in Berlin from 1930-33. The experience led to his 1935 collection, "The Berlin Stories," a semi-autobiographical work. The stories became the basis for the 1952 John Van Druten play, "I Am A Camera," and later the musical "Cabaret." The 1972 film version with Liza Minnelli and Joel Gray won eight Oscars.

Isherwood came to the United States in 1939 and became a naturalized citizen in 1946.

An acknowledged homosexual, he told People magazine in 1984: "Homosexuality suited me, and I have always felt at home with it. I don't doubt that I have a certain streak of heterosexuality in my nature, but it hasn't been my particular wish to pursue that."

Isherwood's 1967 journal, "A Meeting By The River," was written from a homosexual point of view, and he said he was speaking out for minorities. It included illustrations by Bachardy, whose works are in the National Portrait Gallery in London and whose portrait of Auden is in the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The book became the basis of a 1979 play that had a short Broadway run.

TV Evangelist called major GOP force

by Bruce Buursma

WASHINGTON, DC - One of the few questions that television evangelist M.G. "Pat" Robertson has yet to address on his daily broadcast or in his best-selling books is whether Pat Robertson could actually win the 1988 Republican presidential nomination. It is an issue that has set tongues twirling in the nation's conservative Christian precincts, the natural breeding ground for such a Robertson crusade.

But in the smoke-filled anterooms, more hard-eyed American political sages have generally reacted with bemusement and occasional disdain to the prospect of a Robertson campaign. They contend the ordained Baptist clergyman and television entrepreneur could not rally a broad enough constituency.

Now comes the chairman for the Democratic National Committee, Paul G. Kirk, Jr., who in a fund-raising letter confers the near-front-runner status on Robertson in the Republican race. "With his massive financial resources and political organization and a mobilized religious right-wing voting bloc behind him, Pat Robertson could well take the Republican nomination and be the candidate to be reckoned with in the general election," Kirk said in the letter mailed to 25,000 Democrats last month.

"Don't let 1985 become a year like 1979 when we all said Ronald Reagan can't possibly win," he said. Because when President Pat Robertson finishes his scripture reading and begins his televised State of the Union address, it will be too late."

The doomsday letter, couched in the sort of overheated rhetoric widely employed in political direct mail appeals, has been received with a well-modulated sense of glee at Robertson's headquarters, the sprawling Virginia Beach, Va., campus of the Christian Broadcasting Network.

Robertson, 55, the network's president and the host of its flagship "700 Club" program, said he was "somewhat amused" by the letter. "It's almost unbelievable how much credibility the thought of my candidacy has gotten," he said. "It's an extraordinary thing," Robertson, a Yale law school graduate and the son of a former Democratic U.S. Senator from Virginia, has indicated that he is "prayerfully considering" a run at the White House.

An aide to the television preacher, Benton Miller, asserted in an interview that the fund-raising letter is likely to heighten Robertson's political visibility. The seven page letter acknowledged that it seems difficult to believe that such a "relatively unknown man could be a major, if not leading, candidate for president. But it contended that Robertson nevertheless has quietly emerged as "an ultra-fundamentalist leader of the religious right (and) one of the most powerful public figures in America today."

Through his television ministry, which reaches a potential audience of more than 25 million Americans and his affiliated political organization called the Freedom Council, Robertson has amassed "more contributors, broader public outreach and a larger field organization than any potential candidate of either party," the letter said.

And if the evangelist were to pursue the presidency, the letter added darkly, his "primary goal" would be to reconstruct the republic into "a place where everyone has the same extremist values and view of morality."

Dollar figure put on AIDS situation, costs could be cut

CHICAGO, IL (AP) - More out-of-hospital treatment and better diagnoses and drugs should reduce costs of care for AIDS patients, say researchers who estimate the nation's first 10,000 cases have mean more than \$6.3 billion in hospital fees and lost income.

In what is thought to be the first study on the economic impact of the deadly disease, researchers estimated total hospital costs will be \$1.47 billion, lost income because of disability \$189 million and lost earnings because of early death \$4.68 billion.

They were not trying "to put a

dollar figure on life, which seems kind of heartless, but (to show) that this is a loss that everybody shares," said public health specialist Ann M. Hardy of the national Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

"It's not just these health-care costs that are important, but we're losing people in the prime of their lives," Hardy, who led the study said in a telephone interview. More than 90 percent of AIDS patients are between the ages of 20 and 49, she said. The first 10,000 AIDS patients will spend about 1.6 million days in hospitals and lose about 8,387 years of work, the researchers said in their report in the Journal of the American

Medical Association.

All lost-income estimates were determined using 1980 data. The first 10,000 cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome had been reported to the CDC by last May 4. By Monday, Jan. 6, the total had risen to 16,138, with 8,220 deaths.

"We estimated that approximately \$147,000 is being expended for the hospital care of each patient with AIDS," the researchers said. Estimated hospital costs may be high, they said, because data on total time spent in hospitals came only from New York, where AIDS patients may spend

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

B R I E F S

CAN WE TALK?

TUCSON - The Tucson AIDS Project (TAP) will present another workshop focusing on the positive approach to sexuality, on Monday, Jan. 27 for Gay men 18 and over. The workshop is part of the ongoing educational program undertaken by TAP and will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Room 8403, 8th Floor of the University Medical Center, 1501 N. Campbell Avenue.

SMOKING POLICY WORKSHOP

JANUARY 21

TUCSON - This City of Tucson has determined that employers must regulate smoking in the workplace. Sec. 11-89 and 11-92 of the City Ordinance specifically states, "Each employer shall adopt, implement and maintain a written policy regulating smoking by employees." A workshop sponsored by Nonsmokers, Inc., will be held in the Main Auditorium of the University Medical Center on Tuesday, Jan. 21, from 8:00 to 10:45 a.m. The workshop is being co-sponsored by Wellness Council of Tucson, Tucson Personnel Association, Tucson Medical Center and the Tucson Retail Trade Bureau.

Every licensed business in the City of Tucson must have a policy to be in compliance with this ordinance. The workshop will discuss the ordinance and employee rights and employer responsibilities; examine alternatives and options of established policies; and assist employers in drafting for their organizations.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Leland Fairbanks, Chair of the Public Health Commission of the Maricopa County Medical Society and a member of the Advisory Committee of the U.S. Interagency Commission on Smoking and Health. There will be a \$30 registration fee if the fee is received by Jan. 20. The fee then becomes \$35 at the workshop. To register call the University Conference Department, 621-1232. MasterCard and Visa is accepted.

AIDS AMONG ORGAN DONORS NEW PROBLEM

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (AP) - A state task force will examine organ transplant procedures following transplants of the heart and liver of an Indiana man who had been exposed to AIDS.

The heart was transplanted into a woman last Saturday, Jan. 11, official from Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne said. The liver was transplanted Sunday into a man in Pittsburgh.

Surgeons found out the donor's blood had tested positive for exposure to AIDS during the operation at Presbyterian-University Hospital in Pittsburgh. A positive test does not mean the person had AIDS.

"We will have to take measure to make sure this does not occur again," State Health Commissioner Dr. Woodrow A. Myers Jr. said.

At Tucson's University Medical Center, spokeswoman Nina Trasoff said, "It's pretty unlikely that anything like that would happen here, judging from past history." She said potential donors are screened carefully before a transplant is approved. Physicians take a donor's physical and social history, and tests are performed and completed on the donor organs "before we even open the recipient's chest," Trasoff said.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR

AIDS BENEFIT

IN SCOTTSDALE FEB. 20

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA (AP) - Actress Elizabeth Taylor urged people to give more than money to people suffering from AIDS as she announced a benefit to fund research into the deadly and incurable disease.

"We must open our hearts to comfort them and fully express our love, for love of life is eternal," Taylor said during her announcement of the February 20 gala, at which she will be named Woman of the Year.

The "Gift of Life" gala will be held in Scottsdale and proceeds will go to the American Foundation for AIDS Research and the Arizona AIDS Fund Trust.

PFLAG/LA CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

LOS ANGELES, CA - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Los Angeles is celebrating their Tenth Birthday Celebration with a banquet and dance on February 15. It will be a "Love Affair". Parents FLAG/L.A. has had a love affair with the Lesbian and Gay Community for the past ten years. During those years, countless numbers of parents and their Gay children have been reunited, through parent peer phone counseling, rap discussion groups and educational materials. In addition, an ongoing campaign helps to change attitudes in the community at large.

The Love Affair will include honoring syndicated columnist "Dear Abby" - Abigail Van Buren and Dr. Evelyn Hooker, psychologist. Community awards will be presented to the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center; to Morris Kight; to Christopher Street West Assn. Two television dramas, "An Early Frost" (NBC) and "Consenting Adult" (ABC) will receive the group's Oscar Wilde Award. For further information and reservations, phone (213) 472-8952 or (818) 995-3647.

KING COUNTY ORDINANCE PROTECTS GAYS' EMPLOYMENT

SEATTLE, WA - The King County Council, which includes the city of Seattle, passed a new Fair Employment Ordinance recently by a 5-4 vote. The ordinance makes it unlawful to discriminate in employment on the basis of race, age, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, national origin and physical or mental handicap.

Last spring the ordinance was tabled by the county council when 500 demonstrators packed the council chambers, many calling for removal of the phrase "sexual orientation." The council's four women members supported the phrasing throughout the proceedings but were unable to get the additional vote to pass the ordinance at that time.

It was only recently that the county's Police and Operations Committee voted 5-2 to approve the measure.

The City of Seattle has had a similar ordinance for the last ten years. Keith Hughes, a reporter for Seattle Gay News, noted that the governor of Washington is expected to issue a state directive soon that will also make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in the state of Washington.

BOSTON ROCKS AGAINST AIDS



Ellen Shub

BOSTON, MA (GCM) - Dionne Warwick (left) and Cyndi Lauper demonstrate a touch of sisterhood and a determination to raise support for their brothers and sisters affected by AIDS. Two thousand people paid \$50 each to squeeze into the Metro Dance Club here raising \$100,000 for the AIDS Action Committee and the AIDS Research Unit of Mass General Hospital.

Said Warwick, "I'm proud to do what I can to help. AIDS is not restricted to any one age group, or color or creed. Quite simply it's a people's disease, and it's going to be conquered this way - by people pulling together."

ONE OUT OF EIGHT WOMEN STUDENTS RAPED

NEW YORK, NY (GCM) - One out of eight women college students report having been raped, almost half by first dates, casual dates, or romantic acquaintances, according to a preliminary results of a MS magazine-sponsored survey of one thousand students at thirty-five universities. The studies, reported in the New York Times and Sojourner, will survey 6,500 students over a three-year period.

COPPERSTATE LEATHERMEN /TUCSON COMMAND TO HOLD INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

TUCSON - The Tucson Command of the Copperstate Leathermen will hold a public installation of officers this Saturday, January 18 at it's "Bout Time" beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Copperstate Leathermen/Phoenix Chapter has been organized for almost three years. This is the first annual installation of officers for the Tucson Chapter (or command). The entire Phoenix contingent is expected for the occasion and the public is invited to join in on the festivities of this club event.

DYKE KEEPS TYKE

JUNEAU, AK (GCM) - A Lesbian here has won a battle in the state supreme court to keep her son, according to the "Works".

The boy's father had challenged the woman's right to custody, arguing that her Lesbianism would adversely affect the child's life. However, the Alaska Supreme Court, citing in part the 1984 U.S. Supreme Court decision in "Palmore v. Sidoti", ruled that "social stigma may not be the basis for a custody decision. Simply put, it is impermissible to rely on any real or imagined social stigma attached to the mother's status as a Lesbian."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DOLLAR FIGURE PUT ON AIDS SITUATION: Better diagnoses, drugs may cut costs more time hospitalized than elsewhere.

Still the hospitalization estimate is good enough to be compared to total for other ailments - \$1.6 billion for lung cancer and \$6.7 billion for motor-vehicle injuries in 1980, the latest year for which good data are available, Hardy said.

Because of AIDS' swift mortality, hospitalization costs can be compared to annual estimates for other ailments. Estimated survival time was 392 days, the study said, and virtually no one survives longer than two years.

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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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IT'S 'BOUT TIME

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SEX SYMBOL

In high school, on Thursdays, one couldn't wear yellow - for yellow on Thursdays was like a traffic light that told everyone in the hall, "Caution, this one's queer." I kept nothing in my wardrobe of that color, just in case Thursday should roll around and had nothing else to wear. For in all truth, when you were sixteen and knew yourself queer, yellow was just too subtle a color to get you what you wanted so badly.

After high school, there were more men that there was time enough to have them. Symbols facilitated finding those with appetites as tailored as your own, getting a trick was like buying clothes off a rack. The symbols were legend: keys dangling from a belt loop, a colored kerchief in a back pocket. Although we ourselves may not have been able to keep the symbols straight (left-bottom, right-top? And was it the same for San Francisco?), there was a difference between the yellow shirt and the red hankie: the first was chosen to identify us, and the other to identify ourselves.

Well, we have come to a crisis of symbols. We need a new one, a symbol for healthy sex, something that will say to the man you desire, "You're safe with me."

A rosebud has been suggested as such a symbol, and it has its appeal: so classic, so smart on one's lapel, and only less romantic than a heart-shaped box of chocolates. (One truly hopeless case imagined filling his bed with rose petals for the pleasure of pulling the sheets back for his nights partner. It sounds excessive, even to me, but we can't leave room for confusion on this particular issue.)

But symbols, my darlings, come --like a new lover-- with a past all their own. As has been contested heatedly, the red rose is already a symbol of the Right-To-Life movement. Cardinal O'Connor is never seen without one on public occasions (gilding the lily, you might say) to express his anti-abortionist stance. Since the New York Times can blithely point to those we have lost to AIDS and say that the sexual revolution is over, the rose tempts us as a symbol for our very own right to life. On

the other hand, it opens up to attack from the Christian Right when our energies are needed to defend more important battle fronts. So, do we need a rose of a different color? Lavender, white? Perhaps another flower altogether, say the hyacinth, symbol of male sexuality, and evocative of T.S. Eliot at his most romantic, "You gave me hyacinths first a year ago. . ."

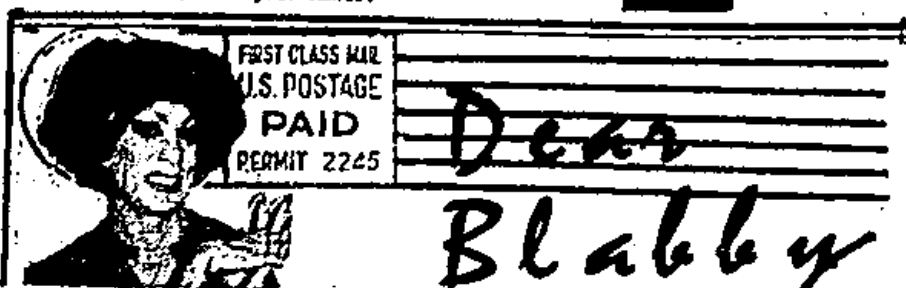
Somewhat quietly, there are those who have already delegated an unofficial symbol for healthy sex: the safety pin. The advantages of the safety pin are many: They are easily bought at the nearest five-and-dime; they can be worn anywhere --on your collar, your lapel, your earlobe (which ear will be left up to you); they come in a variety of shapes and sizes --say little gold ones for the discreet, or great big ones for the well, uh, the indiscreet, and for those disposed towards coyness there are the kinds with the little animal heads used on diapers (imagine the campaign poster for safety pin!). And what's more, should it happen that you are the one to introduce a man to the pleasures of healthy sex, you get to "pin him."

Now I personally would like to see pearls as a symbol for healthy sex. Not only can a long strand be worn elegantly in the evening on bare shoulders (appropriate for the baths), during the day it can be tied in a knot if you are only looking for casual sex. Those into SSM can wear a choker. And should it be necessary, you can cast them before swine! One serious drawback with pearls: in all good taste, can we wear them with plaid shirts?

Healthy sex is a serious topic of discussion for Gays, and after all this time, some of us are even downright resistant to it. We must stop being so serious about it, and we must let our resistance down. There are many pleasures available to us as sexual beings; if there were a symbol for healthy sex, you could turn to the man wearing it and ask him what those pleasures are for him. So, we'd like to turn this discussion over to you: what are your ideas for a health sex symbol? It's in your hands.

And speaking of hands --maybe someone could come up with a handsome stylized drawing of one, for if the brain is said to be our biggest sexual organ (for some of us perhaps), the hands are the most expressive. And it also brings to mind a slogan for sex in the eighties: the poet Hart Crane wrote to his lover, a sailor, "Permit me voyage, love, into your hands."

For further information, contact Raymond Jacobs, Educator/Trainer, or Michael Moran, Department of Education. Please fill out the form below and mail it to Gay Men's Health Crisis, Inc. "Symbol", Box 274, 132 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011



DEAR BLABBY:

On New Year's Day I was having a drink with a few friends down at Rumor Hazzit. It was a rather festive crowd and everyone was getting a bit loose when the wildest thing happened. The music got real loud and this good looking, young man got up on the bar and began taking his clothes off. We were somewhat taken back at first, but after awhile we were rather enjoying the show. I'm trying to find out who he is. If I'm not mistaken, he was one of the waiters last Sunday night in the BFR. If you know his name, please let me know.

Signed,
Desperately Seeking the Stripper.
P.S. Find out what cologne he was wearing on New Year's Day.

Dear Desperate--

I know exactly who you are talking about, but, I have been asked by the young man in question not to print his name in this column. So I won't. I will tell you however, that until this week the highest money making new film was IV. My favorite cartoon show is and Bullwinkle and I love Road to Nowhere.

B.
P.S. That wasn't cologne you smelled. It was "Keri Lotion".

DEAR BLABBY:

I heard that there was a six hour flu going around. Is there really such a thing as a six-hour flu?

signed
Not Falling For This Flu

Dear Not Falling--

Well, I don't believe there is such a thing. But this past weekend there seemed to be something like that going through Rita's like the plague, affecting every bartender that works there.

B.

DEAR BLABBY:

I was so upset to find out that I missed the Miss Gay Tucson Pageant. I was planning on entering - darn. Well, next year, I guess. That's probably for the best as it gives me more time to prepare. Do you have any tips for a contestant planning on winning?

signed
Waiting and Wanting to Win

Dear Waiting--

Well now. First of all you need to get yourself a Post Office Box here in Tucson. Then you can move to Phoenix to make lots of money so you can afford to enter the thing, and have decent costumes. The Post Office box is very important. That way, if you win, you can mail in your representation and support for the Tucson Gay community.

B.

P.S. When you come down from Phoenix for the contest, be sure to bring judges with you.

Congratulations TO STEPHANIE PRICE
Miss Gay Tucson 1986 - 87
and congratulations
to all the other contestants...
You're all winners!
Thanks for
a wonderful time.
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A HOT NIGHT



COUNSELING CONCEPTS

DEALING WITH REJECTION

They don't speak to you anymore. Letters written go unanswered, to them you are no longer flesh and blood. Have you ever had to deal with a situation like this? If not, you are fortunate but maybe in a lesser degree you've experienced rejection. Gay persons are not alone in this but certainly head the list for some real heavy encounters. An episode such as this brings up a lot of questions in a person's mind like, "Did they care about me in the beginning? Was I really loved? What kind of values do people have who reject their own flesh and blood."

Let's take a look at this one step by step. Caring and loving to most people mean there is an emotional attachment. There are attempts to guide you along life's paths. There may be financial help or none at all for the same reason but different viewpoints. Most of all caring and loving are demonstrated by ones being there when needed. One must also realize that some people have never been forced into having to demonstrate their care and/or love. They go through life never thinking about it at all. For some reason people are bored with it all, more aptly put having to put love into action puts the pressure on causing one to take a look at oneself. That can be as scary as hell. I believe that this is the basic reason for a person to reject the other.

One person's coming to grips with their own identity can cause an identity crisis for the other who has no intention of facing themselves. Assume that this encounter is with

your father. His acceptance of the fact that you are a Gay person registers zero. Confusion is the first thing that strikes. He doesn't understand because he doesn't want to but there is a barrage of questions that hit full force. These questions tend to focus on, "Why I failed," "What I did wrong," "I made my son and/or daughter Gay." Everything is shot at them. I haven't talked to my father in two years but I'm sure he blames himself. Not being able to deal with this causes one to toss out the remainder, you.

What kind of values do people have who reject their own. All kinds, but the one that hurts the most is when God is brought into the picture. The Christ figure down through history never cast out anyone who wanted to stay. Now is used as reason to get rid of flesh and blood. "I follow God's ways therefore repent or get out." What people do in God's name. It is so hypocritical.

So how do you deal with rejection of this magnitude? Besides trying to resolve differences, one starts over making and developing a new family. It starts with finding a spouse. Then in finding some parent figures or adopted grandparents. You make a family-type network of friends. The memories are still there. It isn't easy. Some days are real rough. You're on the road to health and stability. You know yourself and are moving on. That other person is still sitting there not knowing self let alone you. So, hang in there.

Paul W. Reagle
for Counseling Concepts - Tucson

Platter Chatter

by L. Mills - Tucson

Cassette/Compact Disc - "On The Future Of Aviation" - Jerry Goodman - Private Music.

He's back. That'll mean something to those who know. For the rest of you, the ones who have never heard Jerry Goodman, you won't understand why the rest of us are so eager. Yet, But you will, a few bars in. The title song, "On the Future of Aviation," sets one up for a fantastic listening experience. Here is a composer, guitarist and violinist recorded in a way that is more provocative, moving and experienced than any in a long time. Unique, comfortable music that is not jazz, or rock, or folk, artificially and arbitrarily divided. The creativity and imagination here is truly amazing. You must hear this excellent recording! Bravo!

Cassette/Compact Disc - "Piano One" - Eric Watson, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Eddie Jobson and Joachim Kuhn - Private Music.

We have four pianists performing on this tape from four different countries - France, Germany, Japan and the U.S. This offers to the individual never before released tracks in the United States by some great artists and a view of new composing talent in the music world today. All these pianist-composers show sensitivity in their compositions as well as in their playing. Sakamoto's genius is displayed in "Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence" from the film of the same name which starred David Bowie. "Puppet Flower" introduces Eric Watson's supple playing and his sensitive style of writing. There are just not enough good things to say about this tape and the artists it presents.

Private Music is interested in high quality recordings only. These recordings can be ordered from Private Music/Mail Order, 220 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010. Send \$11.95 for tape or \$16.95 for C.D. plus \$1.50 for postage. This will be money well spent.

LP - "Strength" - The Alarm - IRS Records (MCA).

The group that provided one of 1984's best singles "Sixty-Eight Guns" is back and right on target. This is an album that screams to be listened to. The concept of this LP seems to be a plea for "Strength" (title song) to fight the loneliness of a dead end society. The way to make it through is to have you "Walk Forever By My Side". Titles in addition to the above are "Down Chorus", "Deeside", "Father to Son," and "Absolute Reality". There is a good balance on this LP. Rock, New Wave to a Ballad using some excellent brass arranging. An album to be listened to and contemplated on as well as just enjoyed.

PICK HIT SINGLE OF THE WEEK

"Please Be My Love" by Mark Gray. Columbia Records.

Taken from his forthcoming third LP "Born To Be A Music Man", Gray more than lives up to that title. A great up-tempo love song. Best known on the country charts, this could be the record that crosses him over to pop. A winner!

VIEWPOINT

(ED NOTE: OBSERVER is instituting this column for our readers to let off steam about any subject they wish, provided commentary is not libelous or obscene. OBSERVER reserves the right to reject any material. Comments published in this column do not necessarily reflect the opinion of OBSERVER, it's staff or advertisers).

For quite some time I have been trying to strike the word Lesbian from my vocabulary. It is a term that seems to bear no significant definition or meaning in a Gay community. Homosexuals have acquired or assumed the term Gay be they male or female.

The point again of such jargon has recently come to my attention via a recent letter in the "Advocate". I would like to share part of that letter.

"To the average straight person, whom we are presumably trying to educate, this usage gives the impression that we are torn with infighting (reasonably accurate) and unable to reach a consensus among ourselves."

"It's one more thing for straight America to point to as evidence that we really are a peculiar lot. I have talked to many Gay women and a great many straight people who agree that 'Gay and Lesbian' sounds strained and contrived and that it reflects division, or worse, silly politicking."

We have suffered setbacks during the AIDS crisis. We have lost precious battles. In this time of crisis, let's recapture the spirit of our movement. Let's unite as Gay people with one voice, and with a shared goal of improving the lot of all Gay people, men and women alike."

The above letter came from S. Pierce in Atlanta, Georgia; a person with whom I couldn't agree more.

When I hear 'Lesbian and Gay' or 'Gay and Lesbian' I get furious. It often reminds me of homosexual subcultures. If one wants to gossip of the 'silly sissy' or the 'bull dyke' (a term even more distasteful than Lesbian); keep it at home.

It's time to wise up and as stated before, let's unite as "Gay People" with one voice.

Jack Wilson, Tucson.

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A P A R T M E N T S H O M E S

SPECIAL CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - The DENA KAYE SHOW. Two shows 8 & 10:30 p.m. Reserved seating. \$3.00 for entire evening. Great Country/Western music live!

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, JAN. 17-19 RODEO DAYS PHOENIX
 Friday is registration and "Get Acquainted" Luncheon and cocktail party. Rodeo begins Saturday from noon to dusk and continues Sunday same hours. Saturday ACRA Barn Dance featuring Dena Kaye from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. On Sunday after rodeo, awards ceremony with special guest Dena Kaye at 7:30 p.m. Many other events scheduled so check with rodeo headquarters at Camelback Sahara Hotel 264-9290. Rodeo grounds located at 26th Ave. and Baseline Road. Buses to and from the rodeo grounds available at Camelback Sahara Saturday and Sunday.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
FINELINE - Garland Productions presents "Shirley Revue" with Hostess CANDY PLASTIQUE. 8 p.m. \$2 cover.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
FINELINE - "CHILDREN'S BENEFIT" - A benefit show for abused Children 9:00 p.m. All-Star Cast. \$5 Cover. Possible co-sponsor Angel Charity of Tucson.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31
FINELINE - "OTHER SIDE OF THE RAINBOW" 9:45 p.m. Hosts Jacqueline de Savoy & Don Henkle featuring Candy Plastique, Michael, Tony and Rocky. \$2 advance; \$3 at door.



LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR:
 As an active straight person in the Tucson Gay community, I am outraged that Tucson would put up with our Miss Gay Tucson Pageant last Sunday night. I don't understand how we could allow a person who lives and works in Phoenix to be named Miss Gay Tucson. Wasn't it convenient to have the judges "all but one" from Phoenix, and the production company, down to the flowers, from Phoenix?

Why were there not more people from Tucson involved with the pageant? We have lots of talented people who would have been willing to share their time to help with our pageant.

I am not trying to take anything away from the winner, but the Miss Phoenix Pageant is coming up. Maybe our girls should go up to Phoenix for the Miss Gay Phoenix Pageant. We can bring all our own judges "except one" of course!!

Is this not a franchise? Where are the by-laws of this organization governing this matter?

Pennie Peters - Tucson

ED NOTE: A good point. Perhaps JBC Productions will be able to shed some light on this matter.

EDITOR:
 Very good editorial this issue 1/8/86. I agree wholeheartedly. Keep up the very good work. Take care.
 Brent - Tucson

EDITOR:
 Los Angeles Metropolitan Community Church advertised in "The Advocate" in 1988, and that is how I found the address and time to attend their services. MCC needs to continue this type of advertising in papers like yours, because without this advertising people will not be reached.

The frontal nudes in your newspaper were done in good taste. The letter that Rev. D. Guntion sent, stating the photos not proper or out of line for the community seems totally unreal. Rev. Guntion has forgotten which community he is serving, and his judgemental attitudes do not become a minister in the fellowship of MCC. A minister in his status, licensed, should not become ordained in this fellowship. Furthermore if any of the Tucson MCC Board members agree with the letter, they are not in agreement with the work Rev. Dr. Troy Perry started, they have gone astray and they should resign their positions.
 Name withheld by request

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THE TUCSON CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Wednesday Madness" - From 2 to 8 p.m. Drink Special. Check the chalkboard. Draft Beer Bust 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$50 per glass. Bobby Jr., DJ in J/T 9 to 1.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m. After Hours dancing until 4 a.m.
GRADUATE - .75 Schnapps. Drink specials until closing.
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 6pm Well Bourbon \$1. Western Nite with "T" Squares from 7 to 9 p.m. \$1.25 Well 8pm - 1am. Clint your DJ.
RITA'S - Longest cocktail hour in town 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring Well Scotch \$1 and Schnapps .75. "ITALIAN NIGHT" Italian Buffet 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$2.75. "Bowlers Special" - Special drink prices for bowlers in Rita's shirts.
RUMOR HAZZIT - Wednesday Beer Bust from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. "Dynasty" on life-size screen plus Drink Specials from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m.

THURSDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bottle Beer Night \$1.25 domestic 9:00 - 1:00 a.m. Dave Pierson, DJ in J/T 9 to 1.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m. After Hours dancing until 4:00 a.m.
GRADUATE - Happy Hour prices until closing.
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 8pm Well Rum \$1. From 8 to 1 am Long Neck. .75 Clint your DJ.
RITA'S - Longest Cocktail Hour in town 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring Well Bourbon \$1, Schnapps .75. Hors d'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m. Well Vodka \$1.25; Schnapps .75 and Domestic Beer (non premium) \$1 from 7 pm to 1 am
RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. to 1 a.m. Daily drink specials from open to 8 p.m. plus video dancing 9 pm. to 1 am.

FRIDAY

FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m. After Hours dancing until 4 a.m.
GRADUATE - .75 Schnapps. Drink specials until closing.
JOSHUA TREE - Bobby Jr. disc jockey 9 to 1
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 8pm Well Gin \$1. Dance music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Clint your DJ. Well drinks \$1.25 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Longest cocktail hour in town 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring Well Rum or Tequila \$1, Schnapps .75. Hors d'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.
RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. until 1 a.m. Drink special daily open to 8 pm. Video dancing 9 p.m. to close.

SATURDAY

GRADUATE - Bottle Beer \$1.00 (except premium). Drink specials until closing.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m. After Hours dancing until 4 a.m.
JOSHUA TREE - Bobby Jr. disc jockey from 9 to 1
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am - 8pm Bloody Marys \$1. Schnapps - .50 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dance music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Clint your DJ.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Domestic Beer Special (non-premium) \$1.00 - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Lunch Buffet served noon until 5 p.m.
RUMOR HAZZIT - Open Noon until 1 a.m. Daily drink Special. Video dancing 9 p.m. until close.

SUNDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Beer Bust 4 to 6 p.m. \$50 per glass. Steak Dinner \$1.00 to dusk \$4.00. Dave Pierson DJ's in J/T 9 to 1.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar open from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.
GRADUATE - Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - All day: 1st Well Drink or 1st Long Neck Beer .50 plus one can of vegetables or fruit for needy families. Noon to 8pm Draft Beer .50. T-Squares beginners class 7-9 p.m.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Brunch 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. \$1.75. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers \$1.25 noon to 7 p.m.
RUMOR HAZZIT - Open noon until 1 a.m. Drink Specials. Sunday Pool Tournaments 3-6 p.m. Video dancing from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

MONDAY


BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Bowlers Special" .75 well drinks for J/T bowling league bowlers. Dave Pierson DJ's.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar open from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.
GRADUATE - Bottle Beer \$1.00 (except premium) and drink specials until closing.
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 8pm Well Vodka \$1. From 8pm to 1am Well Drinks \$1.25
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Longest cocktail hour in town - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring Well Vodka \$1, Schnapps .75. Hors d'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m. daily.
RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. until 1 a.m. Daily drink specials open to 8 pm. Video dancing from 9 pm. until 1 am.

TUESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - 12 oz. cans of Miller, Miller Lite or Obors \$1.00! Bobby Jr. DJ's in J/T 9 to 1.
FINELINE - Upstairs bar open from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.
GRADUATE - Bottle Beer \$1.00 (except premium) and drink specials until closing.
IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am - 8pm Well Scotch \$1. Long Neck Beer .75 from 8 p.m. to closing.
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Longest Cocktail Hour in town 11 to 7 p.m. featuring Well Gin \$1.00, Schnapps .75. Hors d'oeuvres 5 to 7.
RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. until 1 a.m. Daily drink special (from opening to 8 pm. All Well Drinks 2 for 1 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Video dancing from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

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GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL has over 90 resources for Gay men and Lesbians in Tucson. Call 792-3772

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NOTICES

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP) MEETS THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at the University of Arizona Medical Center in Dining Room "C" (Second Floor) at 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome and urged to attend. Get involved! For more information call 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 11651, Tucson, AZ 85734.

MEN'S COUNSELING GROUP meets every Saturday, 1:00 p.m. at Center for Human Development, 198 S. Tucson Boulevard. Issues focus on individual needs of participants, including self-identity, coming out, relationships, family concerns, etc. Group meets for one hour during the week (5:30 p.m.). Call Dr. Dan Overbeck at 884-0476 for more details.

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TUCSON LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE (TLGPC) meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Call 293-3515 for location. Everyone welcome.

SENIOR GAYS (Over 40). If interested in joining, call Russ at 795-7180 Tucson.

CASA DE LA PALOMA will be holding services temporarily until February at 9841 N. McGinnis, Marana, AZ. Rev. Richard L. Summers and Rev. Sandy Lewis. 682-5936.

U.S.A. - The Uncircumcised Society of America is accepting members in the Tucson area. For uncircumcised males or those interested in this area. Call 881-4582 for information. C

NOTICES

TUCSON ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLE HEALTH ASSOCIATION (TALHA) Gay men's clinic. for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, and counseling on AIDS/HTLV-III and for the worried-well. Located at 101 W. Irvington; Open 6 to 8 p.m. every Friday. A \$5 donation is requested. TALHA also is in need of doctors and nurses to volunteer their services.

TUCSON GAY AND LESBIAN RAP GROUP meets every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at University Medical Center, 1501 N. Campbell, 2nd Floor (Dln. Room "A"). For more information call 792-3772.

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

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

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 11's 'Bout Time, 616 N. 4th Ave.

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.

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Coming up this Sunday at It's 'Bout Time, The Tucson Command of the Copperstate Leathermen will be having their formal installation of Tucson's leaders. This all starts at 7:00 p.m. so you should get there early. Copperstate Leathermen is another alternative to the different clubs already in existence both in Tucson and Phoenix. The Phoenix branch has been in operation for about 3 years. Good luck to the local leaders and local branch, and I look forward to reporting on your club's events.

This past week was a typical summer Tucson week; all the daytime partying. If I hadn't known it was only January, I would have gotten worried that I'd slept through a few months from hangovers. Nevertheless, it was a good week for all. Tucson was also gifted, I think, with the visit of Ron T. He arrived one day later than Baby Bob had planned on because Bob had spit shined all the bottles on the shelves, flooded the place with Pine Sol and dressed up in his cowgirl outfit. Ron made up for it by bringing along his new AQRA 'First Lady', Dean and of all People, Ed Jett. Those of us who know Ed know it's party time. Ron was in town spending his few bucks of "Charles" of Phoenix. What happened to the "Graduate" of Tucson, Ron?

For anyone out there who hasn't heard, Ron T. is also the president of the year's Arizona Gay Rodeo Association. He will be riding (?) herd over the first AQRA Rodeo this weekend, January 17, 18 and 19. Tucson has one contestant entered into

this first Rodeo - Kelly. Good luck to Ron, the full rodeo committee and to Kelly in this exciting adventure.

The local clubs were out over the past week, but haven't really planned too much for me to report on, other than TKO with their up-coming Closet Ball. If you have any questions concerning anything to do with the Closet Ball, get in touch with either Elmer (President) at 881-0672 or one of the other TKO members. I'm looking forward to this year's Closet Ball because this is the very first I haven't been involved in; a rest at last.

TBBS: You should have seen Pat, of the Nancy, Lindsey, Page, and not telling how many more, shooting pool at the Graduate. Talk about a 'Hustling Granny'.... Speaking of pool, I hear Bill N. was giving 'How Not To Shoot Pool' lessons over at It's 'Bout Time last Thursday night...Chery was talking about Ron T. saying it must have been some kind of a miracle back in October to raise R.I.P.... Scooter, it's OK to be horny with that wife of yours, but when you two take off, you should at least tell others so they can get their truck keys and coats out of your car. Now this one I just could not believe. Bob E. was asking Mike W. "How's the old man?" Bob was pointing at me of all people....

Hopi was saying this past Monday he only goes to the Graduate for verbal abuse. With some of his outfits it looks the opposite....Some people will do anything for a pay raise like drive to Phoenix, stay with the boss, dress up for the boss, and not telling what all. Tell us all about it Bob.... Big Tommy tells me that there is no problem with his Super Bowl Sunday feast. Probably a bunch of Vienna Sausages on Ritz Crackers.

Finally, for those interested, don't forget next Wednesday the Rita's Bowling League starts up again at the Fiesta Lanes. Bowlers should try to be early for the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Happy Anniversary to Joe and Duane, and my personal condolences to Tom and Mark for their recent loss of a loved one.

A View From Within

A COMMENTARY BY
CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY McPHERSON

IF YOU WANT A HOT SOAP OPERA, RETURN TO EDEN IS IT!

It all started on the radio in the 1940s. With the advent of television, it moved into our homes in full glory of black and white. Now, day-time and night-time, there are soap operas all over the dial. If you --like so many of us-- have little time to spend sampling these various soaps, let me save you the trouble.

Watch RETURN TO EDEN. It's as simple as that.

Let's face it, DYNASTY, DALLAS, and the others are long dead. They are straining for plot ideas (just watch DYNASTY this season and you'll know what I mean...) the freshness is gone, and the uniqueness has long since faded. But then, RETURN TO EDEN came on the scene.

Syndicated out of Australia, this soap gives new meaning to the words "prime time". The plot lines are so incredibly believable, the acting is so good, and the scenery, well Australia and the famous outback is hard to beat. (You get a good feeling of this from the opening credits which includes a splendid long-shot of the Sydney Opera House).

(I'm die-hard pro-American like the next person, but we speak here of quality, not loyalty.)

What makes RETURN TO EDEN so wonderful? Many things. One of those immediately noticeable is the fact that we never see these actors and actresses anywhere else. (Almost every page of TV Guide has a picture of Joan Collins. Goodness! She is milking this thing of hers for everything it is worth! And Linda Evans, and the rest doing fragrance commercials, and champagne commercials. Enough!)

Secondly, the production values of this show are without equal. The costumes are so well designed: fashionable, without being comical. (And if you need any help understanding this, just take a glance at the next episode of DYNASTY. What Alexis wears is impossible. Sorry, Nolan.

Then we have the perfectly believable plots: RETURN TO EDEN is like sitting in during big-business conferences and seeing the back-biting, and maneuvering that goes on. It is not fantasy and science fiction, but honest to goodness dirt! How refreshing! (Sorry DYNASTY, but this thing with Rita doubling for Krystle is truly awful! Lose it, quickly!) But don't get me wrong; this is no big business soap, there is human drama, sex, intrigue, love, sex, drama, sex and even a dash of sex here and there.

The cast is without equal: Rebecca Gilling as the indomitable (and perfectly gorgeous) Stephanie Harper --whose resilience and fortitude shows that any obstacle can

be overcome-- could blast any other "good" soap opera character out of the water. She is a good, kind person, but able to stand on her own.

Peta Toppano as the egregious Jilly makes Alexis, J.R. and every other "baddy" look like Salvation Army workers. BUT --and this is a big but-- she is believable! She lies, sleeps-around, cheats, commits fraud for all of the "right" reasons, but does it in a way any mortal could, not with the superhuman powers many soap-opera "baddies" have. She is fashionable, chic, urbane, cruel, vicious and thoroughly wonderful!

Supporting in the cast are James Smillie as Stephanie's husband --although he may not be by the time you read this: Oh, the perils of being alive in a soap! He is handsome, dashing, loving and a bit insufferable at times; Daniel Abineri plays Jake Sanders, the villain. He isn't mean, just calculating. There has never been a more handsome villain! Peter Couzens plays Stephanie's son Dennis. He is a bit confused about loyalty sometimes, but comes through when he is really needed; Meg Williams as Cassie who is in love with Dennis, but can't --yet, anyway-- have him. Warren Blonder is Tom who, after having "relations" with Stephanie's daughter Sarah (played very well by Nicki Paul), found out he was Stephanie's long-since-lost son! Well, understandably, Sarah was a wreck, but Tom went in search of the truth and discovered all sorts of things, but he couldn't tell Sarah because on his way home, he has a car wreck and goes into a coma! Well, Sarah discovers she is pregnant and decides to marry Angelo (played by Angelo D'Angelo) to give the child a last name and a father. (This story gets better, but there is not the room to print it here.

Also in the cast is Peter Gwynne as Bill --who thought he was Tom's father but may not be-- who provides the stabilizing father-figure; and the evil (and I mean EVIL!) Olive, played to the hilt by Suzanne Roylance. Olive has this thing for Jilly (not what you think) and has a thing for snakes which she overindulges in --if you catch my drift.

Well, there is more --a lot more-- but you will just have to watch it for yourself. If you like, you might want to wait until the repeats begins which should be soon. Keep an eye out for the pilot mini-series which was created by Michael Laurence, and then the 22 episodes which follow. It is worth the wait, and the watch!

If you want to write to your station to find out more about this great show, in Phoenix, write to KNOV, Channel 15, 4625 South 33rd Place, Phoenix, AZ 85040, Attention: Programming. RETURN TO EDEN is not being televised in Tucson yet.

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