

Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSEVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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Republicans join Pima County Demo Committee ask Mecham to quit



TUCSON - Pictured above are Mecham Recall Committee Founder Ed Buck (1) with Pima County Democratic Chairman John Kronko at a recent meeting of the Democrats of

Greater Tucson. Kronko has called for a Pima County Convention of Democratic precinct committee representatives for this Saturday, Oct. 10. See story below.

And the beat goes on.....

The Governor took off for Taiwan this morning for a weeks stay there and in Japan, officially opening a trade office in Taipei. Wonderful.

Meanwhile at home, turmoil, toil and trouble for the governor.

The State Democratic Party is considering the endorsement of the recall movement. There is a meeting of Pima County precinct committeemen this Saturday, Oct. 10, John Kronko, Pima County Democratic Party Chairman said. State Democratic Chairman Sam Goddard has sent a letter personally asking for the resignation of Gov. Mecham. Two Tucson Republican legislators have called for the resignation.

All this as a result of the idiotic, homophobic letter the Governor sent out to ultra-right conservatives throughout the country as reported last week.

"I think the situation is hopeless," said Robert Stash the Pima County Republican Chairman. "I think the governor has made it difficult for all of us to remain loyal Republicans. The situation is bad and is getting worse," he said. When asked if the GOP would ask Mecham to resign, Stash said that there was a possibility.

There will be a new signa-

ture count this week. At presstime, OBSERVER learned that the Pima County total as of last Monday night, Oct. 5, the local recall office had counted 63,230 signatures on petitions gathered in Pima County.

As reported in our September 15 issue, the local office had collected 38,240. The new figure shows an increase of nearly 25,000 signatures in 20 days! The local office has raised their goal total from 66,500 signatures to 80,000.

There has been a lot of talk concerning the validity of signatures. Charges of fraud are coming from both sides of the recall movement. A press release from Ed Buck, Founder of the recall effort, said that fraud charges have been made regarding the signing of recall petitions, and that those charges have been made by Mr. Ron Bellus, an entitled functionary from the Governor's office.

Mr. Bellus told Tamara Jones, a reporter for the Los Angeles Times that he knew of forgeries. Mr. Bellus told Jones, that he knows of one worker in the recall camp (whom he refused to name) quit because she saw other workers forging signatures.

In addition, Bellus said several Mecham supporters have boasted that they personally signed

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

Jesse Jackson to address National March Rally

by Lou Chibbaro Jr.

WASHINGTON, DC (Blade) - The Rev. Jesse Jackson, Democratic presidential hopeful, will speak at the October 11 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, March leaders have announced.

March organizers say they believe Jackson's appearance as a speaker during the March will also raise Gay rights as an issue in the upcoming presidential primaries. "We consider this a major development," said Kay Ostberg, co-chair of the March.

Organizers of the October 11 event are predicting that at least 100,000 people will attend the March, which is scheduled to travel from the Washington Monument past the White House to the Capitol. Following the March, a rally at which Jackson and others are scheduled to speak will be held on the west grounds of the Capitol.

In endorsing the March, Jackson said, "On October 11th an historic gathering will occur in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of thousands of people will march through the streets of our nation's capital, demanding full rights for Lesbians and Gay men, and an end to discrimination against all those with AIDS and related conditions."

"I endorse the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The National March is an important opportunity to gather all people who support basic human rights," he said.

Jackson continued, "The March is an opportunity to call serious attention to the biggest health care crisis in our country - and perhaps the world. Our nation must admit the facts: that AIDS has already struck over 35,000 in the U.S., 25 percent of whom are black, and 14 percent Hispanic; that 3,000 babies have been born with AIDS, of whom 90 percent are black. The facts are that AIDS can strike at any one of us. While Gay men have borne the initial burden of AIDS - and have responded in exemplary ways - AIDS is not a Gay disease. It knows no boundaries of race, class, sex, age or sexual orientation."

"All those concerned with social justice and all those who understand the rights of all of us are bound up with the rights of any one of us must join us in Washington, D.C. on October 11th as we March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights," Jackson concluded.

March organizers also announced that actress Whoopi Goldberg will join Jackson as a speaker at the rally. Frank Piazza, Goldberg's West Coast publicist, said Goldberg is "completely supportive" of the March and its goals. He said Goldberg, who was nominated for an Academy Award for her role in the film "The Color Purple", plans to appear at several March-related events, including a ceremony to assemble

thousands of quilt panels bearing the names of persons who have died of AIDS.

March leaders said Jackson was the only presidential candidate to be invited as a speaker. The leaders stress, however, that Jackson was invited because of his role as a national civil rights leader, not because he is a candidate for the presidency.

"We never intended to invite presidential candidates," said Ostberg. "Our intention was to invite a civil rights leader, a labor leader, and a women's rights leader."

Ostberg said the March invited farm labor organizer Caesar Chavez to be the labor speaker and former National Organization for Women President Eleanor Smeal to be the women's rights speaker. Both accepted the invitations.

Gil Gerald, former executive director of the National Coalition of Black Lesbian and Gays and a member of the March steering committee, said Jackson, as much as anyone in the nation, is viewed as a prominent civil rights leader.

"We consider the March an important civil rights event," Gerald said. "The Rev. Jackson's involvement in the civil rights movement provides an important link between the movement of Martin Luther King Jr. and the movement for Gay and Lesbian rights," Gerald said.

March officials say Jackson's strong statements on AIDS in recent months provided additional grounds for inviting him.

Jackson devoted a full 30-minute speech to AIDS on May 13, when he addressed an audience at Northeastern University in Massachusetts.

In that speech, Jackson called for stepped-up efforts by the federal government in AIDS research and AIDS education programs. He then issued a stinging attack against conservative and religious leaders who have opposed on moral grounds AIDS education programs in the schools.

"In their racist and homophobic bigotry," Jackson said of the critics of the education programs, "They would end the lives of hundreds of thousands, Gay and straight, black and white." "In their determination to control the moral climate of this nation," Jackson added, "they threaten the lives of us all."

March leaders say long-time national Gay rights leader Virginia Apuzzo will also be among the other speakers at the March rally. The rally will also include entertainment by Lesbian and Gay performers, including comedy acts, vocalists, choral groups, and bands, Ostberg said.

Jackson is expected to appear at several March-related events, including a ceremony to assemble

UPDATE

DELEGATE NEEDED

BY GREAT OUTDOORS/TUCSON

TUCSON - The annual Great Outdoors conference is being held next week, Oct. 16-18 and because of unforeseen circumstances, one of Tucson's chapter's delegates had to cancel. POW WOW '87 is being held at the de Benneville Pines Conference Center in the San Bernardino Mountains, near Barton Flats, 6800 feet high, among towering pines.

Cabins have full bathroom facilities, heat and bunk beds. A jacuzzi (swimsuit optional) is available for relaxation. All meals are included. Biking, games, workshops, massage training, country dancing and more are planned. Delegates will represent Tucson at the Saturday morning business meeting.

The Tucson group will be leaving Thursday night for Yuma, Oct. 15, visiting P.J. Cameo Lounge, arriving at the Conference Center mid-afternoon Friday. Cost is \$95.00, car expenses split. If you want to be an involved G.O. member, consider going to POW WOW '87 as a delegate. Call Wayne, 325-7607.

AN EVENING OF WOMEN'S COMEDY

TUCSON - On Oct. 17 and 8:00 p.m., the Third Friday Coffeehouse and Desert Night Productions will present "An Evening of Women's Comedy" at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street. This event will feature Slique Callahan, an artist from Phoenix who has performed her outrageous comedy for many women's audiences. Opening the show for her will be The Coffeehouse Players, a local comedy group.

Tickets are \$3.00 at the door. Child care is available through reservation only. For more information or to reserve child care, call 887-1540.

DESERT LEATHERMEN ANNIVERSARY

TUCSON - The Desert Leathermen will hold their First Anniversary celebration on Thursday, Oct. 125 at IGT's, their home bar. The evening begins at 7:30 p.m. with presentation of colors to the newly elected officers.

The group will use this opportunity to salute their outgoing president Al. J. who is leaving Tucson to take a position in California.

Congratulations Desert Leathermen.

POST OFFICE INTERFERES WITH AIDS INFO

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - The Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club has had hundreds of pieces of mail returned as "unmailable" by the U.S. Postal Service, with the postage cancelled and the material marked up beyond re-usability because of an obscure technicality which the Post Office itself does not follow - except when the mail in question is material about AIDS.

Citing regulations which require international mail sent to Spanish-speaking countries to bear the words "Par Avion" instead of "Air Mail," the San Francisco Postmaster's office rejected the mailed brochures; however a survey of 11 post offices in San Francisco revealed that none of them had a "par Avion" stamp and postal workers routinely substituted the words "Air Mail" instead.

"Outfront" magazine quoted David Lewis, director of the Harvey Milk AIDS Education Fund, saying "This is just the latest example of a long history of tampering with our mail and abusing Postal Service Policies.

3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF LESBIANS/GAYS IN PUBLIC OFFICE

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER

MINNEAPOLIS, MN - Gay men and Lesbians who hold or aspire to public office will gather in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, the weekend of Nov. 20-22 for the third annual conference. The Twin Cities Conference will draw Americans, Canadians and Britons for a non-partisan gathering focusing on the mutual concerns and experiences of Lesbian/Gay elected and appointed officials, candidates, potential candidates, campaign workers, and their life partners.

The Twin Cities Conference follows predecessors in West Hollywood (1985) and Washington, DC (1986). Like those earlier gatherings, it will allow Gay men and Lesbians from the arena of public office the opportunity to meet and share their experiences, particularly regarding the expectations and realities of Gay/Lesbian public officials. In addition, conference attendees and leaders of national Gay political organizations will discuss and strategize around topics of concern to our communities, such as AIDS, civil rights, the 1988 U.S. presidential race, sodomy repeal, violence, and family law.

Keynote speakers for the conference include Chris Smith, a Labor member of the British Parliament; Ginny Apuzzo, New York State's deputy commissioner of consumer affairs; and Harry Britt, of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

The Twin Cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul have been particularly successful since the mid-1970s in electing and re-electing open Gays and Lesbians to public office. In addition, a number have been appointed to various boards and commissions. Local hosts for this conference include Gay/Lesbian Minnesota Rep. Karen Clark; Minneapolis Council Member Brian Coyle; Minneapolis Civil Rights Director Emma Hixson, and Minnesota Senator Allan Spear.

For further information on the conference, call Ron Mittan (612) 348-2206 or Eric Stults (612) 296-4191, or write Twin Cities Conference, Room G-27, Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155.

VIRGINIA USED TO BE FOR LOVERS

RICHMOND, VA - The Virginia State Board of Health has proposed that HIV-positive individuals be reported to state health officials and that their sexual partners should be traced and notified. The Washington Blade reports that Virginia Health Board Chair, Dr. A. Carole Pratt says "AIDS should be treated as any other communicable disease - the contacts of those who are infected should be notified that they could be at risk." Pratt added that "every effort would be made" to keep confidential the records of those testing positive.

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Defeat Bork Supreme Court Nomination

Citing Judge Bork's extreme right-wing record and past intransigence to civil rights/civil liberties issues, a broad cross-section of civil rights and women's groups have pledged to oppose him. They argue his confirmation could tip the Court balance and lead to erosion of past civil rights gains.

Advocates of lesbian/gay rights point to his record of opposition to gay protection. One of his best known opinions states, "Private, consensual homosexual conduct is

not constitutionally protected." He described arguments of pro-fairness advocates as "completely frivolous."

Activists point to high stakes. The Court will not only address privacy and gay employment cases, but critical cases relating to the AIDS crisis. Gay lobbying groups have joined the coalition opposing Bork's confirmation. But they need our help! One civil rights leader said,

"There's no question the mobilization of the grassroots is one of our most critical tasks."

THE NATIONAL MAILGRAM CAMPAIGN
Sponsored by The Fairness Fund, in cooperation with the Human Rights Campaign Fund and many other national gay and lesbian organizations. For further information on grass-roots action, write The Fairness Fund, P.O. Box 1072, Washington, D.C. 20011-1072, 202-467-0220.



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San Francisco jury awards \$2.8 million in same-sex palimony suit

by George Henderhall

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (Sentinel) - Jim Short made national legal history last week when a San Francisco jury awarded him a total of \$2.8 million in the nation's first successful same-sex lawsuit.

The jury's verdict was unanimous in awarding the 57-year-old clerk at First Interstate Bank \$1.785 million in compensatory damages and \$500,000 in punitive damages for breach of an oral contract.

"Money cannot buy happiness, but I am entitled to what is rightfully mine," said Short, reacting to his victory during an interview with the Sentinel. Short sued his partner of 19 years, real estate developer Charles Gale, after he refused to share their joint investments following a breakup in 1983.

Short's attorney, Arthur McGlendon, Jr., argued that the couple had verbally agreed to "share their lives together and everything they acquired." McGlendon further contended that the intent of the partners appeared clear in the fact that wills existed in which both men left their estates to the surviving partner.

So why was nothing put in writing? "We were proud in 1964 that we could have won our union unbound by a piece of paper," said Short. "We felt this put us above the straight marriages. With us, no signed agreement was necessary. Of course, a 'Gay marriage' or union in 1964 would have been unthinkable. We were very closeted and went to great pains to conceal our relationship outside of a few close friends," remembered Short.

Following his recent experience with Gale, Short now advises other Lesbian/Gay couples to "think about making arrangements while you're living and not just a will in case of the death of your

partner. "Short realizes that it may be difficult for partners to sign written agreements because one partner may see it as an implication that someday there may be a breakup. "It's just being realistic. Making such a written agreement in case of separation would have raised eyebrows in the '60s, but not today, contends Short.

The trial was difficult for Short, who frequently wept openly during the proceedings. "It was hard to see our friends divide up and testify against one another," said an emotional Short. "This trial also brought us out of the closet. I'm just glad there was little publicity during the proceedings, and the case was not tried daily in the newspapers."

Short looks forward to the future with mixed emotions. "My experience with Gale was rewarding for so many years. It's been difficult. Now we are two middle-aged men who may grow old alone. We broke an empire in half and ended a relationship of almost 20 years. While I'm glad the ordeal of the trial is over, there is not much to celebrate. I can enjoy life without all of that money."

Short has not soured on loving couples establishing relationships. "I urge others to enter into relationships and to work to sustain them with or without agreements. I encourage people to get together and stay together. I certainly hope that my case would not encourage others to end their relationships just to go to court."

Since breaking up with Gale four years ago, Short says he has begun to develop some new friendships, but finds "ageism" in singles bars awkward. "It's been difficult," said Short. "Remember, I slept with the same man for 19 years.

At the time Short and Gale parted, they had a home in Pacific

Heights and a weekend retreat in San Rafael. Their total real estate assets were estimated at \$3.5 million dollars. However, there were no written agreements between the couple and when Gale, who had almost all the property in his name, refused to divide the assets, Short took the matter to court.

During the course of the trial, the jurors heard that Short had contributed to the household expenses while first running a beauty parlor and later working for a lumber company. While Gale owned property when the couple met, Short says, "We accumulated a great deal together, and we were strapped to make payments. My income was often all we had as a steady income."

"When we started, gasoline was 27 cents a gallon and bacon was 59 cents a pound. You cannot buy groceries at Safeway with equity. We never had money because we were always investing."

Short praises Gale for being "very clever" in manipulating notes, loans and transfers of Bay Area properties, but adds, "It was also 19 years of sacrifice by me; it (accumulating property) became my total effort. I never even got a personal Christmas present as everything was for the house. For so long, we were broke - and then suddenly - in 5 or 6 years in the 1970s, inflation began and our properties became very valuable. Our Pacific Heights townhouse that we bought of \$68,000 is now worth \$1 million.

The couple had little money for travel for most of their years together. They bought a boat, Short says, "and our 'trips' consisted of going up the Delta and tying the boat to a tree for a few days. So much of our time was spent accumulating assets. I had my doubts when times were rough. But it turned out to be the wise thing to do."

While the couple did little traveling, they enjoyed inviting friends in for dinner and cocktail parties - musicians played in the background in more recent years. When personal problems between the partners surfaced in 1983, the two consulted a counselor. The attempt failed, and the relationship ended in bitterness. Short claims Gale told him, "I want to see you on the street with just a shopping bag." No financial settlement could be reached, and Short went to court.

Gale would not comment on the trial, but his attorney, Valerie Karpman, said her client was "mortified" by the decision. She told the Sentinel, "This is not, a palimony case at all. It is not even a Gay or straight matter. The issue is that there has to be a contract between business partners and there was none. There were no joint bank accounts, and Mr. Gale's business was his own. This was not a joint venture contract."

She denied that Gale had been unemployed for six years, as Short claims, and says Short was wrong to assume that because they were lovers he also was entitled to half of Gale's business. Karpman insists, "He only contributed to household expenses. It was Gale who owned the property, bought the medical insurances, the boats, properties, everything."

Short would like to avoid another trial, although Karpman is expected to appeal. He explains, "My ex-lover did not say 'Oops!' and write a check. He will not give up. I would still like an out-of-court settlement."

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Demos asking for Mecham to quit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

bogus names to several recall petitions, which would be questioned and thrown out during the validation process. Bellus told Keith Bagwell of the Arizona Daily Star that people who support Governor Mecham also have signed phony signatures on petitions in an attempt to sabotage the recall drive. Bellus also said, "A guy who supports the governor told the Mecham camp he had signed 10 bogus names."

It might be pointed out that signing a bogus name to a recall petition is a Class 1 misdemeanor, punishable by up to 6 months in jail, a \$1,000 fine. Forgery is a Class 4 felony. The Mecham Recall Committee, through a press release issued by Ed Buck has demanded that Mr. Bellus step forward with the information that will lead to the arrest and prosecution of anyone who has violated ARS 19-206 (B). "Failure to do so would lead one to believe that Mr. Bellus is either fabricating a story or guilty of obstruction of justice and criminal complicity," the release said.

THE RECALL: THE FINAL CHAPTER

The governor is finally taking the Recall seriously. Hiring a \$62,000 Media consultant, raising \$108,000 to send out a tabloid, spending \$10,000 on TV commercials for Republican hired guns to tell you why Evan should stay and the final assault the 25,000 letters asking for \$1.2 million to keep from being crushed by the "militant liberals and the homosexual lobby".

In spite of all of this, the Recall is reaching a point of being a smashing success and Mr. Mecham is being confronted with the option of resignation. As the Recall moves into the last 30 days, more help is needed than ever before. The group has set a goal of 350,000 signatures on petitions before the Nov. 3 deadline. If you have not signed, or if you know of anyone who has not signed the petition and wants to do so, come by the Tucson office 2625 E. Speedway or call 881-7707.

If you have a petition that has been signed (even with only one signature), and you are not going to gather any more signatures, make sure that that petition gets to the Tucson Recall Office as soon as possible. Every signature is important!

The Recall Committee is, of course, in need of monetary donations. They need small donations (\$20-\$25), to counteract the flood of Mecham money, and to see the petitioning, review and submission process through to Nov. 3. Volunteers are also needed to do part-time office work as well as petition signatures.

In Tucson, Friday, Oct. 16 there will be a fund raising event. Called the "Adios Mecham Fiesta", the Recall benefit will be held at 2223 E. Edison. Tickets for the event which runs from 5:30 to 7:30 will feature several local politicians and Mecham Recall Committee President Garry Smith as well as several other people from the "Phoenix" office. Recall Founder Ed Buck will be there, appointments permitting. There will be entertainment. Tickets are \$20 each and are available at the Tucson Recall office.

Kronko has called for an Oct. 10 convention of Democratic precinct committeemen to vote on endorsing the recall movement. The Democratic leaders have vowed not to become directly involved in the recall effort. But "That situation has changed dramatically. The letter was the last straw," Kronko, a state representative said. "I just decided it's not right for us to stay out of this anymore."

Kronko said he received permission from the State Democratic party to proceed with the convention. At least eight Republicans came into Pima County Democratic headquarters one day last week to switch party affiliation, Kronko added.

Until now, the Democratic Party wanted to stay neutral because supporting it might damage the drive by making it appear to be a partisan issue. Democrats also felt that as long as Mecham were in office, his actions would benefit the Democrats in the long run.

"But we can't hurt the recall. There is going to be a recall election," Kronko said.

Ed Buck said, "Here we have a case of politicians responding to cold, hard reality." "Mecham has lost not only the confidence of the state but of those Republicans he works with," he said.

"The Republican Party will be dragged down with Evan Mecham." Buck said Mecham should resign to save the state money and further embarrassment.

The Pima County Convention of Democratic precinct committee representatives will be held at the Plumbers and Steam Fitters Hall 2475 E. Water Street at 10:00 a.m. this Saturday, Oct. 10.

Senate Judiciary votes Bork down

WASHINGTON, DC - The Senate Judiciary Committee has voted no on the nomination of Judge Robert Bork to be appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. In a 9 to 5 vote held Tuesday, Oct. 6, the Committee turned thumbs down on Bork's nomination. The nomination now goes to the Senate floor where the full Senate will vote on the nomination.

Arizona Democratic Senator Dennis DeConcini voted against the nomination. Our other Arizona Senator, Republican John McCain voted for the nomination. An avalanche of mail and telegrams have been deluging senators' offices regarding this nomination both pro and con.

As of presstime, President Reagan vows he will continue the fight to get Bork nominated and Bork, himself, shows no proclivity to bow out of the nomination. The full Senate countdown shows that Bork Opponents number 36; Bork supporters number 32 and there are 32 uncommitted Senators. Usually the Senate follows the Judicial Committee rulings, but with such pressure pro and con on the uncommitted Senators, the nomination could still go either way, although many politicians give Bork little chance of getting the nomination. The pressure must be kept on until Bork's nomination is defeated by the full Senate.

In a late press release the Human Rights Campaign Fund urges the rejection of the nomination of Judge Bork. "Bork's record is that of an anti-civil libertarian, who would deny Constitutional protections to the Gay community," said Vic Basile, Campaign Fund Executive Director.

"Judge Bork's record suggests he would move the law of the land sharply to the right on issues like homosexual rights..." said the New York Times the day after his nomination.

Judge Bork's record hold no ambiguity:

—In *Dronenburg v. Zech*, a 1984 decision upholding the U.S. Navy's right to discharge an en-

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWELVE

An evening
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A Sexual Community Learns New Games

At the recent Lesbian and Gay health conference in Los Angeles, many longtime AIDS activists were surprised by the extent to which safe sex education has become the province of the high level professional. The fact that safe sex organizing began and is highly successful as a grass-roots community effort seemed to be forgotten. It was as if the professionals had invented safe sex. Although professional health and sex educators have made important contributions to AIDS education, their work came long after a community under siege had mobilized to protect itself.

The over-professionalization of safe sex organizing - and the lack of historical insight by professionals - has a direct effect on the style of education for Gay men, and recently heterosexuals. Many Lesbians and Gay men just laughed at the silly pronouncements of Reagan's officials, but there is a hidden price to this smugness. Innovative programs such as one that trained bartenders as educators, and rap actions where leather-clad men raided bars and passed out condoms, have fallen by the wayside. Most educators are no longer willing to take social risks in order to promote sexual safety.

We must not lose sight of the history of our organizing, or allow our successes to be counted by professionals who came late to the health crisis. If we embrace a revised history in which professionals imagine that they conjured safe sex out of formulas and studies, we will become dependent for information from the medical establishments that is so callous toward Lesbian and Gay health concerns.

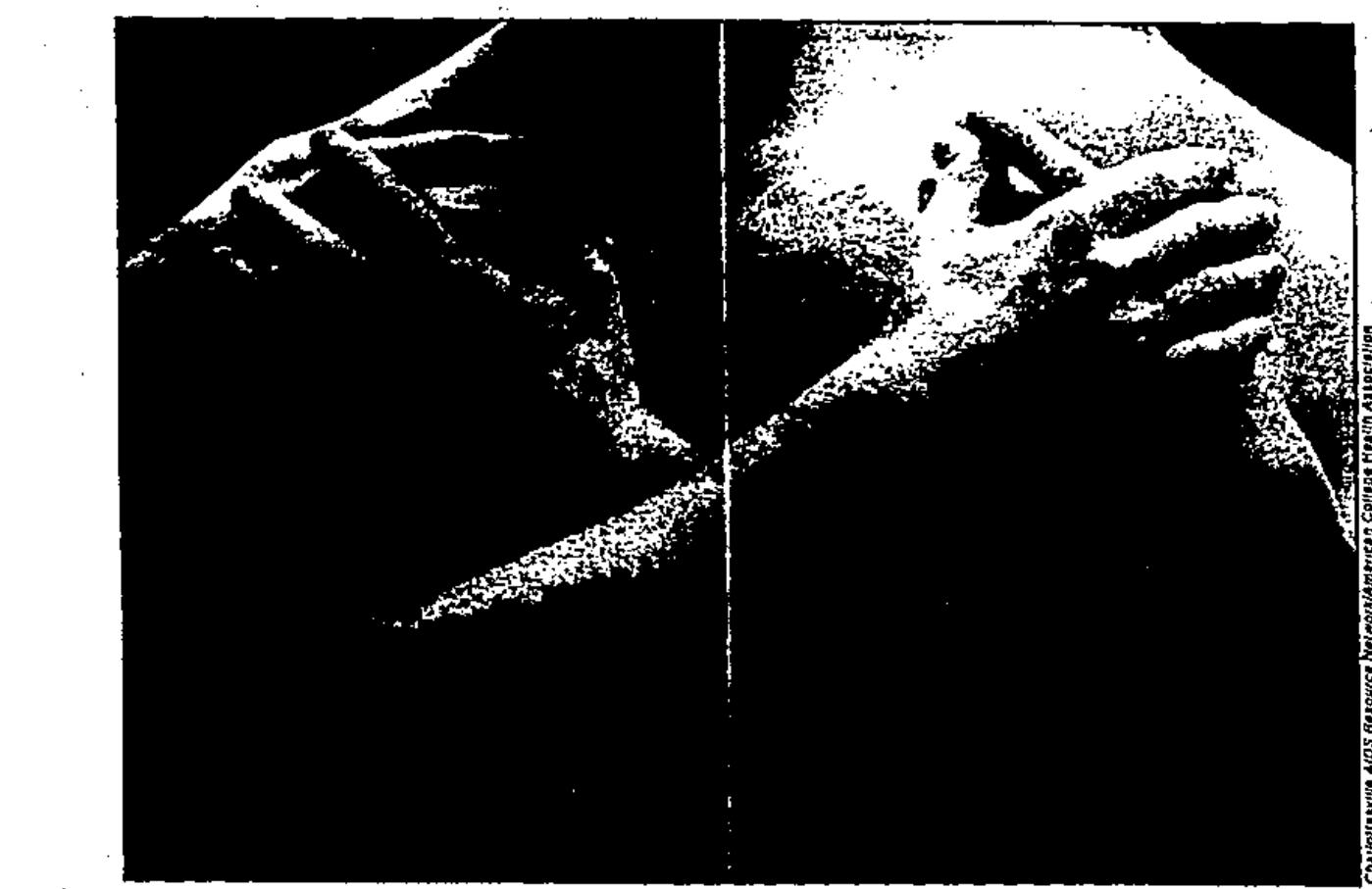
We should count as our victory, the largely successful efforts to make safe sex a norm in our community. Although there are more sexual practice changes needed, we should be proud of what we have done for ourselves, and continue to work for both sexual freedom and sexual health.

"HOW TO HAVE SEX IN AN EPIDEMIC"

Safe sex organizing began almost as soon as AIDS was recognized. Organizing within the Gay community started as a reaction to the sensational, blaming and anti-sex pronouncements of doctors ignorant about Gay male sexuality. Their advice assumed that all Gay men did the same thing, or that any individual Gay man did only one of a set of practices - for example that a man was exclusively the object of anal sex, or only oral sex.

Badly designed studies and homophobia combined to create a flurry of nonsensical, insulting advice. At the 1985 International AIDS Conference in Atlanta, for example, a CDC official proposed that all Gay men take the then-new HIV-III antibody test. His suggestion that Gay men have sex only with men of the same antibody status characterized Gay male culture as a giant dating service. Gay men quickly came up with their own advice, and coined the term "safe sex". Sorting through the same data, and adding knowledge about other STDs among Gay men, activists created safe sex guidelines even before a virus was identified.

By May, 1983, so much material about safe sex had been distributed through clinics and in the Gay press that a group of men - including men with AIDS - produced a 40-page pamphlet called "How to Have Sex in an Epidemic." This still stands as one of the single best, most comprehensive explanations of transmission models, safe sex and psycho/social guidelines for effecting risk reduction.



CHARLES WILSON AIDS RESOURCE NETWORK/AMERICAN COLLEGE HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Considerable controversy surrounded the publication of this booklet, foreshadowing the political struggles which have engaged sex educators and community activists throughout the crisis. Two principle criticisms emerged: some thought the only sound advice was to advocate celibacy, while others thought it irresponsible to offer specific advice until there was a certainty about the transmission and cause of the disease.

The celibacy argument is still being promoted by rightists, and will continue to affect public policy and federally funded education. In addition to right-wing homophobes, many Gay AIDS activists are willing to advocate celibacy for at least some people, notably Gay youth.

The second objection - when is it responsible to give advice? - has been played out in strange ways. The inability to decide in detail what is safe and unsafe has prevented numerous organizations from recommending what is safe in broad terms. At one point, Gay Men's Health Crisis, the New York AIDS group, could not agree on what was safe and, for nearly a year after its first round of safe sex publications, could not approve any new material.

SAFE, SAFER, SAFEST?

Counselors and safe sex educators, especially doctors, are often unwilling to say that anything is safe. They say they are afraid to take responsibility for telling someone that 'X' is safe and then discovering the person got AIDS. This mixed message leaves people confused about what is unsafe, and gives an underlying impression that nothing is truly safe, and therefore everything is equally unsafe. This is a troublesome misperception: studies of changes among Gay men showed that changes early in the epidemic were based on a perceived need to change and subsequent reduction in the least favorite activities, rather than changes based on a real hierarchy of risk. Ironically, a different attitude is now taken in educating youth: a project in New York City advocates telling youth that unprotected anal and vaginal sex are absolutely unsafe, and if youth feel they can give up only one thing, that is the thing to give up.

The early guidelines by grassroots organizers were sensible, logical and based on good epidemiological model generated by Gay men with an understanding of the range of sexual behaviors in their community. It remains solid advice. But many people, including leaders in AIDS organizations, were uncomfortable with this advice until doctors lent their stamp of approval.

Condoms in particular were a source of equivocation. The Federal Government is largely culpable here: they refused to fund or direct research on the efficacy of condoms. Even after the virus was identified, they said technology did not exist to test condoms. Finally, last summer, some California researchers constructed an ingenious device consisting of plungers to which condoms could be attached. Their study showed that even under extremes to which they subjected condoms, no virus leaked through the latex.

Now suddenly, condoms have become a panacea for sexually active heterosexuals.

"WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO, YOU CAN PROBABLY DO IT SAFELY"

It has been hard for many people to hear the safe sex message. Despite the best intentions of AIDS activists, guidelines are often perceived as limiting or judgemental. Many men feel that modifying or eliminating a central sexual practice means they are "no longer Gay". Sex is perceived as the cement in the Gay male community: Gay men fear that if sexual ties are reduced or de-emphasized, the community will lose its unique identity and disintegrate.

The safe sex message is quite simple. It was stated elegantly by one safe sex educator, a Gay man with AIDS: "Whatever you want to do, you can probably do it safely." That means continuing activities that do not involve exchange of semen, blood, feces and possibly urine and saliva if there is reason to believe that quantities of blood may be in them. When you engage in activities where these fluids will be present, use a condom, surgical gloves or dental dams. It is that simple.

More difficult is how to actually incorporate those simple changes into highly structured community practices and complexly integrated personal identities. You have to change group values, self-esteem and individual behaviors to conform to new norms required by this health crisis.

Some techniques used by educators working with youth are particularly innovative and address three areas of changes. The condom race makes the physical act of safe sex more familiar. Two teams form, each with a dildo. A team member puts a condom on the dildo then hands it to the next player who must take off the first condom before putting on a second. A ranking exercise teaches the logic of decision making. Each participant is given a card with a sexual practice. Players must discuss the sexual practices on their cards, then rank themselves in order of risk. Finally, role playing allows social questions to come to the fore. Couples or small groups are given seduction scenarios and practice bringing up safe sex issues.

Changing group attitudes is much more difficult. A variety of studies have looked at what makes Gay men successful in executing safe sex changes. Early studies rated high: positive Gay identity, a belief that one can make change (self-efficacy), and seeing or remembering the image of someone who has AIDS. More recent studies tried to correlate knowledge of HIV-antibody status with ability to maintain behavior changes. These studies show that ongoing contact with supportive people who can answer AIDS questions is more effective than knowing if you are HIV-positive or HIV-negative.

No single event or piece of information has the magical power to make people practice safe sex. But community mores and reinforcement by people who understand the complexities of Gay male sex identity and practice can make a very big difference. Safe sex is a group activity of transforming our sexual culture, not an individual ritual of trotting off for secret tests or sexual reprogramming.

Claiming the History of Safe Sex Organizing

WOMEN BUY CONDOMS, TOO

Like Gay men, women also have self-esteem problems - "Who cares if I get AIDS?" - which inhibit their ability to make safe sex changes. But unlike Gay men, straight women don't participate in a sexual economy where they have equal power in the creation of mores. While Gay men complain of boredom or loss of Gay identity if they practice safe sex, women must fear their male partners' violent responses to their safe sex suggestions.

Women report being beaten or threatened if they insist on using condoms. Not only are most women at a physical and economic disadvantage relative to their male sex partners (and we're often talking husbands here), they are in the position of having to ask men to put on a condom.

Heterosexuals exist in a much less articulated sexual culture than Gay men. Women find it difficult to direct their partners away from intercourse - Gay men can choose a much wider range of activities which have always been safe.

Class and geographic region add yet another meaning to condom use. Among heterosexuals, the condom is already laden with great symbolic meaning - far beyond the petty complaints about cutting down on sensation, or being a hassle. Both men and women have come to associate condoms with "dirtiness". Condoms in the post-Pill era are thought to be used primarily in prostitution, or by people too young to acquire other forms of birth control.

In this era when most birth control is designed to exist inside a woman's body, most people in the highest risk age groups have never had to deal with male-centered contraception control or STD. This is strongly reflected in the new condom marketing campaigns which are aimed at women. By several counts, women now comprise half of the condom buying market. If we consider that Gay men comprise a large percentage of the male condom buyers, we can only conclude that straight men represent the greatest educational stumbling block in heterosexual safe sex.

IV DRUG USERS CAN CHANGE THEIR HABITS

Drug use education has also had its problems. Doctors are reluctant to view IV drug users as a community with social patterns that dictate drug use practices. They view IV drug use as individualistic, and drug users as uneducable. They fail to recognize the wide range of drug use risks, and design appropriate material. This work has been left largely to community-based, grassroots drug educators. I have found drug use education to be much less authority-ridden than sex education. Peer educators are the norm. Gay safe sex education has become increasingly professionalized in the same period that drug education has been made more street wise.

Studies of New Jersey drug users show a high level of education about AIDS and about IV transmission. Respondents knew techniques for safer IV use and many are decreasing their sharing of needles, and other mixing apparatus. However, they are impeded by the lack of free new needles, and the fear of being arrested while carrying works - which is a sure way of knowing the status of your needles. Most wait until they have gotten their drugs and then attempt to find a clean needle, a process similar to cooking your favorite food, then having to wash your dishes before you can eat.

The differences between heroin use and cocaine use also strongly affect IV drug risk. Hard core heroin addicts more often have their own works, plan to get drugs in a more rational manner, and shoot up less often than cocaine users. Those with hardcore cocaine habits may shoot up a dozen or more times in a day. Recreational IV cocaine users frequently do not recognize their risk. This is particularly true among "yuppies" who think "drug user" means your local street corner junkie.

As we continue the safe sex transformation in our community, and lend advice to our heterosexual friends, we must remain true to the roots of Gay liberation. Our assertion that Gay sex (or any sex) was good, did not mean unlimited, unthoughtful sex. We sought healthy sex, and we stressed psychological health in the early days of our movement. The quests for healthy expression of our love and lust take a new form today, but we cannot allow safe sex to become rigid or moralistic.

SAFE SEX IS PART OF GAY LIBERATION

Safe sex describes specific practices that prevent exchange of body fluids. Safe sex is not a moral category to sweep up sexual practices with which we feel uncomfortable for other reasons. S/M sex can be safe. Anonymous sex can be safe. Bi-sexual sex can be safe. Monogamy is not in itself safe, and, though a valid option for any number of reasons, it carries its own dangers - spouse abuse and all the traditional hazards of marriage. Celibacy (let's get rid of the term abstinence) is safe and has always been a choice of Gay men and Lesbians, even though we did not like to admit we weren't "getting any".



Condom talk in *Inevitable Love*, a safe sex video produced by Intelligence in Video, P.O. Box 1107, NYC, NY 10023.

Safe sex is a large agenda item for our community today. But it must be pursued in a context that gives us control over how the safe sex message is articulated and how safe sex norms are enforced. It is hard to persuade those who do not yet engage in safe sex to do so if the state continues to have the power to arrest us for sodomy. It is hard to promote self-esteem when our governor is so homophobic. It is hard to talk about our experience of AIDS and influence others to reconsider their sexual risks when we can lose our jobs and homes for being

Gay.

Safe sex is part and parcel of the long march of Gay liberation. What began as anarchic, angry resistance in June 1969, must continue as an innovative and strong-willed social movement in the '80s. Safe sex is a tangible example of what we have advocated all along - control over our lives, respect for ourselves, respect from the straight world, community compassion and unity.

Reprinted from Gay Community News

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SPECIAL CALENDAR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9
COLETTE'S WEST - A really big FIRST ANNIVERSARY SHOW is shaping up here. Already scheduled to appear are Grace Jones from Los Angeles; the popular 'Village People' you'll remember from their last variety show; and Darling Deb and the Dyketones! Plus plenty more in the works. Keep your eyes on this calendar, and make plans to attend. \$3.00 Cover.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
IBT'S - 'Fourth Avenue Falsies Show' starring Mr. Dani Reid, Miss Candy Plastique and Miss Tabitha Scott. 9:00 p.m.

RITA'S - Shed a tear, RITA is getting married today to Ms. Sharon on the patio with reception following. Pre-Wedding Bloody Mary Special, .75 cents from noon to 2 p.m. Services are at 2 p.m. with reception and DJ dancing from 3 to 8 p.m. with complimentary finger foods and happy hour drink prices. Guest Bartender: Jason. Everyone welcome to watch RITA tie the knot!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
IBT'S - 'Trashy Tuesday Show' with Dani Reid and Tabitha Scott plus special surprises. 4:00 p.m.!!!! Plan your act now for IBT's upcoming 'Trashy Tuesday Talent Show'!!!!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
COLETTE'S WEST - Contemporary rock music as played by the live band 'Twister' making their initial appearance here. \$2.00 Cover.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
COLETTE'S WEST - The artistry of musical duo Hawkins and Delear. A great act. \$2.00 Cover.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17
GRADUATE - The Fifth Annual Turnabout Show takes place here - funnier than ever. Hosted by Roxanne and Miss Kennie Anne with guest bartenders Aviva Diamond and Candy Plastique. Make plans now.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18
IBT'S - Sisters Of Sonora (SOS) big Hoedown benefit. 2 to 9 p.m. C/W music supplied by Joey from Charlie's in Phoenix. Also performing from Phoenix are Parrah's Rachina Kloggers, the Arizona sidewinders and the Sunburst Squares. From Tucson, the entertainers include Bobbi Jo, Tabitha Scott, Marque Bobier, Candy Plastique, Aviva Diamond and the T-Squares. Big Mike hosts. Dancing, music, entertainment, food. Be there!

RUMOR HAZZIT - A big revue coming up from Phoenix featuring Lady Cassandra, Tish Tanner and Roxanne. 8:30 p.m. - No Cover.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19
COLETTE'S WEST - Acoustic rock from the guitar of Randy Wilder - a very talented musician. No Cover. 8:30 to 12:30

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20
HALLOWEEN BALL sponsored by the Independent Tavern Owners Association (ITA). Adams-Hilton Hotel in Phoenix. 7:00 p.m. Tickets \$1.50 in advance, \$10.00 at the door. Tickets available at all ITA bars. 50% of net proceeds go to Shanti Foundation. \$1,000 in prizes for costumes. Watch for their ad.

IBT'S - Second Anniversary Celebration with complimentary buffet and big birthday cake. Hourly drink specials all weekend. CELEBRATE!!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
COLETTE'S WEST - Another big Variety Show plans underway here. Watch for more details.

GRADUATE - Miss Halloween 1987 Contest. Watch for times. Cash Prizes.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 (HALLOWEEN NIGHT)
GRADUATE - A Show and Costume Contest planned here. Cash Prizes. Time and details later.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
GRADUATE - 'Mask Party' with cash prizes for best mask. Details later.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
RUMOR HAZZIT - The fabulous Bobbi Callicoate will be making one of his rare Arizona appearances. Lady Cassandra is also on the bill. Make plans now. A great show is guaranteed.

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THE TUCSON CALENDAR

wednesday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Wednesday Madness" - From 2-8 pm Drink Specials: Check the chalkboard. Draft Beer Bust 9 pm to 1 am .50 per glass! Bobby Jr. DJ's 9 pm to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special; Schnappa shots .75 from 8 pm to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Domestic Beer \$1.00 with other specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 Well Drinks \$1. (With juice \$.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am Draft Beer .50 and Schnappa .50 shot. Dance 8 - 1 am.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Happy Hour 11 am to 6 pm - All Well drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1.00.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - "White Wednesday" 8 pm to midnight .99 White Well (with juice .25 extra). \$1.25 Well Drinks or Long Neck Domestic Beer & Munchies 1-7 pm. Video Disco Dancing 9 - 1.

thursday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - B-B-Q Chicken plus served 4 pm to dusk - \$2.50. Bottle Beer Nite \$1.25 domestic 9 pm to 1 am. Dave Pierson, DJ, 9 to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special. Bottle Beer Special - .85 - from 8 pm to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour Prices until closing!

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 Well Drinks \$1 (with juice \$.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am Long Neck Beer (non-premium) .75 Dance 8 to 1.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Happy Hour 11 am to 6 pm - all Well Drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1.00.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - Kegger 8 pm to 12 am .25 per glass. \$1.25 Well Drinks or Long Neck Domestic Beer & Munchies 1-7 pm. Video/Disco dancing with David Ross 9-1.

friday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Shots of Schnappa \$1.00 each from open to closing. Bobby Jr. DJ's 9 pm to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special. Party Nite. Hourly Drink Specials 8 p.m. to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon - 5:30 pm Well Drinks \$1 with juice \$.25; Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am All Well \$1.50 (with juice \$1.75). Dance 8 to 1.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Happy Hour 11 am to 6 pm - all Well Drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1.00.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - \$1.25 Well drinks and Long Neck Domestic Beer plus Munchies 1-7 p.m. Video/Disco dancing 9-1 with David Ross.

saturday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Picnic Party": Marvin and Becky entertain at the piano in the B/P during the afternoon. Hot Dogs and Hamburgers from the outdoor grill plus draft beer, 3 pm to dusk. Special drink prices. Bobby Jr. DJ's in J/T 9 pm to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Party Nite Hourly Drink Specials 8 to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Drink Specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 6 pm Bloody Marys \$1.00 6 pm to 1 am All Well \$1.50. Dance 8 to 1.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Happy Hour 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. all Well Drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1. Hot Dogs and Fixin's .50 from 3 to 7 p.m.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - Corona Nite 8 pm - 12. Open Noon til 1 am. Video/Disco dancing with David Ross 9pm - close.

sunday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Draft Beer Bust Noon to 7 pm .50 per glass. Steak Dinner 4 pm to 7, \$4.00. Dave Pierson DJ's from 9 pm until 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - "Wine Down Nite" .75 Wine 8 pm to Midnight. Movie Nite at 7 pm.

GRADUATE - Bottle Beer (non-premium) \$1 with other drink specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Bloody Marys \$1.00 Noon to 5:30 5:30 to 1 am "Moose Madness" every hour (?) Dance 8pm-1am

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Noon to 1 a.m. Happy Hour Noon to 6 p.m. All Well Drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1.00.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - Open Noon to 1 am. Brunch served 12:30, to 3:30 pm \$3.00 per plate. Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys \$1.25 during brunch hours. Video/Disco Dancing 9-1

monday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Bowlers Special Night" 1/2 price on well and domestic beer for J/T Bowling Leaguers. Dave Pierson DJ's 9 pm to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special. .50 hot dogs and .25 draft. All White Well .89 from 8 pm to Midnight. Monday Night Baseball on our big screen.

GRADUATE - All White Well Drinks \$1.50 until 1 am plus other drink specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Bloody Marys \$1.00 Noon to 5:30 5:30 to 1 am "Moose Madness" every hour (?) Dance 8pm-1am

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Noon to 1 a.m. Happy Hour Noon to 6 p.m. All Well Drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1.00.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - Open Noon to 1 am. Brunch served 12:30, to 3:30 pm \$3.00 per plate. Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys \$1.25 during brunch hours. Video/Disco Dancing 9-1

tuesday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Spuds McKenzie Nite" Bud Long Necks \$1 plus \$1.50 Well Drinks from 9 pm to 1 am Bobby Jr. DJ's in J/T beginning at 9 pm.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special.

"Sudscrizer" .40 draft beer from 8:00 until midnight. Alternative listening and dancing music from 60s - 70s and early 80s from 7 to 11.

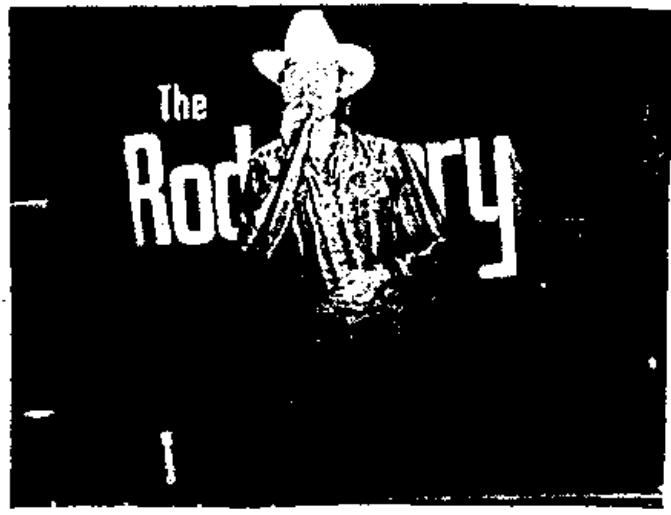
GRADUATE - Dark Well Drinks \$1.50 till closing plus other drink specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 pm Well Drinks \$1 (with juice \$.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am "Moose Madness".

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Happy Hour 11 am to 6 pm - all Well Drinks \$1.25; Domestic Beer \$1.00.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - Well drinks or domestic long necks \$1.25, munchies 1-7 pm. Video/Disco Dancing 9-1 with David Ross.

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A COMMENTARY BY

CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY McPHERSON

IT HAD TO HAPPEN, SOONER OR LATER

[Author's note: We all know what happened during the last Spring Break in Florida and other cities. I refer to the little round latex things handed out on sidewalks and inside hotel lobbies. Keeping this in mind, I offer you this little story].

I was in Los Angeles recently. I was there for the Spring Fashion Preview for the California Mart, which is a large collective of California fashion designers, plus showrooms for fashion companies from around the world. While there, I stayed at the glorious Sheraton Grande —more about that later.

During the Spring Preview, I received many little gifts from various fashion companies: t-shirts, notebooks, pencils, t-shirts, calendars, jewelry, t-shirts, and sundry other items.

But there was one special item I received as a gift —which explains why I am even bringing this whole event up: in its own little leatherette, faux alligator case, a condom.

One of the designers, Alden Howard, the Toronto-born women's wear and accessories designer, thought enough for our recreational safety to include not only the "safety device", but also a bit of information on the AIDS Project Los Angeles.

I assure you, we were kept far too busy to put this little gift to active use, but the point is still made: someone cared enough to encourage common sense with regard to sex.

The fashion business —as well as aspects of the entertainment business— have been hit hard with this problem. It is not only refreshing, but reassuring to know at least one of the designers wants to help end this awful disease.

* * * * *

Now, for the Sheraton Grande: Normally, a stay at a hotel would not merit even a glancing mention in this column. I am pleased to say not only does the Grande deserve mention, but a couple paragraphs.

The Sheraton Grande is located at 333 South Figueroa Street in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. The building is graceful and inviting. The lobby is airy, comfortable, and almost constantly filled with the sound of live piano music played on the most wonderful grand piano.

The rooms are spotlessly clean, and decorated with soothing colors. The floor-to-ceiling windows allowed me to wake to the sight of Los Angeles at sunrise —a breathtaking sight, to say the least.

But what strikes to the core of my wonderful stay at the Grande was the almost too-perfect service. Beds turned down at night, not only neatly but with perfection; small chocolates left on the bed-stand; butlers and concierge who are nice, helpful, efficient and who call each guest by name — by surname.

It struck me odd that this high level of quality service should strike me odd. Is this not how it should be? Is not the staff, the staff? Are we not, as guests, guests?

The answer, simply enough, is yes. But in today's world it seems that many people overlook these little niceties, and we have

grown complacent and accepting of rude, curt and outright obnoxious treatment.

But rest assured, an oasis of quality still exists.

Everyone should experience this level of service at least once in their life.

At Spes Non Fracta: See you next week!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE
SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
VOTES BORK DOWN

listed man for homosexual conduct, Bork wrote, "We find it impossible to conclude that a right to homosexual conduct is 'fundamental' or 'implicit in the concept of ordered liberty...' Private, consensual homosexual conduct is not constitutionally protected."

—In a speech before the University of San Diego Law School, Judge Bork explained his judicial philosophy as a "strict intentionalist," saying he would have "no warrant to displace a legislative choice that prohibits certain forms of sexual behavior."

"Judge Bork's repeated rejection of our standing as a class with vested civil rights protections makes him unsuitable for a position on the Supreme Court," said Basile.

Members of the Gay and Lesbian community and their supporters must act, and act promptly, to urge their senators to reject the Bork nomination.

You can send a mailgram or night, through the Fairness Fund at 1-800-257-4900, asking for Operator 9188. They will identify your senator and send one of three messages for a \$4.50 charge. See page two of this issue of OBSERVER for more information.

POWERFUL NEW HIV ANTIBODY

ANNOUNCED AT BAYLOR
by Jennie McKnight
WACO, TX (GCN) — A pair of researchers from the Baylor College of Medicine have discovered an antibody which, they say, prevented transmission of the AIDS virus from infected cells to healthy cells in the test tube.

Drs. Nancy and Tse Wen Chang have developed a preparation called a monoclonal antibody which, in the test tube, targets cells infected with the AIDS virus itself, according to the Montrose Voice of Houston. This targeting ability is important, since AZT, the only federally-approved treatment for AIDS also affects healthy cells, causing side effects.

"We must emphasize that it cannot be called a cure for AIDS and that any treatment of patients based on our findings is probably at least two years away," said Nancy Chang. "Any application for human treatment must be considered very preliminary."

The Changs must now test the antibody's effectiveness on HIV-infected human blood cells in the test tube. If these tests, which are expected to take several months, are successful, the research team will seek approval from the Food and Drug Administration to test the preparation on people who have AIDS.

Dr. Joseph L. Melnick, who chairs Baylor's virology and epidemiology department, said that Chang's discovery is "perhaps 1,000 times more potent, perhaps more so, than any antibody that is known about until this time in being able to neutralize the virus."

WHAT'S UP DOC?

Go Wildcats! If it had not been for DL's beer bust, I might of seen the game. You should have seen Bert pushing beer off on everyone, making them drink. Justice was served because Bert never was able to make Partners' meeting Sunday evening - something about a hangover. True, DL held their monthly meeting earlier on Sunday, but I'm sure the hangover didn't come from that meeting. Ernie did not have many takers for his "clean plate special". For a small fee, Ernie was cleaning plates (dentures) for those of us who needed it. With that one and the beer bust behind them, I'm wondering what DL will come up with for next month. Possibly guest bartenders who show up to work the full beer bust.

Speaking of beer bust, the next scheduled one for IBT's will be Partners, on (of all days) Oct. 17, from 2 to 6 p.m. After their "Legs" contest last month, the upcoming beer bust event is a "Buns" contest! Proper wearing apparel can either be furnished by you or Partners will have some on hand for loan. Stop over and don that G-string, shove those buns through the screen hole and let's find out who has the cutest buns. Cash prizes will be awarded to all winners, even those, shall I put it, slightly larger than normal. Again there will be three different categories - the audience (as judges) will be voting on with a winner in each. The categories will be given out at the time of the beer bust. Borrowed G-strings are available from the dressing-room monitor. Don't worry, Partners would not allow me to fill that position.

Coming up, possibly in November, will be Partners' first Bowl-A-Thon, a benefit for a local needy charity. More details on this will be appearing in this column just as soon as Partners gets them worked out.

Back to Beer Bust - just what everyone needs, another one! Starting this Saturday, Oct. 10, from 2 to 6 p.m., TKO will be having their first monthly beer bust at the Graduate.

Special attraction for this beer bust, not Ben, will be each time you purchase a draft beer, for 50 cents, you will receive a ticket. The other half in a jar for drawings throughout the day for prizes. The only way you can enter these drawings is you must purchase at least one draft beer. TKO members (those that aren't in Albuquerque for the Balloon Fest) will be on hand in case you want to know more about this club. Let's go down and show support for TKO and return some hangovers that club has passed around over these past years.

Don't forget about the big raising event for Sisters of Sonora - the big SOS Hoedown on Sunday, Oct. 18 at IBT's. It's a real full day of entertainment from 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. There will be country and western dancing all day with music supplied by Joey from Charlie's in Phoenix. There will be plenty of entertainment and food also. Scheduled to appear during the festivities from Phoenix are Kachina Cloggers from Farrah's, the Arizona Sidewinders and the Sunburst Squares. From Tucson entertainers are T-Squares, Bobbi Jo, Candy Plastique, Tabitha Scott, Marque Bobier, and Aviva Diamond with Big Mike as host. Make arrangements to be here on the 18th for a great day of country/western fun and frolic.

In case there is still someone out there who has not heard yet, this year's Arizona Fellowship Run (formerly Arizona Brotherhood Run) will be held in Tucson Nov. 26-29. This run is

open to all club members belonging to clubs who are non-political and non-religious. Applications have been mailed out to all clubs both in Tucson and Phoenix, so contact a member of one of them to get yourself a copy, if you want to join in on this one.

After all the pressure put on me over this past year, here I go with TERS - People keep giving me all this gossip, so I've got to at least print some of them for you.

TERS: When helping to move the pool table back at the Graduate, Freddie was heard saying, "Where's the hole?" I guess the security job is taking too much time out of her private life lately....Mark was saying the other night that he was able to be out because China Doll left the handcuff keys lying where he could get to them and get free.... So Stan had "bedridden" on his cup at DL's Beer Bust. Does that mean he likes to be ridden in bed?.... For those of you lucky enough to miss Friday evening's impromptu show at the Graduate by Patrick, you are lucky - she was pretty.

Mystery for the week: Which bartender from the Graduate was at IBT's last Friday, pretty also, sore tits and all, asking Keith and I for a three-way?

With that, I'll close for this week. Good luck Miss Gay Tucson, Tabitha, in the upcoming Miss Gay Arizona Contest in Phoenix. I hope everyone has a really beautiful week, and I'll be talking to you when I return from Albuquerque. Get down and support TKO's Beer Bust this Saturday. Also, don't forget the "Turnabout Show" at the Graduate on Oct. 17. Guest performers will include members from a lot of the local clubs, plus other special surprises.

News from MCC Tucson

This weekend will be the National March on Washington. Rev. Edward Perry and Rev. Nita Terlissner-Willey will be representing MCC/Tucson at this historical event. Rev. Troy D. Perry, Founder and Moderator of the U.F.M.C.C. will be in Washington for this March and has encouraged all churches of the Fellowship to participate. It is the purpose of this March to let our legislators know that the Lesbians and Gays are a positive visible part of our national society. Being a part of this society, our minority of Lesbians and Gays need laws and considerations as much as any group in our society. It is hoped that this event will make an impression on our legislators in Washington, D.C. On Sunday, October 11th at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, Rev. Troy Perry and the entire Board of Elders of U.F.M.C.C. will serve communion at the Lincoln Memorial for all who wish to partake of this Sacrament.

Rev. Perry has announced that there are tentative plans for a workshop on Homosexuals and The Bible. This workshop will be open to the public and will be held at 560 South Stone on weekends. Watch this column for time and details on this workshop as the plans are formulated.

MCC/Tucson has announced that a search for larger facilities is underway. This facility need not be a church building but the location should be centrally located near good transportation. If anyone knows of such a place, please contact the MCC/Tucson office at 622-4536. Any leads will be appreciated.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "What have all of Gov. Mechem's aides have in common?" "Parole Officers".

Lights of Tucson

by Michael - Tucson

The Full Moon will be eclipsed at 9:13 p.m. Tucson Time in ARIES on the 13th degree of Aries will probably not be very much to see because the earth angle to the Moon will be out of our latitude of visual range, even though we will be able to see the Moon. A lunar eclipse is caused by the earth being between the Sun and Moon. Nevertheless some Arians and Librians will no doubt feel the effects of the eclipse in their lives.

ARIES
Club, group or organizations will be your thing this week, considering the eclipse, you may lose the election or get kicked out of the club, but that would not happen unless your birthday was the 3rd or 4th of April, and only then if you deserved it.

GEMINI
Your week for self-expression and doing your own thing, whatever that is. You may anticipate some sudden and unexpected changes in your life this week. Do not be a smart ass to your elders however unless you want to bang your knees up.

CANCER
You can make a profit on your horse trading ability this week. You could buy something for your home like an appliance and save big bucks.

LEO
Your week to talk, phone, visit friends, neighbors and close kin. Take a short trip with the kids. You also might make some changes around your home, redecorate or whatever.

VIRGO
Look out for arguments with the old folks, or authority. Also check your stoves, electrical wiring and anything that could cause fires or burns not that there is any serious danger but Mars is still in your sign.

LIBRA
Your week to play the Pick, a scratch ticket or whatever. Go to the races or a Bingo game, you might meet an interesting stranger.

SCORPIO
You will find that your inner vision is remarkably clear at this time and you will be able to see into hidden matters, but in general your physical health may need some attention, and you need to pay attention to your job, if you want to keep it.

SAGITTARIUS
Sudden and unexpected events may disrupt your relationships this week whether they be business, marital or any one on one close tie you may be having at this time. Compromise is a key word if you want to continue the relationship.

CAPRICORN
Time to clean out old matters and get busy with new projects. You could inherit, collect insurance or other monies owed you now. Get rid of past annoyances.

AQUARIUS
Time to take a trip, meet interesting foreigners, study unusual higher education subjects, including astrology, religion, philosophy or law. You might also attract some public attention, but not necessarily nice attention.

PISCES
Professional image will be important this week, but you may feel left out of things, and also you may avoid some serious problems by not being noticed. So, play it cool and time will make the necessary corrections you need.

[NOTE: For personal assistance regarding your Horoscope, call Michael at 327-4243].

Sunday

Rev. Perry
10 am
**INTERPRETED
FOR HEARING
IMPAIRED**

Rev. David
3 pm
Hispanic

6:30 PM



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social en la casa cural después de el servicio.



Know this man??

Guest Editorial

by David Jack

APATHY ELECTED MECHAM - NOT VOTERS

Apathy is not a crime. Its results may be shame, it may cause pain, suffering or in its worst form - death, but it's not a crime. Like individuals, our country seems to go on streaks of apathy.

When John F. Kennedy died in Dallas, the shock drove this country to despair. Why become involved in politics when the people would be killed? Voter registration dropped, voting dropped, the quality of our elected officials dropped, and our role in Vietnam increased.

When the apathy decreased, and people again became involved in the political process, the war ended. True to form, when the war ended, interest in politics dropped.

In 1986, Evan Mechem became governor of Arizona. Apathy had reached a new peak. 40 percent of the people voting put him in office and less than 54 (53.26) of the people who were eligible to vote, took the time to do so. There was no mandate from the people. Evan Mechem didn't win an election, apathy did, and the people of Arizona lost.

Shortly after the election, people were beginning to talk about a recall. I was not one of them. In fact, I didn't join until the drive was well underway. Now that I have joined, the question most often asked is, "Why should I sign?" That's one question I can't answer for you. Each individual has his or her own reasons for signing and becoming involved. The best I can do is tell you why I chose to become involved.

I am not a homosexual agita-

tor, or a dissident Democrat simply because I disagree with the governor. I can fully understand and respect someone who disagrees with my views. I will not, however, tolerate someone in government who will not listen to, or try to understand my opinion.

I may be 45-years-old and considered to be a part of the geriatric set, but I'm also a student at Pima Community College, who feels that to short-change people on education is to short-change them in life. You fail to give the youth of this country the best education possible, is detrimental not only to them, but to the future of the country. It is an admitted goal to lower the state budget, but to cut \$21 million from the education budget is not the way to go. To appoint people that believe a teacher should not be allowed to teach that the earth is round, if the parents state that the earth is flat. Or that in sex education classes you may not name the parts of the body. This will mean Arizonans, in the future, will be unable to talk with or work with people outside of Arizona, who have received a proper education.

Bigotry in this country has not been eliminated. We have a long way to go. We have made progress and for a governor to refer to black children as "pickaninnies," or to state that blacks are not allowed into heaven, and to believe that there is "no place in government for Gays," shows a lack of compassion, understanding and, above all, a lack of respect for the citizens of both this state and our country.

We elect people to handle our foreign policy, and a state

governor is not one of those individuals. It is not Mechem's job to go to Honduras and volunteer to send part of the Arizona National Guard there, no matter what the reason is. If he were capable of handling the business of this state, maybe, he could run for president and then work on foreign policy. Until then, he should do what he's paid to do - here in Arizona.

Our country was founded as, and remains a Republican state. Our founding fathers knew that democratic principles had to be installed to help guard our freedoms and to prevent an abuse of power by elected officials.

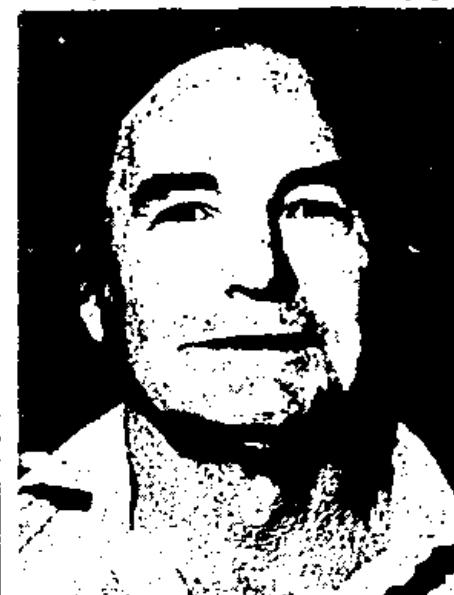
After serving 20 years in the Army, seven of it in Southeast Asia, I have no need of an elected official stating that there is too much democracy in this country.

In my opinion, this means that he feels we have too much to say in how the government is run and that we should sit back and keep our mouths shut. The Governor is wrong. Not wanting to take a stand, not being willing to say how the government is run, brings us back to the beginning.

I cannot, will not, and do not want to tell you how to vote. No one has that right nor should they. The most I can do is tell you how I feel about the issue. If what I have written convinces you to sign the recall, I'm glad. In my opinion, Mechem should not be in office and we, as the citizens of Arizona, should not have to be embarrassed or hurt by his statements and/or policies.

IF you feel that the Governor has done a good job and you want him to stay in office, that is your right and I respect it.

Regardless of which way you feel, don't be like my generation was for so long. Don't be apathetic. Register to vote and, on election day, take the time to vote. If the apathy continues, someday, you may not have the right to vote.



ROBERT WEEKS

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
LAS VEGAS, NV - The office of the District Attorney for Clark County Nevada will be prosecuting a person by the name of Robert Weeks this November.

Weeks has an alias of Bob Smith and also Charles Stolzenberg. The District Attorney's office has obtained indictments for two counts of murder, two counts of obtaining money under false pretense, two counts of forgery and two counts of embezzlement.

OBSERVER has been asked by the District Attorney to publish Mr. Weeks' picture as they need to contact anyone who may know Mr. Weeks or had any contact with him. Persons with any information concerning Robert Weeks is urgently requested to contact:

Sergeant John L. Finger
District Attorney's Office
Major Violators Unit
200 South Third Street
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or call collect:
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NOTICES

DELUXE OFFICE SPACE (275 sq. ft.) to share at River and Campbell, monthly basis. Phone and answering service included. Call Marc at 577-5125. 169

MEN'S MASSAGE WORKSHOP. Oct. 3, 7:00 p.m. Call 881-4582 in Tucson to register. 168

NEW PRODUCTION COMPANY seeks musicians, singers, entertainers for future variety shows in local clubs. 623-2191 Tucson. 168

VOLUNTEERS needed for community resource directory. This is a health/wellness networking guide. If you ever wanted to learn more about wholistic health, this is your chance. Clerical and phone work in pleasant setting, plus a free copy of directory. Call Marc Haberman during business hours at 577-5125.

COME RUN WITH US
TUCSON FRONT RUNNERS has changed to their Fall/Winter schedule. The group will now meet at 6:00 p.m. every Tuesday in front of Rimmel Park Library for a fun run. Everyone is encouraged to get healthy. For more information call Mitch, 326-3332.

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP is a loving Christian church where YOU are welcome. Sunday worship services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study is at 7:00 p.m. Our caring staff is on duty Tuesday through Friday 7-9 p.m. and at other times by appointment. Call 881-3519 or stop by at 3333 E. Grant Road, Next to O'Reilly Leasing.

ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO S.I.O.A. is seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish speakers in both Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. For further information, please call Enrique at 741-1965 in Tucson. 168

AIDS HOTLINE - TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP) 792-3772 from 6 p.m. to Midnight. Transmission, sympathy, testing for AIDS, medical and counseling.

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

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.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING A SUPPORT GROUP for Parents and Friends of Gays please contact Herb at 792-0893 or Sean, P.O. Box 26394, Tucson, AZ 85726. All information is strictly confidential.

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

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL IN TUCSON
Call Information and Referral 881-1794

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you? Call Information and Referral about Gay Al-Anon 881-1794 in Tucson.

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.

SOURCES UNLIMITED is a non-profit information and referral service for the Lesbian and Gay community. Businesses and individual listings are free. Call 884-1606 in Tucson for information.

TUCSON LESBIAN CO-OP - WOMEN'S COMMUNITY POTLUCK. Open to all women. 2nd Sundays at 6:00 p.m. Various locations. Call Claire at 795-1006 for more information.

OLD PUEBLO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION For meeting dates and locations or membership information call 296-4642 or write OPBPA, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85733.

SHANTI FOUNDATION OF TUCSON
Volunteer groups meet each Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at 602 N. Fourth Ave. Potential Shanti volunteers seeking information 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. only. Phone 622-7107.

MECHAM RECAL: Help Ev out. Volunteers meetings and Deputy Registrar's class every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. 2625 E. Speedway. 881-7707 Tucson.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY YOUTH GROUP is now sponsored by Matrix Community Services/Amity Incorporated and meets at the following locations: Wednesdays 6 to 9 p.m. at 1030 N. 4th Ave. 884-7413 (Matrix) and on Saturdays 3 to 5 p.m. at 420 S. Main, 792-0204 (La Pilita). For more information call Wayne Blankenship at 882-4009.

LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SWITCHBOARD, INC. your full-service communications agency. We provide valuable information and referral services, and we represent the concerns of the community to the public at large with a speakers bureau and ongoing media relations. Support the heartbeat of our community. If you have questions that need answers, or if you have resources to contribute, please call us at 234-2752 in Phoenix. 166

GAY/LESBIAN ADULT DISCOURSES provides weekly group discussions on various topics for Tucson's Gay community. Especially open to persons just "Coming Out" and over 21. Confide in us. Learn about yourself through discussion. For contact information, call Information and Referral at 881-1794.

PERSONALS

GAY, attractive, seeking same. My interests are dancing, dining, tennis, sports, quiet times, movies. Only caring, stable, sincere call 622-6233 between 1:30 and 8:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Ask for Tony. 169

LOOKING FOR A CYCLING PARTNER to prep for El Tour. Also, anyone interested in the Grape Nut Bike Festival in Phoenix Oct. 25. Please call Meredith, 881-7862 in Tucson. 169

????? LONELY ? ? ? ? ?
Take action today and start living tomorrow!! Call the Gepini Connection - the dating club for discriminating Gay men. 997-6141 Phoenix. Ask for Chuck or Ron. 167

WANTED

PERFORMERS WANTED

B&S Productions now taking interviews for regular performances in our new entertainment complex. Musicians, comedians, impersonators, etc. Call Bobby, 622-6233, noon to 3 p.m. in Tucson. 170

PWA NEEDS VOLUNTEER WHO IS A COMPUTER EXPERT to help set up computer network for PWA Coalition. Please call Will, 326-6610 in Tucson. 170

WE'RE LOOKING FOR used Mandates, I.T.'s, Blueboys and other Gay magazines. We're also looking for Gay B-movies in good condition. Call 326-6668 in Tucson.

ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE TO SHARE 3-bedroom, basically unfurnished apartment in newer modern complex near "A" Mountain. Pool, jacuzzi, weight room, racquetball etc. On Sun Tran route. \$215/mo. plus 1/2 of utilities. Smoker/Student OK. 623-5594 Tucson. 166

SHARE 2 BEDROOM HOME. Private sunbathing, hammocks, pond, greenhouse. Animal lover. \$200 monthly includes utilities. Speedway/Country Club area Tucson. 326-8473. 167

Employed, non-smoking midist to share 3-bedroom home near I-10 and Orange Grove. Privacy yard, spa, cable. \$250 monthly includes utilities. 742-6731. 166

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HELP WANTED

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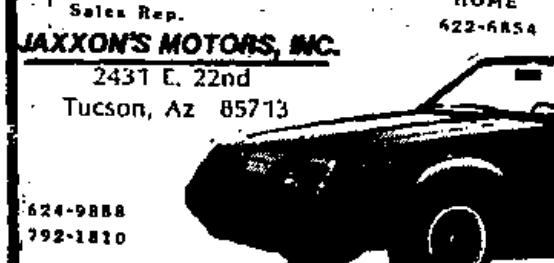
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SUNDAY, OCT. 18

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