

Accuracy of AIDS test is in question

by Steven Findlay

Since its approval by the federal government last March, the AIDS blood test has stirred controversy. That controversy is heating up as the test is taken by more people, and as research reveals its limitations.

New preliminary studies indicate the test may have a larger margin for error than previously thought - that it may fail to detect infection in people who, more sophisticated tests reveal, clearly are infected with the AIDS virus.

The findings raise serious questions about the tests reliability, in screening both blood and people for exposure to the AIDS virus.

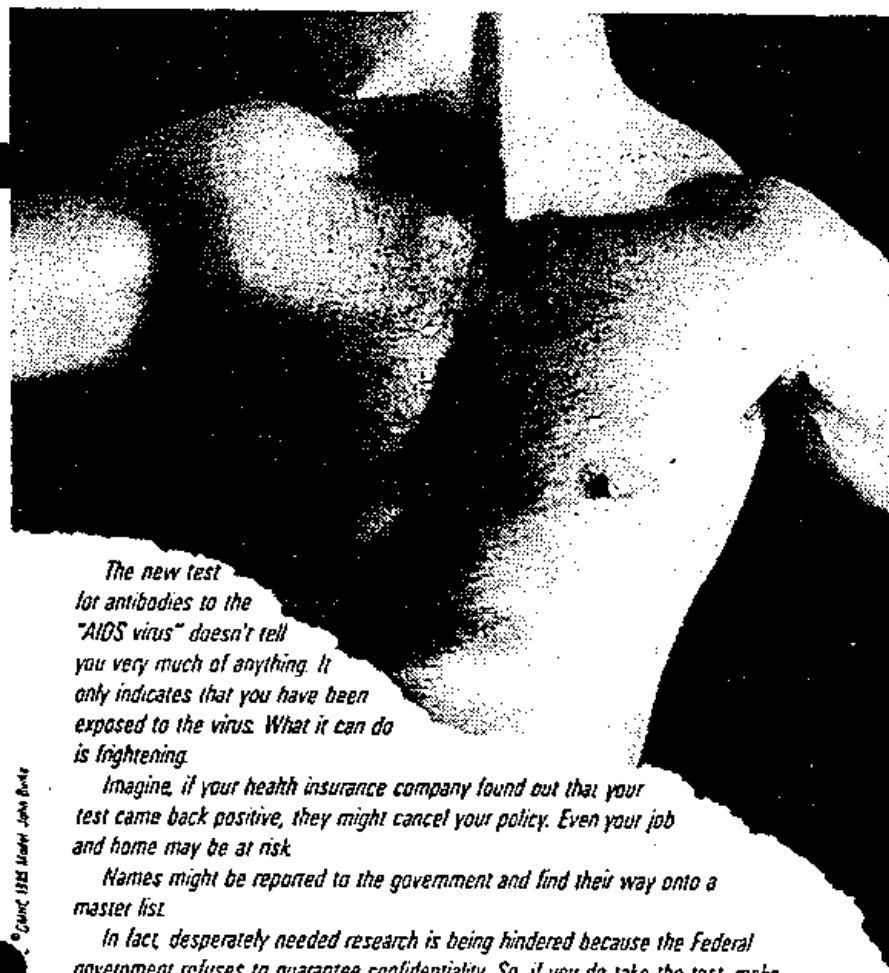
In addition to its use in screening all blood donated in the United States, the test - often referred to as Elisa or the HTLV-III antibody test - is being used to screen about 30,000 new military recruits monthly. And insurance companies are eager to use it as a

(disease fighting cells) to the virus in the blood - not the virus itself. It does not indicate whether a person has AIDS or will develop the disease. When a person's blood tests positive, it is further analyzed with another test, the Western blot. But this test, too, fails to detect the virus itself and is employed only to corroborate a positive Elisa test.

Other, more costly and time-consuming tests can detect the presence of the virus, but they are not routinely used.

"The significance of these findings is still uncertain," stresses Dr. Elaine Eyster of the Pennsylvania State University School of Medicine in Hershey. Eyster, collaborating with scientists at the National Cancer Institute, is studying the wives of a group of AIDS-infected hemophiliacs. When given highly sensitive virus culture tests, these women were found to have the AIDS virus. However, all tested negative when given the Elisa blood test.

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.

criterion for health and life coverage in some group, such as Gay men at high risk of the disease.

At worst, the new findings could mean a large number of AIDS-infected people - for reasons not yet clear - do not have an immune response that can be measured with the blood test.

That means the margin for error could be several times higher than the 1 percent estimated for the Elisa test. And, thousands could be given a clean bill of health when they actually carry the virus - and could spread it.

On the other hand, only a very few people infected with the virus may fail to test positive, researchers say.

The blood test detects antibodies

The women were healthy and had no sign of AIDS, say Eyster, who declined to reveal how many women were involved in the study.

In the past six months, other researchers also have found that people who have tested negatively on the Elisa test have the AIDS virus. "The question is, 'How common is this?'" asks Dr. John Ward of the Centers for Disease Control. "We continue to believe it's an unlikely event."

There are other, major concerns about the Elisa test's reliability. Studies indicate that some infected people can test negative in the weeks after infection because their bodies have not yet created antibodies the test can measure. Dr. William Haseltine, an AIDS researcher at

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Fear keeping people from AIDS antibody test

PHOENIX (AP) - The number of people seeking information about AIDS and testing for its antibodies has dropped dramatically, officials at Maricopa County's Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic said this week. Gay activists and others attribute the decline to a fear that the state will keep records that could be used to quarantine or discriminate against those with the acquired immune deficiency syndrome antibodies.

"We worry about a master list being developed somewhere," said Bob Hegyi, executive director of the Lesbian and Gay Community Switchboard and Arizona AIDS Information Line. "What we are afraid of is that confidentiality will not be maintained."

Officials said the decline began in late October, about the same time the state Department of Health Services enacted an emergency order requiring medical workers to report cases of AIDS. The health service also unveiled plans Nov. 1 to require reporting of those who test positive on the HTLV-III test, which checks for AIDS antibodies but not the disease itself.

The county's antibody screening program was set up in June by state and county officials so that those at high risk for AIDS - primarily homosexual or bisexual men and intravenous drug users - would not donate blood to be screened for AIDS antibodies.

"The end of October, the first of November, we were seeing 30 patients a week," said Sharon Nelson, a nurse and counselor at the county clinic. "The middle of November we were seeing 20 patients and it has been steadily dropping since then. She said the number of callers seeking information about how AIDS is spread also has dropped from about 25 daily to about five.

Nelson said many people fear the clinic is keeping a list of names of those with positive test results that will be turned over to the state when it adopts mandatory HTLV-III testing. "We don't have any such records," she said. "We don't have any names. We just ask for a first name and that is it. We just have statistics."

Fundamentalists into politics welcomed by Bush

WASHINGTON, DC (AP) - Vice President George Bush, paying tribute to the Rev. Jerry Falwell and his supporters said he welcomes a recent surge of fundamentalist Christians into politics as "a great revival of an old American tradition".

Bush said government should never tell citizens what religion to belong to. And he praised the principle of "a solid wall between church and state". "But there was never and

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN

ARIZONA AIDS FUND - TRUST QUARTERLY REPORT DECEMBER 30, 1985

Balance reported as of 9/30/1985 \$2,371.90

RECEIPTS:

DONATIONS:

Anonymous	3,903.09
Marco Picture Frame	100.00
ACBA Member Bars	3,000.00
TOTAL DONATIONS	7,003.09

BENEFIT:

ACBA Member Bars	2,254.83
Desert Sky Singers	289.00
Get Physical	6,203.00
Halloween	4,894.82
TOTAL BENEFITS:	14,141.65

TOTAL RECEIPTS 21,250.73

DISBURSEMENTS:

Assistance to FWA:

8	414.78
9	134.89
13	1,915.00
15	905.97
19	157.28
20	210.95
21	300.00
22	500.00
23	500.00
24	138.74
25	392.19
26	489.85
27	320.00

TOTAL ASSISTANCE TO FWA: 6,379.65

TOTAL EDUCATION EXPENSES 3,378.35

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:

SK Run	837.07
Ace Lock	105.05
Consultant	3,900.00
Equipment	391.72
Fund Raising Printing	463.28
NSF Check	25.00
Office Supplies	986.96
Phone	776.85
Postage	753.66
Rent	1,050.00
Typist	528.00

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES 9,817.59

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 19,575.59

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 30, 1985

4,047.04

Michael Rose - Treasurer

BRIEFS

AGRA HOLDS ELECTIONS



PHOENIX - The Arizona Gay Rodeo association which just completed their highly acclaimed first annual Gay Rodeo January 17, 18 and 19 have held an election of officers for the coming year. Ron Templeton was reelected President of the organization for the second year in a row. Other officers elected are Artie M., Vice President; Ron T., Secretary; Ron C., Sgt. of Arms; Jeff C., Mobility and Logistics; John K., Rodeo Events; Todd H., Public Relations and Fundraising; Carl M., Corresponding Secretary; Randy S., Treasurer and Larry G., Dance and Entertainment.

Congratulations to all the past officers who did such an outstanding job in presenting Arizona with their first Gay Rodeo and to the new officers, many of whom are returning, who have a hard act to follow.

LIVE AID EFFORTS REAP \$92 MILLION

LOS ANGELES, CA (AP) - The broadcast of the Live Aid rock concert from London and Philadelphia last July raised more than \$82 million for African famine relief, concert organizers reported after an audit.

Adding in revenue from all Live Aid efforts during the first eight months of 1985, including proceeds from a song recorded by the British all-star group Band Aid, the total raised for famine victims was reported to be \$92.127 million.

American and British rock fans pledged \$50.9 million by telephone during the July 13 concert broadcast organized by British pop star Bob Geldorf. Broadcast rights, ticket sales and other revenue directly traceable to the event yielded \$14 million. Television audiences in 21 nations other than the United States and Britain pledged \$17.4 million.

The audit also revealed that in addition to the concerts, the sale of the Band Aid anthem "Do They Know It's Christmas" raised \$9.166 million.

AIDS FUNDRAISER IS NATION'S TOP SONG

NEW YORK, NY (AP) - "That's What Friends Are For," the single recorded by Dionne Warwick, Elton John, Stevie Wonder and Gladys Knight to raise money for AIDS research, did a rare triple-play on the charts last week.

The record, 1986's first million seller, hit No. 1 on the Billboard pop, black and adult contemporary singles charts. "We're hoping it will bring in about \$500,000 for education and biomedical research," said Bill Misenheimer, executive director of the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

The Burt Bacharach-Carol Bayer Sager ballad contains no mention of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Originally sung by Rod Stewart, it appeared on the "Night Shift" sound track.

COPPERSTATE LEATHERMEN RAFFLE 19" COLOR TV TO BENEFIT AIDS

The Copperstate Leathermen are holding a raffle of a 19" portable color, cable adaptable, television set with proceeds of the raffle going to the Arizona AIDS Fund Trust. The drawing of the winning ticket will be held on February 28 at the Runrod in Phoenix. A representative of AAF-T will draw the winning ticket. The winner need not be present to win.

Tickets are on sale at various bars in Phoenix area and in Tucson are available at the Graduate and it's 'Bout Time.

OBSERVER OFFERING FREE VALENTINE ADS

TUCSON - The OBSERVER in honor of Valentine's Day and with an abundance of love in its heart is offering the community a free Valentine's ad so you can send greetings to your loved one. The classified ad must be in 20 words or less and must be mailed to reach OBSERVER no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 10. One ad per mailing.

Here is an opportunity send a printed greeting to your lover, wife, husband, friend, ex, or to anyone you wish to impart some words of love and appreciation. There is no charge but make sure the above rules are followed and the ads are received on time.

DESERT VALLEY SQUARES MONTHLY HO-DOWN

PHOENIX - On Saturday, Feb. 1, Desert Valley Squares will again have their monthly ho-down at the Phoenix Arts Council (Janus Theatre) located at 302 W. Latham in Phoenix. There will be lots of square dancing with Don Henderson, a professional caller, as guest for the evening. Local callers from Desert Valley Squares and Mid-Night Ramblers will also be calling.

A donation of \$2.50 is requested from each person who will be dancing. In addition, it is requested that each one attending bring a personal/towel article(s) for local AIDS patients. Remember, Saturday, Feb. 1, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. for a fun-filled evening of square dancing. Everyone is welcome - you need not belong to a square dance club to attend!

AIDS DRUG GETS CONDITIONAL OK FOR INFANT VIRUS

NEW YORK, NY (AP) - A drug being tested against AIDS has won conditional government approval for use against an infection in children which could make it more widely available to AIDS patients, officials said.

The drug called ribavirin, is the first of a growing number of experi-

mental AIDS drugs to receive any kind of government approval. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not approved the drug for use with AIDS patients, and its effectiveness against AIDS has not been demonstrated. Final approval of ribavirin could come in a matter of weeks, said Brad Stone, a FDA spokesperson.

FDA regulations allow doctors leeway in the use of approved drugs meaning that doctors will be able to prescribe ribavirin for their AIDS patients. But the drug is being approved in an aerosol, which might make it impractical for use with AIDS patients, Stone said.

There is no treatment for AIDS. Doctors can treat the infections and the cancers that result from AIDS, but cannot attack the disease directly. Some of them might, therefore, be eager to prescribe ribavirin to AIDS patients, doctors say.

The drug is being approved for treatment of infants with respiratory syncytial virus, or RS virus, a common infection that can be fatal in premature babies and in those with heart or lung disease.

In Tucson, at least 50 infants have been hospitalized with RS virus. The University of Arizona has been using ribavirin experimentally for a year.

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ACCURACY OF AIDS TEST IS IN QUESTION
Harvard University, thinks the time lapse may be as long as six months.

Although Gay men are greatly at risk, many Gay community leaders counsel them to avoid the test. "There is nothing that can be done if you test positive," say Jeff Levi of the National Gay Task Force. "Positive or negative, the advice is still the same: practice safe sex."

Many doctors disagree. "I think it does make a difference...if someone knows his antibody status, he has more incentive to monitor his health and practice safe sex if they are positive," says CDC's Dr. Ward Cates.

The Elisa test is available at about 550 test sites around the country. Response has been minimal; an estimated 30,000 to 35,000 have taken it, 10 percent to 30 percent of whom test positive.

Confidentiality has been another key issue. Many are afraid the test results will be used against them for employment or insurance discrimination. Almost every state is grappling with the issue. A flood of legislation is expected this year.

Forty states allow Elisa questions on insurance forms. But so far only a handful of states have done anything: California and Wisconsin prohibit the use of the test in granting or rejecting insurance or employment applications.

This week, however, New York state said it would propose legislation allowing health and life insurance companies to require the blood test in people for whom it would be "medically justified" - those with a history of sexually transmitted diseases or drug abuse, for example.



THE WEEKLY OBSERVER ANOTHER ORANGE COUNTY

'PHOBE' OFFERS HIS WACKY IDEAS

BURBANK, CA - U.S. Congressman William E. Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton), calling for a return to traditional family values, has formally entered the Republican race for U.S. Senate from California.

Dannemeyer, a 56-year-old conservative representative of North Orange County since 1978, has consistently called for quarantine of AIDS patients and their exclusion from employment.

"I don't think that persons with AIDS should be working as doctors, dentists or nurses in this country," noted Dannemeyer. "There is a requirement that nurses who are AIDS victims not work in maternity because a person with AIDS emits a spore that has been known to cause birth defects."

Dannemeyer could not provide reporters with documentation of his assertions, but stressed that victims of AIDS must be barred from working in the healthcare field.

Dannemeyer wants to defeat Senator Alan Cranston, a Democrat, whom he considers too liberal. He would also like to see a "return to honest money" by backing paper currency with gold and by expanding offshore drilling in California.

OBSERVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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VIEWPOINT

by Fred Michel - Tucson

It's about time that the Gay community became aware of the basis of repression of any lifestyle that does not conform to the dogmatic ideologies of the Indo-Europeans which unfortunately dominate this so-called free country. The article about Stanley in the last issue is a good example of this insanity which, if it continues, will cause the extinction of humans. (ED NOTE: The writer is referring to an article about the Rev. Charles F. Stanley who said that God created the AIDS epidemic to "indicate his displeasure" over America's acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle. OBSERVER Jan. 22, 1986)

Over two thousand years ago the Europeans lost touch with reality, mistook conceptions of the mind for the concrete factors of reality, began domination by fascist governments and religions, and invaded and destroyed cultures they called "primitive". They changed the environment to one which man is not adapted, physically, socially or psychologically.

Sane cultures understand, preserve and live within the environment to which they have become adapted over millions of years. They have no poverty, law, crime, war, insanity or over-population which is prevalent in our culture. The natives of this continent represent our closest sane and survivable cultures. By observing nature and living with it they learned that diversity is natural. They celebrated life, not absurd ideas such as progress, conformity and perfection. Their great spirit was not an invented god, but the mystery of the universe in which they lived as a part, not as its ruler.

Homosexuality is a normal part of the diversity of existence to these

cultures which still exist all over this planet. If we are to survive we need to protect these cultures from destruction and learn from them and the real world. We need to look outside our culture in order to understand it and perceive how we have been programmed to act out the stereotypes which were invented to subjugate and use us.

Let's live together, at least sympathetically, with real people in a real world and learn to be ourselves and survive. A good place to start is to read "The Primal Mind" by Janake Hightwater.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

While always striving to get more news to our readership, and there are almost 10,000 of you each week, many people wish that the paper could be bigger, with more pages. So do we! The fact of the matter is that the size of this paper is regulated by the amount of advertising that is placed each week. The paper itself is distributed free through many, many different outlets in both Tucson and Phoenix. We attempt to bring as much local news as there is reportable as well as interesting commentary and views from members of our local community.

We also bring as much of the national scene as it concerns the Gay community as we can. There is no question that there is a lot more that can be presented in these pages, but space does not permit.

In the past few months, more and more advertisers are coming forward to inquire about our advertising rates. We have the lowest advertising rates in the state, because we want to make our paper affordable to all who want

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

WHAT'S UP DOG?



I do not want to talk about the Super Bowl, so stuff it. To think I searched all over Tucson for a New England who T-shirt. Then were the damn thing to work and to the Graduate to watch a different version of the Boston Tea Party via the Chicago Bears.

Big Mike (Mike & Mike) was telling me Sunday that after a long quiet period, the SOS are coming back. They will be having their first meeting in a long while at the Graduate this Sunday at 2:00 p.m. All of you who really enjoyed the fun SOS had, be sure to attend so all of Tucson can again hear those familiar sounds of crystal clinking and see the fun SOS always has. I look forward to again writing on your events up and coming, and just some of the little tid bits of fun info I catch each of you at.

Rita's Bowling League got off to a slow start this past Wednesday with the previous number 1 and 2 teams each winning four games because neither had an opposing team to bowl. As for me, by the time the third game was through, my bowling ball felt as if it weighed 50 lbs. Also, for one who was on the first place team from the fall league, finishing said league with a 146 average, I'm in trouble for this starting league because I bowled a 102, 121, 109. I sure hope my teammates don't kick me out. Anyway, there is room for more people for this league, so if you want to have some

fun, break up the week, stop by the Fiesta Lanes and join us. I realize this paper doesn't hit the bars until after we have already bowled again, but that shouldn't stop you from joining us if you are interested.

I saw a bunch of TKO's Sunday, but nothing was mentioned as to how their day at the swap meet went. Maybe one of them will have a letter to someone in this issue of the OBSERVER giving their results. It may sound like a broken record for me to again mention TKO's up and coming Closet Ball, but from my experiences with it over these past years, I cannot in a few words express the excitement, suspense and overall surprise to see Mr. or Miss Macho appear in normal everyday attire, and one hour later a complete transformation to the opposite gender. Even I've been surprised by some of the contestants change after that hour. Credit goes to those working behind the scene transforming their sponsored contestants. This year's Closet Ball will be held at Rumor Hazzit on March 15. Prizes will be \$150 first prize, second place \$75 and third place \$50.

This weeks column is shorter than last week only because I was lazy and didn't get the gossip or whatever. I'm even leaving a couple TBBS's out of this column and a few of you should be thankful. I'll see all of you next week, so watch your P's and Q's because I'm watching and listening.

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LETTERS

LED NOTE: The following letter was received as a copy of one that was sent to Norma Kristi, Inc. who owns the franchise for the Miss Gay America Pageant as well as contracting out for all the states Gay pageants that end up in the Miss Gay America Pageant. The letter is self explanatory.

Norma Kristi, Inc.
P.O. Box 4639
Little Rock, Arkansas 72214

Dear Norman:
Enclosed please find two petitions against J.B.C. Productions. Perhaps more will follow, but I felt I should get this to you as soon as possible.

As co-host at the pageant, I was in a very good position to observe how the event was handled. I found several things somewhat upsetting.

First off, many people did not attend the pageant because of the twelve-dollar cover charge. Had the pageant been held at a hotel ball room or convention hall, this would not have been an issue. However, most felt that the cover was a bit much for one of the local bars and did not attend. The bar in question had nothing to do with setting the price of tickets.

The pageant started well over forty-five minutes late. This is something that Tucson audiences dread and hence have caused shows (locally produced) to start somewhat more promptly.

After looking over my program, I was disappointed to see that most everything in and/or around the pageant was imported from Phoenix. Flowers, limousines, entertainers, etc., all of which we have right here in Tucson. This was irritating, but reading the list of judges was too much. Four of the five were also from Phoenix.

Here, I must point out that I have lived in Tucson and have worked with both the Tucson and Phoenix Gay communities for over fifteen years. I can tell you that there are no bad feelings between our cities. This is in no way a vendetta. We simply feel that Tucson can represent itself, by itself. I have also spoken with many of my friends from Phoenix who tell me that they and many others are not exactly pleased with J.B.C. Productions representation of their city either.

Now to the crux of the matter. There were five contestants entered, one who now lives and works in Phoenix (and has for many months). I was shocked to see that J.B.C. was allowing this and was even more shocked when I was informed that many other Phoenix performers had been approached by Jim Curl personally to enter the Miss Gay Tucson pageant. It seems that only one of them actually did.

Assuming the judges were aware of this residence situation, I said nothing in any way to disrupt the proceedings. However after the crowning, I approached the only judge from Tucson and asked her how a person from Phoenix could be crowned Miss Gay Tucson. She was not aware of the contestant's residence and after further investigation she found that the other two female judges were also not aware of this. The two male

judges (one a Phoenix performer) did know the performer was from Phoenix, I have been told.

On Jan. 20th, I called Jim Curl at the request of Aviva Diamond, simply to put an end to the rumors that she was the instigator of the bad feelings in Tucson. She is not. There are quite a number of people who are not at all pleased with the situation and I am one of them. At this time I explained our objections and our proposed plan of action to Mr. Curl and was told "Stir all the shit you want to. I wish you luck because there's not a thing you can do. I own the franchise and that's that."

Until then, I was only mildly upset. Now I'm mad. Once again, I have to say that this is in no way a personal vendetta. I never met the man until a month or so before the pageant. I, however, detest being talked down to. So, for the sake of my community, my friends, and my personal pride in both of the above, I must take action.

As I said, enclosed are petitions, letters to the editor, gossip columns, financial reports of various fundraisers in both Tucson and Phoenix, and anything else I may find helpful to prove that Tucson can easily take care of its own franchise. It is my feeling and that of many others that we would be better represented by a local production company and certainly a local title holder. If, however, things remain this way, the success of any further pageants would be highly questionable.

Please send me any information that would be helpful in clearing this up. A copy of your by-laws would be most helpful. Thank you for giving this your attention and I hope to be hearing from you soon.

Sincerely
signed Monte-Jon Gilmer



Anniversary time at Joshua Tree saw Bob and Mary smiling over another year successfully passed, while Greg and Bobby Jr. are hard at work at the BBQ pit.

Celebrating JANUARY Pictures



Dan Elenz celebrated his birthday last weekend. Says he's just 25!



It was reminiscence time at Rumor Hazzit when some of "Tucson's Finest" got together for a Coffee Klatch. I to r Brenda Starr, Flo, Monte-Jon and Dani Reid.



Anniversary time at Joshua Tree saw Bob and Mary smiling over another year successfully passed, while Greg and Bobby Jr. are hard at work at the BBQ pit.



January saw a party held for Aviva Diamond at 11's 'Bout Time, allowing the community to thank this Tucson performer who has given so much to the community.



Tucson Observer Gay Appreciation Award winner Natalie Perry with OBSERVER art director Gary Clark.



Daniel Steenken's sister, Daniella, took over at the piano at Rita's one night in early January.



Ebony was a guest artist and party goer at Rita's in January here shown with the infamous Mae of Rita's fame.

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"CRUISE TO REMEMBER"

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS
3455 E. GRANT RD. TUCSON 327-3300

SPECIAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28
RUMOR HAZZIT - ALL-PRO FOOTBALL GAME on the life-size screen beginning at 2 p.m. Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys \$1.00 through game time.

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.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Bon Voyage Party for John and Art the winners of the "Cruise To Remember" drawing. Off to the New Orleans, then on the SS Bermuda Star for Key West, then to Cozumel - Tulum on the Yucatan Peninsula. Seven days with a shipload of over 750 Gay people. Watch out guys! Bon Voyage party goes from 6 to 8 p.m. Let's send them off with a big Tucson farewell.....

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - VALENTINE'S DAY
GRADUATE - Begins a three-day Valentines Day weekend extravaganza. Linda Flizdale will be playing your music by request. A hot DJ with some real hot music.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15
GRADUATE - "TWO WOMAN SHOW" starring Miss Gay Arizona, Tamara and the runner up to that title, Aviva Diamond. Two great acts on the Graduate stage!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16
GRADUATE - BOO'S TURNABOUT NIGHT. More information on this later. Make plans now!
RUMOR HAZZIT - ALL-MALE REVUE. 8 p.m. Get there early.

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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 6pm - 1am. Cheri your hostess 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. 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. \$1.75. "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 - 11 am to 6 pm Well Rum \$1. From 6 pm to 1 am Long Necks .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 6pm Well Gin \$1. Dance music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Clint your DJ. Well drinks \$1.25 from 6 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 - 6pm Bloody Marys \$1. All well \$1.25 6 pm to 1 am. 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 4:00 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.
GRADUATE - Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 6 p.m. Draft Beer .75.
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.
GRADUATE - .75 Schnapps. Drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 6pm Well Vodka \$1. From 6pm 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 Coors \$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.
GRADUATE - Bottle Beer \$1.00 (except premium) and drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am - 6pm Well Scotch \$1. All Well Drinks \$1.25 from 6 p.m. to closing.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Longest Cocktail Hour in town 11 a.m. 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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NOTICES

ATTENTION: SEND A FREE SWEETHEART AD TO YOUR SWEETIE. For our Valentine's issue, we will print your message (maximum 20 words) for free to your loved one (husband, wife, lover, ex, etc.). Ads by mail only and must be received prior to 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 10. Mail ads to OBSERVER, P.O. Box 50733, Tucson, AZ 85703.

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.

GAY OR LESBIAN???
AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM???
Call A.A. 824-4183. 24-Hour Hotline. For information on Gay and Lesbian meetings in Tucson.

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.

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.

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.

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

NOTICES

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

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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 191 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.

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.

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

T-SQUARES, square dancing group meets at 7 p.m. every Wednesday at It's 'Bout Time, 516 N. 4th Ave.

NOTICES

GAY AND LESBIAN ADULT DISCOURSES Tucson, self-facilitated, open rag group. Topics, opinions personal concerns discussed. Occasional guest speaker. For meeting time and place 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

PERSONALS

GWM (40's) seeks clean, stable, nice appearing non-smoking OM for permanent relationship. Masculine, good build, 5'10" or over. Age: late 30's to late 50's preferred. Reply with returnable photo gets mine. All letters answered. Occupant, P.O. Box 5159, Tucson, AZ 85703. 81

ATTRACTIVE, 5'7", 148, WM, 39, non-smoker, non-drugs, non-fem, honest, gentle, seeks same between 21-45, for friend, possible relationship. Photo and letter to PO Box 3533, Tucson AZ 85722. 61

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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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Happy Hour Monday Thru Saturday 11 - 7 \$1.00 Beer, Well & Shots					

INFLUX OF FUNDAMENTALISTS

should never be a solid wall between church or synagogue and politics," he said. "Some have lost sight of this truth, at least when they consider the political participation of conservative rather than liberal forces."

The vice President spoke to more than 500 people at a lunch sponsored by the new Liberty Federation, which Falwell stated this month to take place of his 7-year-old Moral Majority as the flagship for his conservative religious operations. Its goals include registration of 1 million new voters this year and 20 million by the 1988 elections.

Bush's appearance, following a speech to the New York State Conservative Party in New York City, was the latest in a series of visits to the conservative groups as the presidential campaign season draws closer.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Falwell, who endorsed Bush last year for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination, steered clear of such talk this time. But the television evangelist's wife, Maecel Falwell, got cheers when she introduced the vice president as "the next president of the United States."

In a secret straw vote earlier among 200 Liberty Federation state leaders, Falwell said, Bush got 57 percent of the votes for president, trailed by 22 percent for Sen. Jesse Helms, R-NC. 11 percent for Rep. Jack Kemp, R-NY; 9 percent for Rev. Pat Robertson, a religious talk show host who has said he's considering running, (OBSERVER, Jan. 15) and 1 percent for Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo.

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A COMMENTARY BY
CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY McPHERSON

COMPATIBILITY

A couple of days ago, there was a very interesting guest on a talk show. He was an expert of some kind, and was talking about compatibility between two people in a relationship. It was a fascinating hour, and I learned several things I never thought about before.

Firstly, the old saying about opposites attracting is true, but at the same time, it is false. According to the guest, on one level, it is important for people to be opposite in certain areas. For example: if one person is a controller -- someone who has to be in control a lot -- he or she would have a hard time in a relationship with another controller and therefore should find someone who likes to let the other person be in charge. Makes sense, doesn't it? But then, these two people must have relatively similar tastes, and attitudes about things -- such as hobbies and the like -- so that there will be many things to share between them.

I think personally, another very important thing is that both people be independent. Yes, it is fun to share a lot of things with your mate, but there are times when privacy is the key-word. When I want to be alone, I would like to know that the other person is able to entertain himself, so I wouldn't feel bad.

But I think everyone will agree when I say that the number one trait in a mate is a good sense of humor. Someone who can make you laugh. A woman I met, who had been married for thirty some years, told me that she told her daughter to find someone who can make her laugh, because then they would always be happy together. Makes sense to me.

(He said the worst place to meet someone is at a bar. He said the loud music, and dark lighting so common in bars makes it hard to evaluate the other person. He suggested doing single-type things. Hunting, fishing, theatre groups, movies, cruises, trips, etc.)

And in closing this week, I would like to leave you with a thought: When our fore-bearers left Europe for America way-back-when, wasn't their reason for leaving religious persecution? Didn't our ancestors want freedom to worship -- or NOT -- as they chose. What will America be like, then, if Pat Robertson DOES get elected President. A bunch of religious people want this to happen because they would have a "leader who could instill good Christian beliefs into government." (I heard someone on the religious channel say that exact thing.) Would we still honor the separation between church and state? Would we still be able to worship -- or NOT -- as we chose? Think about it.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE

to take advantage in reaching our almost exclusively Gay and Lesbian readership.

There are those who would say that we are not professional. That we are a bar rag. That we are a gossip newspaper. To those detractors I would only say, we can use all the help we can get. We are still the only weekly newspaper in the Southwest and it ain't an easy job, nor is it financially rewarding. Yes, we can use all the help we can get whether it be paid advertising, contributing columnists, artists, photographers, writers -- you name it.

The OBSERVER is a community newspaper, and will be as professional as the community will allow us. We are not striving to be a national vehicle. We especially want to keep our Tucson community informed, and we want our community to inform us. Even though Phoenix, has its own newspapers, we have several distribution points there to inform the Phoenixians what is going on in the liberal southern part of the state. It is necessary to keep the communication lines open.

OBSERVER has no particular gripe with anyone and we hope the reverse is true. We surely invite your input.

We may be #2, but we try harder!

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS

3455 E GRANT RD. TUCSON

327-3390



**Rita's Rendezvous Presents
Tucson's FEBRUARY Calendar Man**

Gabriel Bazarro - Photography

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	3	4	5 Lunch Buffet 3:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.75	6 Party Night! 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Drink Specials	7	8 Lunch Buffet Noon to 7:00 p.m. \$1.75
9 Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	10	11	12 John & Art Bon Voyage Party Dinner Buffet 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.75	13 Party Night! 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Drink Specials	14 Valentine's Day	15 Lunch Buffet Noon to 7:00 p.m. \$1.75
16 Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	17 Washington's Birthday	18	19 Dinner Buffet 3:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.75	20 Party Night! 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Drink Specials	21	22 Lunch Buffet Noon to 7:00 p.m. \$1.75
23 Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	24	25	26 Dinner Buffet 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.75	27 Party Night! 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Drink Specials	28	

