



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSEVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

JANUARY 8, 1986

ISSUE 77

AIDS Report ruling assailed by Arizona group

By Howard Fischer

PHOENIX - People who have AIDS related complex (ARC) - but not the fully developed disease - should not be reported to the state Health Department, a Gay activist group says.

Kimberly Webster, co-director of Mobilization Against AIDS, told health officials Monday, Jan. 6, that a new rule requiring doctors to report people with AIDS goes too far. It should not include those with ARC, which can be - but is not always - a pre-cursor to the disease, Webster said. She also said laws designed to keep secret the names of those infected are inadequate.

Webster also chided the Health Department for wanting to spend more than \$300,000 to track AIDS carriers, saying the funds would be better spent educating people about how to avoid contracting the disease.

The comments came Monday at a public hearing on whether the new reporting rule, enacted on an emergency basis by state Health Director Lloyd Novick in October, should be made permanent. Novick has said the regulations is needed to ensure that all cases of the incurable, generally fatal disease are reported.

Novick's emergency rule and prior voluntary reporting turned up 50 new cases of AIDS in Arizona last year, more than double those reported in 1984. That brings to 84 the number of people diagnosed in Arizona as having the disease since it first showed up in 1981. A total of 72 of those cases are among men who are Gay or Bisexual.

Novick said the proposal is designed to prevent further spread of the disease by educating those who are affected. It also prohibits those who know they have AIDS or ARC from donating blood, plasma, sperm, body organs or other tissue for use in another person.

Dr. Steven Englander of the Health Department said those with ARC are infected with the AIDS virus and have some illness, but no ailment specifically associated with AIDS. He said there are a variety of diseases that are related to an inadequately functioning immune system.

Webster said that those with ARC may remain healthy anywhere from a short time "or for the rest of her or his life, never contracting full-blown AIDS." She said requiring reporting of those with ARC "is unnecessary in terms of individual civil liberties, confidentiality and resource management."

But Englander said people with ARC are as infectious to others as those with AIDS.

Webster said the state could do more to curtail spread of the disease by spending money to teach people about "reduced risk sex practices". "Education about prevention before individuals are exposed to the virus is the only logical tactic to follow in this crisis," she said. "Education in high-risk communities all over this country has proven itself effective in reducing the spread of this infection," Webster continued. "We have no reason to believe that Arizona is any different."

Englander said the Health Department has been cooperating with the Gay community. He said, though, that he doubts that specific education programs are needed. "The Gay community is probably better informed about this disease than any sexually transmitted disease in the history of man," he said.

Health officials will decide in

the next two weeks whether to put the proposal into effect as it stands or make changes.

Another proposal by Novick, which would require reporting of those who have the AIDS antibody HTLV-III, but not the disease itself, is still up in the air. Those with the antibody have been exposed to AIDS and, according to health officials are capable of transmitting the disease even if they are not suffering from it themselves.

Reprinted: The Arizona Daily Star

Man convicted in court reporter's death

by David Pittman

TUCSON - A 36-year-old laborer was found guilty of a second degree murder in the brutal stabbing of a Pima County court reporter last December. Sentencing for Hector P. Carrillo, who also was found guilty of theft, was set for Jan. 23 by Pima County Superior Court Judge G. Thomas Meehan.

A jury deliberated about seven hours over a two-day period before convicting Carrillo in the slaying of Bruce E. Johnson. Johnson's body was found by a fellow court reporter who went to check on him when he did not come to work.

Johnson was stabbed 30 times. Police arrested Carrillo nine days after Johnson's body was discovered. Johnson's missing 1978 Peugeot was found five blocks from Carrillo's house. Carrillo was charged with first degree murder, a premeditated crime. However, the jury rejected that charge and instead found him guilty of second-degree murder.

Both the prosecution and the defense described Johnson and Carrillo as homosexuals who had sexual relations with one another. Carrillo, who did lawn work and other odd jobs, was at one time a house guest in Johnson's home.

In closing arguments, Deputy County Attorney Kenneth Peasley said Carrillo was present at Johnson's residence around the time of the murder. He said that during a phone conversation on Dec. 9, Johnson interrupted the conversation to say to someone in the room, "Hector, don't do that. We'll do that later."

Carrillo told police after he was arrested that he had stabbed Johnson. In a taped statement, police asked Carrillo if he killed Johnson. Carrillo responded: "No, I stabbed him." Peasley said Carrillo's response to the question came before police had told Carrillo that Johnson had been stabbed.

Defense attorney Thomas E. Higgins, however, said in his closing arguments that Carrillo probably was intimidated by police into making statements. He described Carrillo as a man who has had little schooling and is mentally retarded. He suggested that Carrillo simply gave police the answers he believed were expected of him.

In four previous brushes with the law, Carrillo was found mentally incompetent to stand trial. Psychiatrists' opinions were divided on Carrillo's mental state at the time Johnson was killed.

"When he (Carrillo) has legal entanglements, he falls back on his dumb routine," Peasley told the jury. "Mr. Carrillo would have you believe that he is more intellectually limited than he actually is. Don't allow Hector Carrillo to use what he has in the past."

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR

Tucson Welcomes Arizona Gay Rodeo Visitors Come On Down!

WARM IT UP IN ARIZONA



presents

THE FIRST ANNUAL ARIZONA GAY RODEO JAN 17, 18 & 19

FOR INFORMATION WRITE TO:
AGRA P.O. BOX 16363 PHX 85011
OR CALL: (602) 279-0795

PHOENIX - The Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA) has announced final plans for its first annual Arizona Gay Rodeo. The Rodeo will run from Friday, Jan. 17 through Sunday, Jan. 20. Headquarters for this year's Rodeo will be at the Camelback Sahara Hotel, 502 W. Camelback.

All day Friday, Jan. 17, will be registration for contestants and visitors at the Camelback Sahara. At noon, the Grand Marshall's Luncheon will take place and is open to the public. A cocktail party to welcome guests will wind up at 10:30 p.m. also at the hotel.

Actual Rodeo activities get underway at noon at the Rodeo Grounds at 28th Avenue and Baseline. Buses to and from the Fairgrounds are available at the hotel both Saturday and Sunday. The Rodeo activities will include all events that one would find in any national rodeo (bulldogging, bareback bronc riding, barrel racing, etc.).

Saturday evening there will be a

Barn Dance that will feature the live Country/Western singing talents of Dena Kaye from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the hotel.

The Rodeo activities wind down on Sunday against starting at noon. The awards ceremony for winning contestants will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Camelback Sahara with guest star Dena Kaye again performing.

Most of the local Phoenix bars have specials planned all weekend to welcome the AGRA visitors. You will have to check around for them.

Monday, January 20th is a legal holiday which will give the rodeo goers a day to rest up!!! Tucson wishes all visitors a gracious welcome to come and see what little of the old west is left. There are many, many places to see in the area of the Old Pueblo, (Old Tucson, Tombstone, Nogales, Mount Lemmon, Desert Museum, Kitt Peak, etc.). Tucson, the city of hospitality welcomes you to visit and enjoy.

Miss Gay Tucson to be crowned Sunday, Jan. 12

and Don Henkle from Tucson.

The official schedule for the two day series of events that wind up with the 8:00 Sunday Pageant, includes a cocktail social in the Banquet Room of the Executive Inn, 333 W. Drachman on Saturday evening, Jan 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. which is open to the public.

The several contestants who have entered the Pageant to vie for Miss Gay Tucson will be kept busy from their check-in time at the hotel on Saturday morning to the end of the Sunday Pageant with meetings, interviews, parties, rehearsals as well as preparing for their official

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JANUARY 8, 1986

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

B R I E F S

TLGPC ELECTIONS MONDAY

TUCSON - The Tucson Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee will hold its annual monthly meeting Monday, Jan. 13 at the Joshua Tree at 6:30 p.m. This is the Annual Corporation Meeting where elections of officers for the coming year are held as well as voting on proposed amendments to the TLGPC bylaws. All positions for officers are open. TLGPC members are urged to attend this important meeting. The meeting is also open to the public but only TLGPC members hold voting privileges.

AAF-T CONTRACTS WITH MARICOPA COUNTY

PHOENIX - The Arizona AIDS Fund-Trust has entered into a contract with the Maricopa County Health Department. The contract requires AAF-T provide non-medical assistance to persons in dealing with a wide range of problems. Eligible individuals are those with AIDS, ARC, their lovers, and families. The contract also requires that AAF-T recruit, train and evaluate volunteers for their program.

Grace Haynes, chairperson of the AAF-T Board of Directors said that the contract "ended discussions that began six months ago". According to AAF-T Executive Director Lawrence L. Shroud, "The contract is noteworthy because it is the first contractual relationship between a government agency and AAF-T."

GREAT OUTDOORS WHALE WATCH

JAN. 18

SAN DIEGO, CA - This year's Whale Watch promises to be an experience you won't forget. Great Outdoors/San Diego has chartered the Schooner "Invader", the classic yacht used by Douglas Fairbanks in 1932 for filming in Tahiti. It is magnificent - 360 tons of steel, brass and sails. Just being aboard is worth the price of the trip. The "Invader" will be underway for three and a half hours and actually under sail while watching the whales. There will also be whale movies in the salon (lounge).

Great Outdoors/Tucson is taking part in this year's Whale Watch and is establishing car pooling from Tucson to San Diego and back. For information concerning carpooling from Tucson call Wayne, 623-4897. The cost for the trip is \$20 plus carpooling expenses. Because of the short time left people who are interested in attending the Whale Watch are urged to call Wayne as soon as possible. Tickets are limited.

TAP RAP BEGINS JANUARY 14

TUCSON - Men and women concerned about the effects of the AIDS epidemic on their personal lives are invited to join an ongoing Rap group sponsored by the Tucson AIDS Project (TAP). The group will meet at the University Medical Center, 1501 N. Campbell, Dining Room "C", 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 14. Future meetings are scheduled at UNC for January 28th, Feb. 11 and 25.

The group will discuss individuals feelings regarding changes in social and sexual activities, safe-sex practices, concerns about physical health and fear of contracting AIDS. For additional information call Robert (792-1621), Fred (325-8418) or Michael (297-1995).

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AAF-T CONCERN

PHOENIX - The Arizona AIDS Fund-Trust has developed working relationships with agencies which deal with substance abuse problems in the Phoenix area.

Some individuals with AIDS, AIDS Related Complex or an Antibody positive test use various substances to change their perception of reality. Hard problems and low self respect prompt some people to try to feel better by using substances to avoid problem solving or to work on improving self respect.

The addicted individual typically overestimates or underestimates the seriousness of his or her problems. He or she also overreacts or underreacts to information about himself or herself. To be a friend of an individual who is a substance abuser is a challenge.

What is the point of this? On one hand, assistance is available. On the other hand, if you have that special talent to be a friend to a substance abuser, your help is needed. In either case, contact the Arizona AIDS Fund-Trust, 5150 North 7th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014.

FAKE AIDS CALL CLEARS LIBRARY

MADISON, WI (AP) - An anonymous telephone caller to the public library said health inspectors were on the way to perform an "AIDS inspection," leading officials to close the main branch for about 20 minutes.

The caller said the inspectors were to check the building because someone who recently died of AIDS had frequented the library, and suggested people be removed so they would not be disturbed by the sight of inspectors wearing protective outfits.

Natalie Tinkham, head of the library's adult services section, said she thought the request unusual, but eventually asked 100 employees and patrons to leave. The male speaker sounded sober and rational, she said.

Patricia Natzke, director of the city Health Department, said the bogus call underscored a need for the public to get accurate information about AIDS, which is not believed to be transmitted by casual contact.

AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, is an affliction in which the body's immune system becomes unable to resist disease.

CONTROVERSIAL POLYGRAPH MANUAL THROWN OUT

WASHINGTON, DC - The Defense Department, under pressure from congressional investigators, has scrapped a training manual that instructed polygraph examiners to assess the sexual preferences and union, religious and racial associations of persons seeking security clearances.

Trainees at the department's Polygraph Institute at Fort McClellan, Alabama, were told in the manual to be "meticulous" in determining whether subjects were members of such ethnic organizations as Polish-American clubs, and Japanese community clubs and to explore the degree of blacks' participation in the NAACP.

IN MEMORIAM

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Sept. 30, 1958 - Dec. 31, 1985

JACK SCHWANKE
1925 - 1985

FALWELL FORMING SUCCESSOR TO MORAL MAJORITY

WASHINGTON, DC (AP) - The Rev. Jerry Falwell, complaining that press criticism has frightened people away from his Moral Majority, is starting a new group with a different name and broader goals.

The Moral Majority will still stay in existence, perhaps merely as part of the new Liberty Federation, aides say.

Through the new federation, Falwell plans to expand efforts supporting national defense and budget-balancing - subjects many people don't consider moral issues - and also put more emphasis on fighting communism overseas.

The television evangelist also hopes the new organization, which Moral Majority members are being asked to join in a mass mailing this month, will attract people who share his views but fear identification with the much-publicized Moral Majority.

Falwell announced formation of the new federation last Friday, Jan. 3. Details were included in a Falwell publication mailed to supporters.

"The press for six years has bloodied and beaten the name 'Moral Majority'", Falwell was quoted as saying in that publication, *Liberty Report*, which replaces the Moral Majority Report.

"There are a lot of people who will say yes to everything we are saying, but they dare not stand with us on particular policies for fear of getting tarred, hurt - that is, picking up baggage that the media has dumped on us," he said.

"We want to bring these people into our camp," Falwell said. "And the many who would not come in just because of the abortion issue or just on the family issue will come in on the liberty issue."

He added, "While Moral Majority indicated to most people a commitment to traditional values and opposition to pornography and the homosexual lifestyle, it does not allow for our commitment to a strong national defense and for our opposition to communism and how it robs the liberties of millions of people worldwide?"

AAF-T

NEEDS ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE

PHOENIX - The Arizona AIDS Fund Trust has outgrown its two room office. Individuals who would experience a tax advantage by offering space are urged to contact the office at 5150 North 7th Street, 277-1929. The space needed would include a meeting room for up to 30 people, a telephone room, reception and counseling areas. The layout is more critical than the square footage. For information please contact Lawrence L. Shroud.

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MISS GAY TUCSON TO BE CROWNED SUNDAY presentation.

The winner of Miss Gay Tucson title will be eligible to enter the upcoming Miss Gay Arizona Pageant and possibly going on to enter and win the Miss Gay America Pageant later this year. JBC Productions is the franchised owner of Miss Gay Arizona Pageant as well as Miss Gay Phoenix and Miss Gay Tucson. JBC, James B. Cull has announced that by the end of 1987, his production company would add three more pageants - Mr. Gay Tucson, Mr. Gay Phoenix and Mr. Gay Arizona.

Miss Gay Tucson will win a cash prize of \$150, her crown, a trophy and flowers. The title will be retained for one year and Miss Gay Tucson will represent the city of Tucson at various functions during her reign. First runner-up in this pageant will receive a \$100 cash prize; \$50 to the 2nd runner-up and the winner of Miss Congeniality will receive a cash prize of \$25.

Seating for the Sunday Pageant is limited so you are urged to get your tickets purchased early to insure good seating to this first annual Miss Gay Tucson Pageant at the Fineline, Sunday evening, Jan. 12. The Pageant Overture will begin promptly at 7:45 p.m. and the first contestant will appear at 8:00 p.m.

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

P.O. BOX 50733

TUCSON, AZ 85703-1733

(602) 622-7176

EDITOR & PUBLISHER.....Bob Ellis

PRODUCTION & GRAPHICS.....Gary Clark

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

Gabriel Bazueto - Photography

Doe

Monte-Jon Glimer

Jza Jza LaMore

Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

L. Mills

Paul W. Reigle

Tommy Schelling

Jack Stockslager

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COUNSELING CONCEPTS

THOUGHTFULNESS

Thoughtful people are fun to be around. They're always thinking about others. They seem to have a knack for remembering things like Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc. They even seem to know when you're a little down so they send a card to cheer you up. When you make a date with them it is kept. There is no hedging. Maybe you are surrounded by thoughtful people and have experienced the sending of cards, letters, and gifts and not even receiving acknowledgement that they received it or thanks or anything.

Half the people around don't even give a thought to what they are saying or doing. Is that a valid excuse? That is exactly the point, the thoughtless, didn't think. You get a letter in the mail. You read it and then you reply. That is common courtesy or at least I thought so. It is not only thoughtless but rude not to reply. Is it the self-centered person that does this, the non-caring? It could very well be the person who says, "I'm so busy. I work. I must run here and there, I, I, I, I!" Self-centered? Before the advent of safe sex I'm sure you ran into those persons who, once they got what they wanted, were off with no thought whatsoever about you. At least with safe sex encounters it takes more concerted effort and giving on both persons part, that in itself should

teach some lessons.

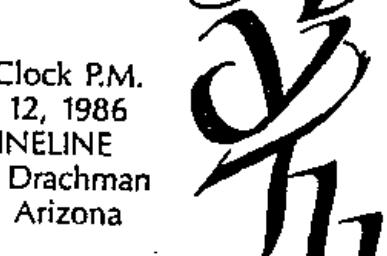
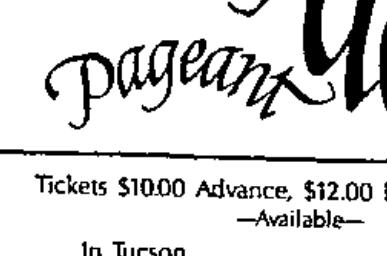
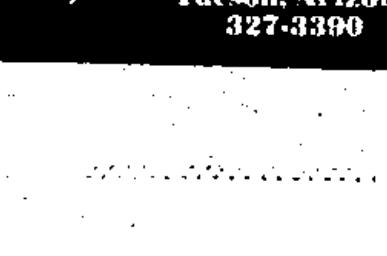
Some things about being thoughtful. It requires a little preparation and time. It takes time. First of all an address book with date and calendar in which to get people's important dates. Then near the end of each month look at what's coming up for the next month. Go out and select the proper cards, address the envelopes, write a note or two and then mail them at the proper time.

This isn't really a whole lot to do. It's a start. Eventually thoughtful people get their reward. Let me warn you, however, that rewards from some come very slowly. As you become more thoughtful more people want to have you involved in their life. True, some for the simple fact for what they may be able to drain from another. A person has to watch for that and guard against it, but those people pass on. Thoughtfulness is another part of a well-rounded individual. I don't believe that we as a community are any more or less thoughtless than the non-Gay community, but we are striving like everyone else to be like some one we've created in our minds. It's a part of being satisfied and comfortable with me being me.

Paul W. Reigle

for Counseling Concepts - Tucson

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MISS A 
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Co-Host
Monte Jon

Special Guest Performers
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Deja Vu
Don Henkle
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JANUARY 8, 1986

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CAMBRIDGE VILLAGE
APARTMENT HOMES

Platter Chatter

by L. Mills - Tucson

LP - "ROMANTICALLY YOURS" - Marvin Gaye - Columbia Records.

An aptly titled album both romantic and lush. Side one was apparently recorded during Marvin's long association with Motown Records. It features a collection of standards each given a warm, earthy treatment as only Marvin Gaye could do. Standards include "More" (from the movie "Mondo Cane"), "Maria" (from "West Side Story"), and "I Won't Cry Anymore". Side two is of more recent vintage, made up of Gaye originals - such titles as "Happy Go Lucky" (produced by Norman Witfield). The rest on this side were produced by Marvin Gaye). "Just Like", "Stranger In My Life" and "I Live For You". The arrangement for this LP are aptly done with use of strings and good sound piano that doesn't obscure but enhances. This is an easy-to-listen-to-late-night album. So, kick off your shoes, cuddle up on the couch and let the music take you away, lift you, tear at your heart a little and sooth you all at the same time.

LP - "PHRANC FOLKSINGER" - Phranc, Rhino Records.

Phranc begins with a controversial song song "Noguchi". She has a voice reminiscent of Joni Mitchell and proves herself a versatile performer with her harmonica, vocals and guitar playing. This woman has talent, grit and a sense of humor. Phranc fits into the music of 1986. We hope to hear more from Phranc and also congratulate Rhino Records for taking the chance. This LP is an enjoyable listening experience.

PICK HIT OF THE WEEK

'YOU'RE A FRIEND OF MINE' - Clarence Clemmons (with Jackson Browne), Columbia Records.

From the LP "Hero" - a triumph for Bruce Springsteen's sax man. A message here, "You can depend on me...". Positive, bouncy, danceable.

And in closing, it is with much sadness that we say goodbye to a friend we've never met, yet one we've shared so many memories with - "Ricky Nelson, we'll miss you."

OUT ON THE TOWN

STUNT MALIBU CHRISTI FAN CLUB NEWSLETTER

Well, Jza Jza finally did it but she didn't make the centerfold. Hopefully she never will. Only time will tell.

Well, Mae, Teresa, Ronda and Willie certainly had a good time in Phoenix. Seems the airport can get pretty festive too at 3:00 in the morning. Wheatley Wonka finally got off. And even though Teresa and Mae spent several hours under cover in the bed of Macho Mellow, neither of them did. They didn't even do it in the snow, probably due to respect for Charlie Brown Christmas trees.

Now, these are two lost little sheep from Phoenix saying hello to Mom. "You'd never guess what we're doing here (Gotta pay for the trip)!" It took Jza Jza and Ronda to show them the way. Hopefully they managed to get enough together to make it back to Phoenix.

So, was that Ronda that put the twinkle in Twinky's eyes? We certainly know Twinky twinkled Ronda. But did Ronda twinkle Twinky?

Talk about being festive. Some Cliftonians really are. The Greenwich Village Inn received a rare treat last weekend when a couple of Cliftonians Ki Ki and Dee, Miss Mae, Tina, Puchie, Vivian, Mother, Divine and Sammy Jo Carrington managed to help escort two couples, better known as a little lower than New York Street Walkers out of the restaurant. Thank you Senior Citizens for your support and applause.

Was it Emily Post who said "It's not the years you put into your life, it's the life you put in your years"? Well, she certainly dues. You're only young once but you have the rest of your life to be immature. (Sounds familiar). Emily's arm can be twisted, but only for another cocktail.

And so Wheatley Wonka was driven out of town. Macho Man flew out of

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

INDIANA'S FAULTY LOGIC

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (GCN) - The state health director may close all of Indiana's Gay bars, baths, bookstores, and movie houses in an attempt to halt the spread of AIDS, according to the "Works", a local publication.

According to Mike Androvett of WISH-TV here, Indiana Commissioner of Public Health Woodrow Myers met with Marion County Prosecutor Stephen Goldsmith and members of the Marion County Board of Health to discuss legal methods of closing all places in the county where Gay men might congregate. It was later revealed that Myers' plan encompassed the whole state. Reports indicate that the commissioner reasons that if Gay businesses close, Gay men cannot meet; that if Gay men cannot meet, they cannot have sex; and that if Gay men cannot have sex, the AIDS epidemic will cease.

Local Gay and Lesbian groups are mobilizing to fight the threat posed by the state. Justice, a statewide Gay and Lesbian organization, issued a statement opposing the closure of any Gay and Lesbian business, calling the intended action "a severely homophobic response to the AIDS issue" and not a means of preventing AIDS.

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MAN CONVICTED IN COURT REPORTER'S DEATH

Higgins said the state did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Carrillo killed Johnson, because hair, fingerprints and other physical evidence found in the house did not match either Johnson or Carrillo. In fact, blood found near a knife rack was left there by someone other than Carrillo or Johnson. "To believe the state's position, you have to believe that Hector Carrillo was sophisticated enough to get someone else's hair and fingerprints," said Higgins. "Somebody a lot shrewder than Hector Carrillo came through this scene."

Peasley said more than one person may have killed Johnson. However, he said, there was no question that Carrillo was there and took part in the slaying.

Johnson, 58, had been a court reporter for 28 years. At the time of his death, he was assigned to Judge Michael J. Brown's court.

Reprinted from Tucson Citizen.

town. Perry A. Christmas wasn't asked to leave town. Madge still hasn't left town. Babs just came into town and left again. Thanks to Perry A. and Babs that poor cowboy will never be the same. Now Macho Man threatens to come back to town but only because of Hubbie Bubble and Emily hopes nobody ever sends her 60 roses again! She doesn't care if they're green, dead or red!

It's been rumored the sheep at the Ponderosa are all basket cases. Christi finally visited Tinsel Town but she just can't play the chimes. The Simon Sisters are still trying to keep Danny Boy away from C.M. Tina Turner.

Toasted Totie's New Year's resolution is trying but trying to be true to her little Dr. Mrs. Beau (she'll also keep doing what she does so well). Josie Mae will still. Ra Jza will try and keep twinkling. Puchie and Tina are just greatful to be out of the box. But the box won't be empty for long. Vivian took care of that. Vivian doesn't like her box empty. Mathilde Mackowitz just wants a bigger box and that's just fine by Mr. Mackowitz.

Squeaky Sue Chang will finally get some WD-40 so she can really be bush.

Perry A. Christmas wants some manners and promises not to call Toasted Totie "Tugboat Annie" again. Mother Divine may finally find Mr. Be Still My Foolish Heart. Sammy Jo Carrington is still rolling. Do those brakes work? And how many does this make?

Teresa Brewery is smiling again. Blanche and Tommy plan to remain in hiding. Toasted Totie to Blanche - Blanche Who!!!! Miss Mae to Pat - Remember, that's two strikes! Till next time.

Forever yours
Jza Jza La More
Stunt Malibu Christi Fan Club
Le Far West Region
P.O. Box 2704
Tucson, AZ 85702

prefers to sleep with, if that is being sexist.

If the photographs offended anyone we are sorry. Beauty or ugliness is in the eyes of the beholder. The photos in question were not published to be "turn on's" or "turn-off's". They were published as artwork to be enjoyed by our readers; to appreciate the creative artistry of a member of "our community".

We will, if we are fortunate enough, publish more artwork concerning Gay issues in future editions. We also would be interested in using the female art form, as well as male to take that final stigma of "sexist" away from our pages forever!

MCC is welcome to a rebuttal of this little essay and/or is welcome to come back into the fold of 1986 Gay and Lesbian lifestyle as viewed through our community newspaper, The OBSERVER.

Thanks to everyone for their support and good wishes. Again if we have offended anyone, it was not intended. On the other hand, if we have "made someone's day" we are most happy.

Let's lay the subject to rest, and to all a good night!



Observer should defend its freedom vigorously.

I wish to remain anonymous. Should you publish this letter, please do not use my name.
Sincerely
Name Withheld by Request - Tucson

(ED NOTE: All letters must be signed but publication of the writer's name may be withheld by request).

Editor's Comment

I was very disappointed to see MCC's objections. I thought that the United Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches as a denomination had not voted to put their head in the sand. There is a part to the male below the waist, it's called a penis, that should not be objectionable. Too many have called it dirty and don't talk about it for heaven's sake, don't talk about it! The body is God's creation. It is a marvel, and when tastefully displayed, it is in order. I am sure that if you had any access to female nudes, you would print them also.

I hope we continue to see this new addition to the Observer. Threats of "I will be forced to take my marbles and go home" are tricks of a spoiled child.

Thanks, Bob, for the great job you're doing with the Observer.

Sincerely
Paul W. Reigle
Tucson

Dear Bob:

Returning from out-of-town, I hastened to collect copies of The Observer I had missed -- the Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 editions.

I was infuriated by the sanctimonious letter from David A. Gunton in the Dec. 25 edition, complaining about photos depicting frontal nudity in recent issues of The Observer. I felt violated by his threatened coercion of The Observer by withdrawing the advertising of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). And to make matters even worse, The Observer appears to have succumbed to the pressure.

Gunton argued that frontal nudity photos (in general, I assume) are "sexist...and not in keeping with the community nature of the (Observer) paper." That such photos are "sexist" are ridiculous. Art over the ages has looked to nude as subject material and I can't recall ever hearing "sexist" accusations against Michaelangelo for his David or of the thousands of artists who have depicted both males and females in the raw. His letter is obscene, not the photos. But if he's right, that some readers may be offended by these photos, we continue to live in a free country in which the offended are free to ignore The Observer, in which case the newspaper might feel some pressure from reduced circulation. Withdrawal of advertising suggests a threatened violation of the freedom of the press, which is about as acceptable to us all as would be threats against freedom of religion.

The Observer must not allow itself to be coerced. I know that publishing a Gay newspaper is a tough way to make a living, but surely The Observer can tolerate the modest loss of income that withdrawal of MCC's advertising constitutes. I would suggest that The Observer should further eliminate MCC from its Tucson Community Directory, and eliminate any reference to MCC in its editorial and news columns.

In summary, MCC is off base. The Observer should ignore MCC's coercion and further, should aggressively fight fire with fire. I don't believe that all MCC members are such hypocrites, but whether they are or not, The

Never let it be said that I, as editor of The OBSERVER, am afraid to take a stand wherever necessary. In the past ten years there have been many controversial issues that I have taken a strong, and not the popular stand, in the previous publications with which I have been associated. When this "frontal nudity" situation first came up, I chose not to argue the point with MCC, and let the matter drop. After all they are the ones losing about 1/2 page of free publicity each month. However since such a large number of well-wishers have come forth asking to clarify our stand, I feel that the OBSERVER side should be known.

No, the OBSERVER is not going to be coerced by threats from businesses, organizations or individuals if our editorial policies happens not to be eye-to-eye with theirs on a particular subject matter. We are not going to be intimidated by loss of revenue or readership over such issues especially as bigoted as this latest attack. If we are wrong, we know that our readership will let us know and we will admit our mistake. If we are right, we hope that our readership will come forward and support us, as in this particular issue where we have received numerous words of encouragement from both Lesbians and Gay men including the two letters printed in this issue.

The whole stupid matter concerns the publication of two frontal male nudes which were photographed by nationally known photographer David Elliot. These photos appeared, with several other photos of nude males, in what we still believe was a very tasteful display of a recognized artists' work, in the Dec. 11 and 18 issue of OBSERVER.

The Metropolitan Community Church of Tucson's Board of Directors took exception to this display and found it necessary to "suspend all advertising and contributions to The Observer until we receive written assurance from you that nude photos will no longer be a part of the newspaper."

This writer has always been a staunch supporter of the United Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. MCC's founder, Rev. Troy Perry, is a friend. It is known that such archaic thinking still abounds in the non-Gay conservative, fundamentalist communities in this country. But in a church that professes to be a religious leader in our Gay community that has seen so much oppression; that in struggles for one Gay victory, has seen dozens of set-backs; that has witnessed several MCC churches arsoned and bombed; that is currently seeing the Gay community living through one of the worst health problems this country has ever seen; violence, mayhem, discrimination, hatred - all seem much more important issues than an innocent frontal nude. It seems that we should all be much more tolerant, enlightened and open minded - and I firmly believe the majority of us are. Certainly the Metropolitan Community Church knows of the problems that face us all. Frontal nudity, tastefully done, is not one of them.

To write that the OBSERVER is read "in both the women's and men's community" is a sexist statement in itself. The OBSERVER is published mainly for the homosexual community of Tucson and all of Arizona. And, the only "sexist" thing about this writer is whom he

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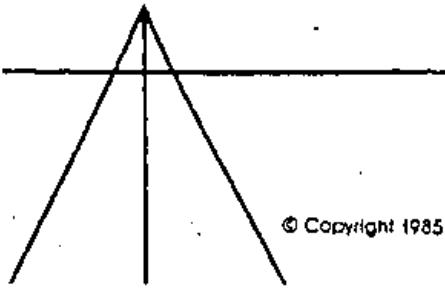
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CLASSIFIEDS



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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. 81

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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 11851, Tucson, AZ 85734.

LAMBDA INTRODUCTION SERVICE. I would like to introduce you to an alternative method for meeting persons who share similar interests... This service is open to both males and females, and is free!

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Call Dan, 323-7740

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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

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 (Din. 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 It'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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A View From Within

A COMMENTARY BY
CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY McPHERSON

DISCLAIMER: THIS IS NOT A COMPLETE REVIEW

Okay now that you know that I have not set out to review every single club that exists in this world, I can write about two clubs which are currently, or which have recently undergone some changes. (Without any of you writing in and being all upset).

Firstly, let me ask a question: Just who exactly is Cathy, and where did she come from? She is the hottest thing going on Friday nights and she is only at TRAX. (And I hope that whoever pays her is giving her every dime she is worth....)

In case you think I am rambling, let me explain. TRAX has undergone somewhat of a transformation over the recent months. No longer the dark, somewhat forbidding dance club, it is now well-lit, with a nice wooden dance floor. (If you don't dance, then it doesn't matter which kind of floor a club has, but if you do, you understand the significance of a nice wooden dance floor).

Then of course, there is Cathy on Friday nights.

I do not mean to malign the other DJs at TRAX. They are very good also, but Cathy has a special something that makes the music leap from the speakers and grab you by the knees and shake your body until you have no other choice but to begin dancing — like it or not. She mixes music almost like the songs were recorded that way, and she chooses music which makes you almost glad to be alive. Whew! I'm thrilled just by writing about it. If you haven't been to TRAX in awhile, give it a shot.

Ever since HOTBOSS won the award for best "Male Dance Bar" (is that the correct title of the award?) I have noticed some pretty exciting changes. For one thing, the music is HOT, HOT, HOT!

I especially speak of Saturday nights. Now, I guess you can say I like a good party like the next guy, but Saturday nights at HB's transcend the normal fun time, and take you to another world. (Somewhere in California, I think). Once it gets started, the music builds, and builds, until the whole place is alive!

And last Saturday only confirms the trend. What with WAKE UP, CONGA, WIND UNDER MY WINGS (is that the correct title?), MAGIC MAN, (again?), and the lot of electronic music, well, sex has never been so good. (Well, actually it has, but...)

If your Saturdays have been a bit dry lately, then take a trip to 35th Street and McD. and be ready to have the time of your life.

Then I would like to take a moment to thank TV once again. On Dec. 13, the CBS EVENING NEWS with Dan Rather concluded with a very stirring tribute to the 248 men and women who died in the airplane crash in Newfoundland. Film clips and commentary made the point clearly, but when the final shot of Dan Rather came on, as the camera pulled in for the final close-up, it was Dan Rather's red, tear-filled eyes that spoke the most eloquently. To see this always-composed newsman near tears pulled strongly. One doesn't really wonder anymore why CBS news is the most watched, does one?

Then (lastly) on a more personal note, I must extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to two beautiful women, B. and her sister N. Your special gesture over Christmas will never be forgotten. Everytime I travel Incognito, you can bet I'll be thinking of you. Here's looking at you, kid! (Come on shake your body, baby, do the Conga!)

Club



Events

by Doc

Here we are into the second week of 1986 and so far I haven't heard from the clubs. I did talk to Big Mike of the S.O.S. and his only comment concerning SOS and his only command was "SOS is going to have to get off their asses and get our shit together!" As for TALL, their meeting Sunday was cancelled due to lack of members showing up, this reporter included. It seems I got my times mixed up on Rita's Bowling League Banquet.

Speaking of Rita's Bowling League, as it has been called, their trophies were passed out Sunday evening for the first season. Third place went to the "Supremes"; second

place went to "Rita's Rollers" and first place went to the "Pistols", which I bowled on. Now you see why I missed TALL's meeting.

Don't forget TKO's Closet Ball which is fast approaching. See the advertisement in this issue for date and time.

That's about it for this week so on with an old TBBS: Mavis walked up behind Lee (TALL) at the Graduate and said "Hi Butch". TJ, standing beside Lee said, "That was the name of his lover last week."....

New TBBS: Who was the park sprinkler boy that was forced into taking care of a trick over the holidays from Hollywood, who also used Gilbert's bedroom twice in one night, same trick, and used up at least a quart of Aloe Vera lotion?....Tom has promised to make up for the lack of sandwiches at the Graduate on Sun Bowl Saturday by bringing a full course meal for 100 people on Super Bowl Sunday....Just to keep TJ happy — Georgia tied Arizona, not as he point out incorrectly reported it. These proof readers are sure touchy....

See everyone next week. I'll be getting more TBBS so be careful. First sneak announcement: Feb. 16 First Annual Club Event Show at the Graduate.



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