

PERPECTIVE

By Michael Bronski

Are you now or have you ever been...

ROY COHN: A Queer Queer-Baiter Dies

Bethesda, MD (GCN) - The death of Roy Cohn, flamboyant conservative lawyer and closeted homosexual, from AIDS-related diseases on August 2 will bring few elegies or regrets from the Gay and Lesbian community. Cohn's nationally-known name has long since become a buzz-word in both liberal and radical circles to denote the most extreme, opportunistic, political conservatism.

His 38-year career began with involvement in the prosecution of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in the late 1940s. Federal officials deliberately sought out an easily recognizable Jewish prosecutor to deflect the constant charges of anti-semitism. It was Cohn's direct examination of a witness that linked Ethel Rosenberg with an

to the McCarthy sub-committee by Cohn) G. David Schine. When Schine was drafted into the army in 1953, Cohn, and McCarthy, ran considerable interference into army process to ensure that Schine would have the niceties of night passes and no kitchen patrol. The army retaliated and released a 34-page report on Cohn and McCarthy's demands. In the report, Cohn is quoted as promising to "wreck the army" if Schine was not given preferential treatment. The resultant army-McCarthy hearing cleared both the Senator and his counsel of any wrong-doing. But McCarthy's irrational and vindictive methods became so apparent that he was eventually formally censured by the Senate for his role in the sub-committee's witch-hunts.

It was during this time that



David Schine, Joseph McCarthy, and Roy Cohn (l-r.) at the Army-McCarthy hearings.

alleged Soviet spy ring. The Rosenberg's were eventually electrocuted, and Cohn went on to even more prominence as chief counsel to Sen. Joseph McCarthy's infamous subcommittee which had vowed to "root out Communism in Government."

After the McCarthy hearings, Cohn became a well-established New York lawyer. Although brilliant in the courtroom, his career was filled with judicial reprimand for unethical conduct, as well as civil actions brought by clients, who accused him of everything from theft, forgery and, in one case, responsibility in a death. After several attempts, Cohn was finally disbarred earlier this year.

Controversy surrounded everything in which Cohn became involved. It was no different earlier this year, when during an interview with Mike Wallace on '60 Minutes' he denied the charge he had AIDS or was under treatment for an AIDS-related infection. Wallace claimed to have access to confidential records from the National Institutes of Health which named Cohn as a person with AIDS. Aside from the news that Roy Cohn may have AIDS, the '60 Minutes' program prompted fear in the Gay/Lesbian community that the supposedly confidential records of the Centers for Disease Control and NIH may be open to selected members of the press for political reasons.

This was not the first time that Cohn's name had been publicly connected with homosexuality. During the McCarthy hearings, he was openly and repeatedly linked with his best friend and co-worker (appointed

all three men, then "bachelors," were accused of being homosexual. The irony here was that queer-baiting had been blatantly used by McCarthy and Cohn against people who they considered to be sympathetic to Communism. Nevertheless, starting in the mid-1950s, innuendos about Cohn's sexuality became a standard method of attack upon his own integrity. Even in the earliest days, the insinuations were so blatant that Lillian Hellman, in print, was able to refer to McCarthy, Cohn and Schine as "Bonnie, Bonnie and Clyde."

Cohn himself had always, up until his death, denied being "Gay inclined," but it was such an open secret that in a praiseworthy memorial piece in the New York Times, conservative columnist William Safire admitted that although Cohn was a homosexual (no one is Gay in the New York Times) he (Cohn) "could never reconcile it with his self-image of political masculinity".

It would certainly be foolish to think that the sexual attacks by the straight world on Cohn occurred because he did not have the courage to come out. In fact, given the hatred he generated and the ease with which homophobia can be directed against anyone hated, the attacks on Cohn may have been more virulent and anti-Gay if he had been open about his sexuality. Even the New York Times obituary was filled with snide code words, remarks referring to Cohn's narcissistic attentions to his body, and implications that he had face lifts which he then lied about. (One would be hard pressed to think of any hetero-

UFMCC to lead International Prayer Vigil

TUCSON - More than 175 congregations that make up the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches will be participating in a 50 hour international AIDS Vigil of Prayer to be held over the weekend of Sept 5-7. Rev. David Gunton, Pastor of MCC/Tucson affirms that this is not just a Gay event. "Because AIDS isn't just a homosexual issue, but a health issue, this weekend is about health and not lifestyles," Gunton said.

"You do not have to be Gay or religious to share in this weekend. We will focus on both spiritual support and information."

MCC/Tucson will begin the Vigil on Friday evening, Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. with a worship service and a call to prayer. There will be worship experiences on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. as well as regular worship services on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. In addition to worship services, MCC/Tucson is planning to have panel presentations by various agencies that work with AIDS patients in Tucson. These panels will inform

as to their work and the opportunity to assist them in their work will be given also. There will be various video presentations on AIDS throughout the weekend. Services and other activities will take place at MCC/Tucson which is located at 560 S. Stone.

Gunton said that while the Metropolitan Community Churches are sponsoring the event, they are seeking the spiritual support of "all religious assemblies." "What we would really like is that all churches, all religious assemblies, take some time during their formal worship that weekend and pray for people with AIDS and for a cure of the disease," he said.

"Offerings at all services except those on Sunday will be given directly to the Tucson AIDS project and the Shanti Foundation," Gunton said. "The Vigil itself will continue in a constant time of prayer all over the world until AIDS is finally put on the shelf with smallpox, diphtheria and other things that humankind has conquered with God's help," he said.

Georgia attorneys file rehearing petition

WASHINGTON, DC - Jerry Smith, a former All-Pro receiver with the Washington Redskins and an alumnus of Arizona State University, said that he is being treated for AIDS. Smith is the first well-known professional athlete to suffer from the disease according to a story in the Washington Post.

Smith, 43, has lost weight steadily and, according to his mother, "hasn't eaten since June. He is sustained intravenously and kept comfortable by pain-killing drugs. Smith caught 67 passes (most ever by a tight end in NFL history) for 849 yards and 12 touchdowns in 1967 when he weighed 210 pounds. He is down to 150 pounds according to the paper report.

When asked about how he contracted the disease, Smith told the newspaper that "it just happened". "I want people to know what I've been through and how terrible this disease is," Smith told the Post.

Smith was willing to discuss his struggle with the disease with the newspaper but he would not elaborate on his lifestyle. He has run his construction company in Washington since retiring from the Redskins in 1978. He amassed a record of 421 passes caught for nearly 5,500 yards and 60 touchdowns. He also owns a restaurant in Texas and has worked in the mortgage business.

Last summer, he said, he began losing weight and noticed he tired easily. Smith said he went to a doctor in Florida and was tested for the AIDS virus. "The results were negative," he told the Post. The symptoms persisted and in December, Smith admitted himself to Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Maryland, a Washington suburb, where he was tested again. This time, he said, the test was positive.

Between 600,000 and 1.2 million Americans have been exposed to AIDS antibodies since the disease was discovered in 1981. AIDS has killed more than

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

ATLANTA, GA - Attorneys for Michael Hardwick, in whose case the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Georgia's sodomy law by a vote of 5-4, have filed a petition for a rehearing. Rehearings are rarely granted and require that one of the Justices who voted with the majority consent to rehear the case. Kathy Wilde of the ACLU of Georgia believes that consent may come from Justice Lewis Powell, because he changed his mind at the last minute and may feel the case bears another examination.

Three points were made in the petition. First, it contends that the court misapprehended the issues by focusing solely on homosexual activity even though the sodomy law makes no distinction between homosexual and heterosexual activities. Second, the petition contends that Hardwick's Eighth Amendment rights protecting him from cruel and unusual punishment were violated, considering that he was imprisoned only for acts done in private with another consenting adult. Finally, "the Court's opinion jeopardizes all prior privacy decisions, encouraging the eventual overruling of decades of privacy decisions and protected rights," according to the petition.

The Supreme Court will announce its decision on the rehearing in early October.

NYC officials let 6 with AIDS in school

NEW YORK, NY (AP) - Health officials have approved the admission of six children with AIDS or AIDS-related illnesses to public schools, and said the children's identities will not be revealed.

The United Federation of Teachers Union accused officials of "keeping both teachers and school medical officials in the dark" and threatened to take legal action to learn the names of the children.

Dr. Stephen Joseph, the city health commissioner, said he "CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN"

UPDATE

TUCSON PROGRAM FOR FREE RIDES HOME FOR INTOXICATED ANNOUNCED

TUCSON - In a program announced last Friday, Aug. 22, Safe-Ride, co-sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving and 14 local bars will begin operation on Labor Day weekend.

The program will operate Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. Bar customers who are too intoxicated to drive can ask the bar owner or manager to call 623-MADD for a ride home. A cab will be dispatched from the participating Yellow Cab Co. Cab drivers in the program will receive \$7 per call whether the ride home is 10 blocks or 10 miles.

Bars participating in the project will pay an initial membership fee of \$37.50. Monthly costs will be divided among member bars. Jeff Ende, manager of the Bum Steer said. He said he hopes the number of participating bars will double by the end of the month. Eventually, Ende said, organizers hope to get as many as 50 bars in the project. "The more people we sign up, the less expensive it will be."

Drinkers don't have to be at participating bars to get a free ride home, Ende said.

Bar-owner members feel the program can reduce their potential liability in lawsuits involving drunken drivers served in their establishments. "It's somewhat of a cover-yourself program, sure," Ende said. "But I don't like driving home at 2 a.m. knowing there's 800 other guys out there driving who maybe shouldn't be. It's a necessary program and we feel we're giving a little back to the community."

Although there are no Gay bars involved in the program at its inception, it is anticipated that there will be Gay participation in the near future.



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IT'S 'BOUT TIME TO OPEN GRILL

TUCSON - It's Bout Time, 616 N. Fourth Avenue will begin serving weekend lunches this Saturday, August 30. The grill will be open from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday to begin with. Attending to your needs will be Cheri and Joe.

The menu will feature a variety of hamburgers and hot dogs, all cooked to order. Toppings will include chilies, salsa, cheeses, etc., and the usual array of bar-b-que condiments. Side dishes of home fries, authentic nachos and zucchini will also be served. Prices starting at .50 for hot dogs and \$1.00 for the burgers should help keep Cheri and Joe quite busy.

Stop by IBT's and drop off your entry for the "Name That Grill" contest. The contest will run through the weekend. Several great entries have already been submitted. The Judges will review all entries and award the person with the winning name two free lunches and a bottle of champagne.

T-SQUARES CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

TUCSON - The T-Squares, Tucson's premiere square dancing team, are two years old and will be celebrating their Second Anniversary this Saturday, August 30 at Rumor Hazzit from noon until 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come by and celebrate with this dedicated group of Gay square dancers.

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP PLANS SPECIAL WEEKEND OF EVENTS

TUCSON - Cornerstone Fellowship has announced that two important services have been scheduled for the first weekend in September.

On Friday, Sept. 5, a special Prayer Service for AIDS will be held at 7:30 p.m. This has been planned in response to the request from the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches that all churches join them in praying for AIDS -- for a cure, a vaccine, healing, whatever is needed to overcome this dread disease. A Cornerstone spokesperson said, "Our focus will be on prayer, and how it can work miracles in today's secular society." The service will last approximately one hour. (Reprinted from Gay Community News, Boston)

On Sunday, Sept. 7, during the regular morning worship service, Cornerstone will dedicate their new building as well as all of their new members. "While dedication of the new building is a traditional act, dedicating our new members to the service of the Lord is a very important step in the life of the church," said the spokesperson. "We hope that many will share our joy with us on Sunday morning."

Cornerstone Fellowship is located at 1724 N. Alvernon, just north of Pima. For more information call 881-3619.

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Sunday services:

ROY COHN: A QUEER QUEER-BAITER DIES



The Associated Press

Roy Cohn in 1982

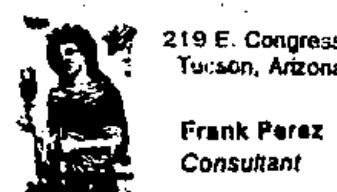
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sexual political figures, no matter how disliked, who would call forth such catty vituperation.)

Looking at the life of Roy Cohn, it is tempting to seek some kind of message. But there seems to be none. Cohn's political career was particularly noxious, his willingness to queer-bait, when he himself remained closeted, is in fact more odious than ironic; even the denial of being a person with AIDS -- to preserve his own self-image -- reeks of cowardice. But if there is anything to be gained from studying Cohn's life and death, it could be that the heterosexual world -- both the Right and the Left -- is all too willing to launch homophobic attacks upon those with whom it does not agree. The self-hatred that Roy Cohn must have felt is matched by the homophobic abuse hurled at him by his enemies. There is no reason to "claim" Cohn as an oppressed, fellow, Gay person, but it should be noted that the homophobia used against him is the same homophobia used against all Lesbians and Gay men. (Reprinted from Gay Community News, Boston)

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13,000 people, including 435 in the Washington area, according to the District of Columbia Commission of Public Health. There are about 24,000 cases of AIDS in the United States.

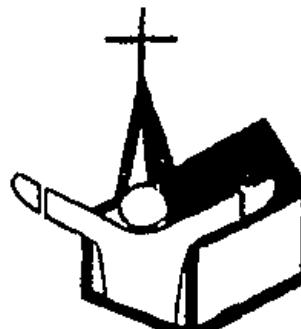
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This Week's TV Programs

7:00 (2) THE LOVE BOTT (60 min.) The Captain has promised the Head Mermaid a new stage by the next show, but with all that is going on, can he really do it without killing himself? Captain: Thom SCSmirkoff.

(9) THE GUILDED GIRLS (90 min.) Blanche and Dorothy are all a-quiver with the show coming in only two weeks. Blanche: Eileen O'Farrell. Dorothy: M.J. Gilmore.

(69) FRONTLINE - (60 min.) Hostess Jackie de Soy Sauce breaths a heavy sigh of relief when Co-Hostess Candi Plasti is scheduled to go out of town for a few days. Don Hinkle Orchestra.

8:00 (2) KATIE AND AL - (60 min.) Katie will be furious when she finds out that her hair is still not done for an upcoming performance. Katie: Petra St. Paul.

(7) MIAMI TWICE - (60 min.) Stubbs is up to his old tricks while Crock seems to be not quite his old self. Everyone hopes everything is in order and well. Stubbs: Bob Jealous. Crock: Gary Stark.

(69) MOVIE - Drama (120 mins.) "THE OASIS MOTEL" - A tiny blonde showgirl named Michelle decides it is time for her "opening" at a famous motel....uh...nightclub.

9:00 (2) DIE NASTY - (60 min.) The secret of Alexis' weight non-problem is out. According to sources, all you have to do is prepare and be in at least three shows a week. Alexis: Davida Zircon.

(7) FAMILY TRIES - (60 min.) A new family member! HAI! They put her in the kitchen and call her a sister. Guest starring Cherry Pit.



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Hunks of NicaraguaAugust, from the *Hunks of Nicaragua* calendar.

BOSTON, MA (GCN) - To commemorate the seventh anniversary of the Sandanista revolution in Nicaragua a group of Gay activists has released its first issue of the "Hunks of Nicaragua" calendar. The four-page pamphlet by the Boston-based United Fruit Company combines a parody of Gay skin magazines with facts about the revolution.

In a less humorous vein on the same page is the statement: "On July 19, 1979, the Nicaraguan people finally overthrew Anastasio Somoza's brutal dictatorship. This year the Reagan administration plans to spend \$100 million dollars of our taxes in its attempt to destroy Nicaragua's democratically-elected government."

On page one, for instance, is the photograph of a naked soldier named Carlos (Mr. July). The caption below it reads: "His weapon is loaded and ready to bomb your rear flank. But that will have to wait till peacetime. Right now Carlos must overcome the Contras before he can come over you."

Fall, winter and spring editions of *Hunks* are also planned for release. To receive the summer calendar and other United Fruit creations, including the "Are You Normal?" test and a range of stickers, send \$5 to United Fruit Co., 4 Gay Community News, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

Latin Lovers

Penitent gay Italian nuns outside the offices of Italy's major newspapers, Milan.

MILAN, ITALY (GCN) - Protests over the U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding states' rights to ban sodomy have spread across the Atlantic. On July 9, a group of Gay men protested the decision as an act of solidarity with U.S. Lesbians and Gay men and because the ruling may have repercussions in heavily Catholic Italy according to "babylon", an Italian Gay monthly.

Taking their cue from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in San Francisco, the protesters

marched in front of the Central Press Building in habits while playing tapes of Gregorian chants. They carried signs reading, "What beautiful freedom there is in a chastity belt" and "Either a cloistered cell or a prison cell."

At the center of all this nunnery was a bearded Statue of Liberty who carried a vibrator instead of a torch. The vibrator did have a flame at its tip and a viewing platform, just like the original in New York Harbor.

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As I See It

By Bruce Fowler - Tucson

Last week in this column, I said that because of certain sociological events of the past twenty years or so, the time is now right for the Gay/ Lesbian movement to carry forward its agenda. I'm using a theory of Gregory Baum as the basis of that statement and this might be a good time to take a closer look at Dr. Baum's theory.

A Catholic Theologian and sociologist, Gregory Baum is a professor of Religious Studies at the University of Toronto. A prominent ecumenist, Dr. Baum's theological works have been greeted warmly by Catholics and mainline Protestants alike. He is a vocal advocate of Gay and Lesbian rights and his writings include strong statements promoting the inclusion of Gays and Lesbians into mainstream Christianity.

According to the Baum theory, for the first time in Western history, here in America, Gays and Lesbians have been successful in creating a movement that "...aims at emancipation and equality." This has been possible for three reasons: (1) America is a pluralistic society, (2) America has reached an advanced stage of organization and (3) American society is currently in the "late phase of industrialization."

Because of the strong Protestant influence bringing with it the concepts of individualism, Americans live in a society that allows space for the non-conformist. It is OK most of the time in America for citizens to criticize, attempt to change or reform and to promote unpopular ideas and still remain loyal citizens. In most other countries of the world, there is a 'state religion' that pretty well disallows any possibility of pluralism and dissent is gone.

As Americans left the farm and moved to the city to become urbanized, our society lost its close kinship bonds that had been a part of the extended family. It would no longer be possible for families to closely scrutinize the activities and actions of individual members. Living in the big city we all, straight and Gay alike, are encouraged toward individualism and at the same time toward isolation. The facts of urbanization allows Gays and Lesbians of the 1980's much more individual freedom than Gays and Lesbians of earlier historical periods.

And finally, American society is in the late phase of industrialization or capitalism. In the early phase (turn-of-the-century), the 'puritan' spirit of discipline and grugality were necessary to overcome the hardships of early industrialization.

S.F. RATE OF AIDS TRANSMISSION TAKES DIVE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (GCN) - According to the Bay Area Reporter, a Gay men's health study shows the rate of AIDS transmission in San Francisco has dropped sharply since 1984. Epidemiologist Warren Winkelstein of the University of California at Berkeley School of Public Health, which conducted the study, said "this drop in the rate of AIDS transmission is directly linked to changes in sexual behavior." In particular Winkelstein noted a decline in the number of men having anal sex without a condom.

The study found that in 1985

The individual human person seldom was rewarded for their personal efforts. The last part of the 20th Century has been a move toward consumerism and away from emphasis on production. Thus we've moved away from the restraints on personal freedom often associated with production and into the new era with its economic functions closely aligned with consumerism. Market interests of the business community can no longer afford to alienate any group. Gays and Lesbians are no exception. The power of the dollar is strong armor against insensitive and intolerant advertising.

I couldn't agree more with Baum's theory, however, as I see it, there are some other reasons why "now is the time". There has been a great deal of new information and data available in the areas of sociology, psychology, biology, genetics and the other empirical sciences all of which supports our claim to equal human rights and respect. Add to that the fact that the general population is better educated (usually producing better understanding and more tolerant people).

Also add the fact that there is a growing awareness of 'social justice' issues (Gay rights being one of them). More and more mainline churches, historically a source of 'morality' thinking, have opened discussion on many hitherto undiscussable subjects (especially in the area of sexuality in all its forms).

There is a window of opportunity open right now. The Christian right-wing may be trying to close it, but today that window is still open, perhaps open but briefly. Can we afford not to take advantage of that fact? I think not! The time to continue moving the agenda forward is NOW. To wait would be foolish.

This fall most of the Gay and Lesbian organizations and clubs in Arizona will be voting for new leadership. I think the members of every organization have the right - no, the obligation - to ask those running for office: "Exactly what are your plans for moving the Gay/ Lesbian rights issue forward?"

"What plans do you have for educating those who don't understand?"

"How do you plan to use the political power of this organization to promote the ideals of the organization?"

We need leadership that has a plan and that isn't afraid to pursue that plan to its end, and we need dedicated Gays and Lesbians willing to work to move the agenda forward.

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WHAT'S UP DOC?

This year's City of Rocks run was better than last year's and next year's will probably top this one.

We all hit the road towards New Mexico Friday afternoon. I rode along with Mike, Patrick and Kerry. We made good time going over and of course just had to stop at each rest area. At one rest stop, up-pulled Tommy and Gary. They told us they left Tucson one hour after we did. Tommy doesn't normally drive that fast, it must have been the U-Haul trailer pushing them.

We finally arrived at the City of Rocks, New Mexico campsite about an hour late due to a wrong turn made by yours truly. Then it was time to start the party, and with Sadie there you know it was party time.

The drive over from Tucson must have been a rough one because after about an hour, all of Tucson headed for the hot tubs. There they encountered not only a truck driver, who had Tommy's blood pressure rising, but some others that didn't really appreciate this Tucson crew. Some people just do not know quality when they see them.

I played it smart, didn't go to the hot tubs, and went to bed early. It would have been a good night's sleep but the damn air mattress went flat on me, so it was up early the next morning. Thank goodness Sadie had the coffee pot on.

After breakfast, TKO started building the Chinese Junk, called U.S.S. Desert Queen. The deck of the boat came in handy later and served as tables.

Then it was time for Hijos del Sol's games. The first was called Siamese Twins. It was a take-off of the three-legged races, but you had to also keep hold of your partner. From station #1 where you put on high heels, you proceeded on to put on a dress, a wig, a hat, and finally pick up a purse and head back to the starting line. Some of the couples were just real pretty. Myself and my other half of the Siamese Twins (Kerry-TALL) (who later named himself "Fan Falcy") lost ten points at the last stop because I picked up the wrong purse. I tried to have my outfit color coordinated, but I should have remembered who set this game up.

Things went along after the game very well, until up blew Hurricane Sadie and stopped all games. Boy, was that a sneaky way of getting out of more games for the day. TKO was blamed for bringing the rain and it was probably true. How else could we try out our U.S.S. Desert Queen?

After the rain, TALL held a cocktail party on board ship. The opening the cocktail party was announced by Elmer with his cocktail flag, and the presentation of the ship's Captain (Mike) and the ship's Lady (Gary).

Later at dinner time, smocks were passed out to a few TKO members to be worn with nothing else. Why was the one I was given to wear only waist length? Chop sticks were passed out as eating utensils and, you would have been surprised at the number at the table who were able to use them.

After dinner, a group headed again for the hot tubs. During a close encounter of the head bobbing type, I called for a toe check. Without missing a stroke, Johnnie raised his toe out of the water. The reason for the toe check - of course - Sadie had earlier painted everyone's toe or toes. I lost most of the paint on my big toe by way of Raymond's teeth.

Winners for the games were: Tommy who took first place; Elmer took second place; David, who won this year's Lazy Susan Award; and Chester who won the first "Sunday Morning Beauty Contest". As always this year's version of the City of Rocks was very successful and a lot of fun was had by all. TKO will be hosting next year and

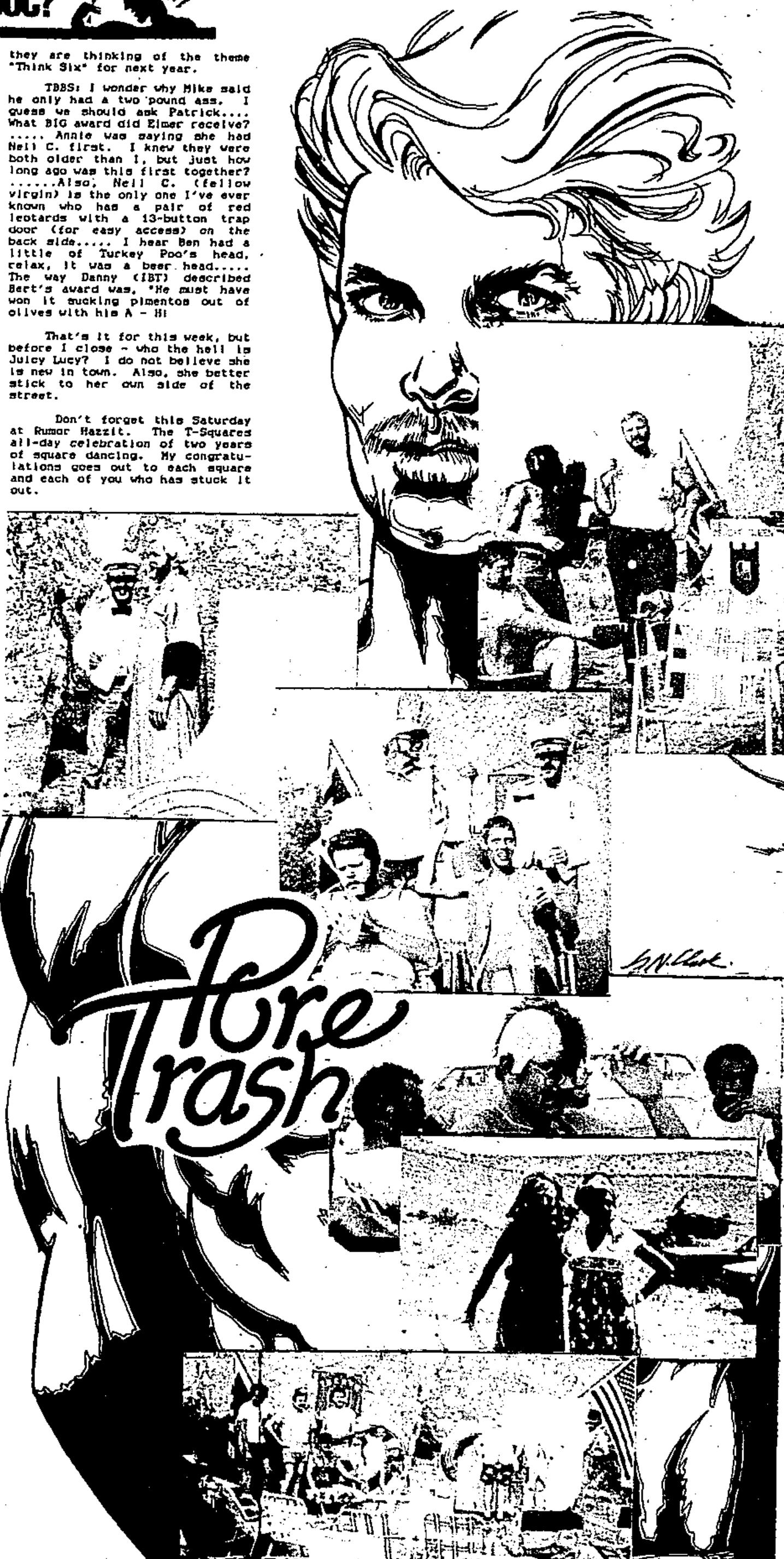
they are thinking of the theme "Think Six" for next year.

TBBS: I wonder why Mike said he only had a two pound ass. I guess we should ask Patrick.... What BIG award did Elmer receive? Annie was saying she had Neil C. first. I knew they were both older than I, but just how long ago was this first together? Also, Neil C. (fellow virgin) is the only one I've ever known who has a pair of red leotards with a 13-button trap door (for easy access) on the back side.... I hear Ben had a little of Turkey Poo's head, relax, it was a bear head.... The way Danny (IBT) described Bert's award was, "He must have won it sucking pimento out of olives with his A - HI

That's it for this week, but before I close - who the hell is Juicy Lucy? I do not believe she is new in town. Also, she better stick to her own side of the street.

Don't forget this Saturday at Rumor Has It. The T-Squared all-day celebration of two years of square dancing. My congratulations goes out to each square and each of you who has stuck it out.

AT THE CITY OF ROCKS RUN



Distorted his views AIDS researcher says

LOS ANGELES, CA (AP) - A leading AIDS researcher has accused the U.S. Justice Department of distorting his views in a memorandum that could make it easier for some employers to fire victims of the disease, the Los Angeles Times reported.

The controversial Justice memorandum rejected the position of the medical establishment that AIDS is unlikely to be spread by casual contact, citing published remarks by Harvard Medical School researcher William A. Haseltine in supporting its conclusion. The department went on to rule that AIDS patients who are fired by federally funded agencies may not challenge the firings under civil rights laws protecting the handicapped.

"The remarks cited misrepresent my views," Haseltine wrote in a letter to the department and reported in the Los Angeles Times. "To my knowledge there is no evidence that transmission of the AIDS virus other than by intimate sexual contact or exchange of body fluids and/or organs has resulted in infection," Haseltine wrote, citing studies of families of AIDS victims and hospital workers. "These studies demonstrate that casual transmission has not and will not occur to any significant extent," he wrote.

Infected insects may transmit AIDS

LOS ANGELES, CA - A leading French scientist has found that many insects in central Africa are infected with the AIDS virus and that such insects may be able to transmit the disease to humans in certain regions, it has been reported.

In an interview with the Reuters news agency in Paris, Dr. Jean-Claude Chermann of the Pasteur Institute said he tested mosquitoes, cockroaches, ticks, tsetse flies and other insects from Zaire and the Central African Republic and found most of them to be infected with the virus.

It has been speculated for some time that mosquitoes might be an agent in transmitting acquired immune deficiency syndrome - in much the same manner as sharing a contaminated needle has been shown to be a major risk factor in the spread of AIDS.

"This means that insects can be contaminated and could there-

The Justice Department released a letter of apology to Haseltine from Assistant Attorney General Charles J. Cooper, who wrote the opinion. But in the letter, Cooper says the memo's legal conclusions remain valid.

The Justice Department memorandum said, in part: "Harvard researcher Professor William Haseltine, for instance, was recently reported to have declared that, 'Anyone who tells you categorically that AIDS is not contracted by saliva is not telling you the truth... There are sure to be cases... of proved transmission through casual contact.'"

Cooper quoted remarks attributed to Haseltine in a New York Times article by Harvard law professor Alan M. Dershowitz, but didn't contact Haseltine directly. The New York Times printed a letter clarifying the essay.

The Justice Department opinion has been widely criticized by researchers who say AIDS is extremely unlikely to be transmitted by casual contact. The Public Health Service and the American Medical Association are among the organizations that objected to the Justice memorandum's statements on casual contact.

fore form a natural reservoir for the AIDS virus," Chermann told Reuters. "They may be a possible mode of transmission for the disease in Africa, but the question is still open as we do not have sufficient epidemiological information."

Chermann said virtually all of some 50 insects he studied from Zaire were carrying the virus, but only ticks and mosquitoes out of 30 insects studied from the Central African Republic showed any trace of the virus.

Chermann works with the French team that is a co-discoverer of the AIDS virus, along with the U.S. researchers at the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Bruce Franczyk, an insect specialist at the Centers for Disease Control's facility in Fort Collins, Colorado, expressed skepticism that insects can transmit the AIDS virus in Africa or the United States. (L.A. Times News Service)

NATION'S FIRST AIDS LEGAL PAMPHLET AVAILABLE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA), the San Francisco-based public interest law firm, announced its publication of the nation's first pamphlet on AIDS and the law. Entitled "AIDS and Your Legal Rights: What Everyone Needs To Know," the pamphlet will be distributed free of charge as a public service. The 8-page pamphlet is geared specifically towards non-lawyers, and is written in clear simple language. It covers a broad range of legal issues involving wills, estate planning, medical treatment, public benefits, insurance, employment, the military, quarantine, HTLV-III antibody testing, and other matters.

"Many people with AIDS and ARC have been confronted with legal obstacles as devastating as any medical problem," said Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "NGRA's pamphlet will help people across America protect their rights before legal problems arise."

"This pamphlet is a critical resource not only for people with AIDS and ARC, but for all Gay men and Lesbians," commented NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary. "The AIDS epidemic has affected the legal status of the entire Gay and Lesbian community."

"AIDS and Your Legal Rights" can be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to NGRA, 540 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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Jeff Levi vs Senator Strom Thurmond

WASHINGTON, DC - On July 31, the following exchange took place between U.S. Senate Judiciary Chairman Strom Thurmond, (R-South Carolina) and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Jeff Levi, following Levi's testimony against the nomination of William Rehnquist as Chief Justice of the United States.

THURMOND: Mr. Levi, are you an officer in the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force?

LEVI: That is correct.

THURMOND: And how many members do you say you have?

LEVI: We have about 10,000 members, and we also represent various organizations around the country.

THURMOND: Ten thousand members?

LEVI: Right.

THURMOND: I was interested in one statistic you gave, that one-tenth of the population are Gay or Lesbian. I am shocked to hear that if that is true. Are you sure that figure is correct?

LEVI: Well, those are not my figures. Those are figures that have been around for some 20 to 30 years. The Kinsey Institute first put forward that 10 percent of American adults are predominantly homosexual in their behavior. A much larger figure would fall into the category of bisexual and those with relatively smaller numbers of homosexual experiences.

THURMOND: Does your organization advocate any kind of treatment

for Gays and Lesbians to see if they can change them and make them normal like other people?

LEVI: Well, Senator, we consider ourselves quite normal, thank you. We just happen to be different from other people. And the beauty of the American society is that ultimately we do accept all differences of behavior and viewpoint. To answer the question more seriously, the predominant scientific viewpoint is that homosexuality is probably innate; if not innate, then formed very early in life. The responsible medical community no longer considers homosexuality to be an illness but rather something that is just a variation of standard behavior.

THURMOND: You do not think Gays and Lesbians are subject to change? You do not think they could change?

LEVI: No more so, Senator, than heterosexuals.

THURMOND: You do not think they could be converted to be like other people in some way?

LEVI: Well, we think we are like other people with one small exception. And, unfortunately, it is the rest of society that makes a big deal out of that exception.

THURMOND: A small exception?

That is a pretty big exception.

LEVI: Unfortunately, society makes it a big exception. We wish it would not, and that is why our organization exists.

Past Supreme Court term**most difficult says Blackmun**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (AP) - The past U.S. Supreme Court term proved to be the most difficult of the 16 years he has served in the nation's highest court, Justice Harry Blackmun says. "The court is getting older, a little more short-tempered. When we get to abortion, sodomy in the home, religion cases, patience is thin," he said in remarks to the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here.

Blackmun stressed that his comments were personal and not those of the court.

His remarks Friday, July 25, were part of a review of the Supreme Court's work he gives each year to judges of the Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Over the years, his reviews have acquired a reputation for openness about the court's workings that is unusual among Supreme Court Justices.

Blackmun served as an Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals judge from 1959 until 1970, when he was appointed to the Supreme Court.

The October 1986 term will be a court of transition with the retirement of Chief Justice Warren Burger and a new court appointee. Blackmun said Burger did not tell the other court members of his decision to step down. They were advised of it about 10 minutes before the television cameras had the news, he said.

None of us knew about the one-two-three punch," he said, referring to the resignation of Burger, naming of Justice William Rehnquist as chief and appointing Circuit Judge Antonin Scalia.

He characterized Rehnquist as conservative, sharp, articulate, fast and very sociable. Scalia is able, articulate a scholar, he said.

"I'm told he is most dangerous when he is most ingratiating," Blackmun said. "We're getting a first-rate Justice. We'll see how he votes."

Blackmun said the past term was difficult because of the types of cases and court discussions. The nine justices began brawling from the start of the term last September, he said, and acted like "nine scorpions in a bottle". He also said that members of the court are "prima donnas."

Blackmun who wrote the famous 1973 decision legalizing abortion, dissented sharply to a

recent ruling that allows adult, consenting homosexuals to be prosecuted for sodomy in their homes. He called the majority opinion on the Georgia law "outrageous". (OBSERVER, July 2)

Girlfriends at the prom

SALINAS, CA (GCN) - When two high school women here decided to go to their senior prom together, the student council got huffy. Although Stephanie Salgado and Marie Hawkins had gathered 300 signatures from classmates in favor, the student council voted 29-2 to bar the best friends from the prom.

"They (the council) felt it would break tradition," the pair's lawyer, Phyllis M. Turner, told the National Journal. But "there was no written policy" keeping same-sex couples out. "One (student) said it would be okay if they were Gay, but couldn't understand why two straight people would want to go together.

Apparently school principal Bill Evans and the school board couldn't grasp it either, as both agreed to uphold the council's decision.

Salgado and Hawkins finally took their case to Superior Court, where the day before the May 10 prom, Judge Richard M. Silver issued a temporary restraining order allowing the two students to attend. The judge "applied a balancing-of-harm standard," said Turner, weighing in their favor the fact that Salgado and Hawkins would not have another high school prom.

With the go-ahead to put on their dancing shoes, Hawkins appeared at the prom in a black tuxedo with a top hat and Salgado came decked out in a formal gown. According to Turner, the two women "were never asked by any boys to dance," but they had a wonderful time.



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DIVINATION by DEYMONN

WEEK BEGINNING AUGUST 27, 1986

ARIES

Limited communication could make you feel insecure. Stress from work could be the major cause of your irresponsible mood. Be reserved and follow your intuition.

TAURUS

You are not feeling stable but you are more stable than most. Responsibility to a business partner could have your mind worried. Rewards from your hard work will be temporarily delayed.

GEMINI

You will be extremely intuitive this week but your intuition could tell you things you don't want to hear, especially in your relationships. Things in the past are directly related.

CANCER

An extremely psychic moon prepares you for behind the scenes activity that will surprise you later this week. After today stress will be in a passing phase.

LEO

You are feeling independent to the point of being rebellious. If you don't control your emotions, your finances will suffer. Things you communicate now will work against you instead of for you.

VIRGO

Your career has you ready to scream. Responsibilities placed on you are so demanding and restricting. Finances are soon to be not so great. Save money now.

Juicy Lucy . . .

My stars, things sure have a way of getting this gal all shook and rattled. What with school back in and the watering holes filling up with all these hot, blazing and glowing bodies of all sizes, shapes and mouth-watering looks, what's a decent girl like me to do? Just the other day I walked a couple of these beauties and I got so flabbergasted I almost peed my panty hose.

On the far side of this story, also the same day, I saw these two much older gents (I guess) sitting at the bar each wearing shorts. Now, I've seen better legs on some of my wooden tables. I admit I'm not part of this new younger generation, but no way am I that that old!

I've been to each of the watering holes around town and I hear you talking about me. Just watch what you say about me or you will have me on your back (see how butch I am). Until next week, just a friendly hello to Bob-Graduate, Ernie-IBT's, Monte-John-Rumors, and Peter-Rita's. Thanks for the courteous service to me when I visited you.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE accepted the recommendation of the city's AIDS school review panel and ordered the six - one of whom completed second grade in a public school last year - admitted when classes begin on Sept. 8.

The panel considered the cases of 13 children with acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS-related illnesses, Joseph said. Four were so ill that their physicians withdrew them from consideration.

The panel said it needed more information to make a recommendation in the cases of two other pupils. And it ruled that one youngster should not be allowed in school, but Joseph refused to say why.

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SAGITTARIUS
You and your love interest are not getting along. Time you spend with career could be causing resentment or jealousy. This is only temporary so be patient.

CAPRICORN
Hidden problems at work could burden you with oppressive responsibility. No one is better for the job. A partnership could suffer an unexpected blow, so be cautious.

AQUARIUS
Friends could demand more from you than you are able to give. A business partnership or investment could be troubling you. Be prepared for unexpected developments.

PISCES
Communications with an authority figure could make your relationships unstable. Your work can be a tool in changing your philosophy. Concentrate on stabilizing your emotions.

NEWS FROM MCC/TUCSON

Last Sunday was the final sermon given by Pastor Dave in his series entitled "Encouraging One Another". This series has been very interesting and most enlightening. The important point made in the this final message was that to make encouraging statements or remarks does not mean that you are to be a therapist and try to solve the person's problems but to give them the encouragement to solve their own problems.

During the fellowship hour after last Sunday morning service, we were given a special viewing of a videotape on the upcoming "AIDS Vigil Of Prayer" that will be conducted by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches on September 5, 6 and 7. This vigil will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 5 and will continue through to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7. This will be a continuous fifty hours of prayer and services to ask God's help in this time of crisis to find a cure for this dreadful disease, not only for the Gay community but for all who have been, who are now afflicted and those who may become afflicted with AIDS.

Last Sunday afternoon the Copperstate Leathermen met at our building to practice for their show at their upcoming run on Mt. Graham. If their show is any kind of a preview of what is planned this coming weekend, then Mr. Graham will never be the same again.

Thought for the week: Why are all the traffic lights green when you need to touch up your lipstick or get your hair combed or check out the driver in the next lane?

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881-1794.

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
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Bill James 622-3808.

TUCSON LESBIAN CO-OP MONTHLY
NETWORKING. POTLUCK. Open to Gay
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Next meeting August 10 at 6 p.m.
Call Claire for location at
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AIDS HOTLINE - TUCSON AIDS
PROJECT (TAP) 792-3772 from 6
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N. Alvernon, just north of Pima,
in Tucson. 881-3519.

AFFIRMATION, Gay and Lesbian
Mormons, meet monthly in Phoenix
for fellowship and positive
support. AFFIRMATION, P.O. Box
315, Mesa, AZ 85201 or (602)
981-0121.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE
(TLGA) meets the second Monday of
every month at 7:00 p.m. at the
Fineline, 101 W. Drachman.
Everyone welcome.

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL -
Call Information and Referral
881-1794.

SENIOR GAYS (Over 40). If interested
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BY ADAM WOOLDRIDGE & BEAST



A View From Within

A COMMENTARY BY
CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY MCPHERSON

GOOD OL' RELIGION: SAVING OUR _____* SOULS

Helpless: (adjective)
feeble, defenseless, powerless,
paralyzed, weak, ineffectual,
impotent, disabled, vulnerable,
abandoned, bereft, rudderless,
crippled, incapable, incompetent,
destitute, entangled, trapped,
disarmed, high and dry.

Yes. Just when you thought it was safe to walk past a cleric on an open street, the highest and mightiest of the 'chosen' people have punished one of their own because he "suggested" that 'possibly' homosexuality "in the context of a loving relationship striving for a permanency can in a certain sense be objectively morally good."

Good grief! What could be more diplomatically non-offensive?

Well, in case by now you haven't heard, the Vatican (of all people who know so damn much about how I should be running my life) revoked the credentials of Catholic University of America Professor Charles Curran. It is climaxing a long dispute over his views on birth control (he commented that neither contraception, nor sterilization is "intrinsically evil"), abortion (he feels that abortion may be permitted in some cases), divorce, and homosexuality (see above). One sane man in the whole caboodle and --poof!-- he disappears under the ever vigilant thumb of the church.

I guess nothing can be done about it now, but Professor Curran should know he has our support. "I want to underline the fact that I am a committed Roman Catholic believer," he is quoted as saying in the Aug. 19 Los Angeles Times. "But faith and reason cannot contradict." A man of enlightened perception -- doomed.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
And now for a welcomed
change of pace:

If you weren't at the new TOMMY'S beer-bust last night (Aug. 18) you weren't one of the 'in' crowd. TOMMY'S --located at 921 West Camelback Road in Phoenix-- initiated a welcomed alternative to the otherwise dreary Monday nights many of us have had to suffer since the untimely death of Hotbods earlier this year.

Luckily for those of us who appreciate the best in dance music, HUBERT has come back from the closing of HB's to a practically flawless showing last night.

And TOMMY'S is nothing like I remember when last I was there --about a hundred years ago. The dual-dance floors are a nice touch and the light system is great. Although there was an awful lot of smoke at times, the effect created with the piercing light rays was exciting!

Also it is nice to have the abundance of seating which was available at the club last night. The door charge of two dollars was reasonable, and well worth the fun and excitement.

The employees were generally nice and courteous, and the bars provided easy access without having to fight through the crowds.

Word has it that Monday nights at TOMMY'S will continue as long as there is support from the community, and judging from last evenings' big turnout (the community was all a-buzz about the premiere for the last couple of weeks), we should have fun on Monday nights for a long time to come! For more info, call 265-4747. The fun begins next Monday at 8:30 p.m.



PORTRAITURE by Honey Lee Cottrell

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS

3455 E. GRANT RD. TUCSON

392,3300



Rita's September Calendar Man is Ricky Lee Miller. He is 25 years old and is a Virgo who has called Tucson his home since 1979. Ricky is blonde with green eyes and is 5'7" tall. He operates a residential cleaning service called "A Man's Touch." INTERESTS: swimming/sunbathing/hiking/aerobics/nursing. GOALS: "To know I have contributed."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
●○○○○	1	2	3 Dinner Buffet	4	5	6
9/4 9/11 9/18 9/27			Mexican Style Buffet			
Sunday Brunch	7	8	9	10 Dinner Buffet	11	12
Eggs au Gratin Sausage				Baked Chicken In Wine Sauce		13
Sunday Brunch	14	15	16	17 Dinner Buffet	18	19
Eggs Benedict Muffins				Beef Stroganoff		20
Sunday Brunch	21	22	23	24 Dinner Buffet	25	26
Omelets or Eggs Cooked to Order Bacon				New England Boiled Dinner Corned Beef, etc.		27
Sunday Brunch	28	29	30			
Corned Beef Hash Scrambled Eggs Ham						
SUNDAY BRUNCHES SERVED from 12:30 to 3:00 P.M. for \$2.25. Served with fresh fruit, potatoes, donuts and toast.				DINNERS SERVED FROM 6 TO 9 P.M. for \$2.75. Served with veggies, bread, potatoes or rice, salad and dessert or fresh fruit.		