Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Phoenix Chosen For AIDS Federal Treatment Research Program

WASHINGTON, DC - Health and Human Services Secretary Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., announced last Thursday, Oct. 5, the establishment of 18 AIDS treatment research programs based in the communities where people with AIDS live and receive their medical care.

The new Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS, (CPCRA), which will receive a total of $9 million from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, will enlist many community-based physicians and their patients in studies of AIDS drugs. The programs will be located in 14 American cities where the impact of the AIDS epidemic is severe. Charles S. Kaplan with the Phoenix Shanti Group will head the program in the Phoenix area.

"These new programs are especially important because they will provide the opportunity to serve many people who, until now, have not been included in clinical trials of promising experimental therapies." Dr. Sullivan said. "The programs will reach out to blacks, Hispanics, women and intravenous drug users infected by the AIDS virus." The community research programs are under the direction of Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and associate director for AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health.

"Through these new Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS, we can take advantage of the extraordinary expertise of doctors in private practice, in community clinics, and at large, inner-city hospitals," Dr. Fauci said. "These doctors are on the front lines of the AIDS epidemic, and are involved in the day-to-day management of people infected with the AIDS virus. We expect these new programs to add greatly to the knowledge we are already gaining from our large, university-based AIDS Clinical trials network."

Until now, federally funded clinical trials of experimental AIDS therapies have been conducted by investigators at the National Institutes of Health or at the 46 university-based research hospitals that make up NIAID's Clinical Trials Group. Studies conducted by the new community programs will complement the academic clinical trials and must meet similar scientific standards. Protocols will be developed by the community-based participants with assistance from the Division of AIDS, NIAID.

James O. Mason, M.D., assistant secretary for health and acting surgeon general of the Public Health Service, said, "For a number of reasons, many people with AIDS may never volunteer to participate in research studies conducted at large medical centers. These community programs are a way of

CONTINUED ON PAGE ELEVEN

"Don't be sad, be Gay, very, very Gay." - Bette Davis in "Dark Victory"

'Walk For Life' Thursday, Oct. 12

TUCSON - A massive "A-Mountain Candlelight Walk For Life" will take place this Thursday, Oct. 12. Those interested in participating in the Walk are urged to gather at Armory Park at 4:45 p.m. Armory Park is located at South 6th Avenue and 12th Street.

El Proyecto Arizona-Sonora, in cooperation with the People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson, Shanti Foundation, Tucson AIDS Project, and Wingspan, all representing the Tucson Gay and Lesbian community join over twenty other social service agencies in cosponsoring the Second A-Mountain Candlelight Walk For Life.

The group will then walk from Armory Park to the Federal Building a few blocks away for a rally and speeches. Chuck Mayer from P.A.C.T. and Raul Grijalva from the Pima County Board of Supervisors will be guest speakers. They will issue a call for more action from the federal government in the AIDS crisis. There will be protest signs which will be available to carry during the March.

From the Federal Building, the March will proceed to the parking lot of the Garden of Gethsemane by the Santa Cruz River on Congress Avenue, where refreshments and information will be provided.

After a short rest period, the walk will continue on to the base of A-Mountain where candles will be provided. At the top of the "A", a ceremony for life, performed by Mr. Danny Lopez from the Tohono O'odham Nation. Tentatively there are plans for a musical interlude by Bwiya Tola. Following will be the reading of the names of Tucsonans who have lost their lives to the AIDS epidemic.

Transportation will be provided along the route as well as after their walk. First Aid will also be available as well as toilet facilities.

The Walk For Life is cosponsored by: American Red Cross; Amity; Borderlands Theatre; Chicanos Por La Cuasa; Copasa; El Proyecto Arizona-Sonora; El Pueblo Neighborhood Center; El Rio Neighborhood Center; Information& Referral Services; La Frontera Center La Mesilla; LLEGO; People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson; Pio Decimo Center; Pima County Health Department; Santa Cruz County Health Department; Shanti Foundation of Tucson; Tohono O'Odham Health Department; Traditional Indian Alliance; Tucson AIDS Project; Tucson Lesbian & Gay Alliance; Tucson Minority Consortium on AIDS and Wingspan.

UPDATE

BRITISH LABOR PARTY VOTES TO CUT AGE OF CONSENT FOR GAYS

BRIGHTON, ENGLAND (AP) - The opposition Labor Party voted at its annual conference to lower the age of consent for homosexuals from 21 to 16, the legal age for heterosexuals. The vote, last Friday, was 3.7 million to 2.3 million.

The age of consent is the minimum age at which a person may legally have sexual intercourse.

During a Thursday debate on the matter, party member Debbie Epstein, a supporter of the Labor Campaign for Lesbian and Gay Rights, said: "Equality shouldn't be a difficult concept for socialists to grasp."

Labor's policy-making National Executive Committee will decide whether the proposal will be included in the party's election manifesto. The governing Conservatives must call general elections before mid-1992.

MINNESOTA TRIES TO COPE WITH GROPES

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (BAR) - The Minnesota Senate says that it is still apparently okay to pat a fanny. But anyone caught groping clothed genitals could be sent away on a vacation to prison.

The state Senate recently gave preliminary approval to a bill that would create a new category of criminal sexual conduct, making it illegal to touch someone's clothed genitals or breasts without consent. The crime, criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree, would be a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a $3,000 fine.

The bill is a watered down version of a much harsher bill, thanks to the efforts of Sen. Allan Spear, an openly Gay Minneapolis Democrat. Spear succeeded in removing a provision that would have included touching "clothed buttocks". Spear said including that in the new law would be "simply overkill".

"I don't want anyone to think this is proper behavior," Spear said, "but sometimes we must make a distinction between behavior that is improper and unsocial and behavior that we ought to criminalize."

Gay activists in the Gopher State said they fear similar laws may be used by plainclothes officers to entrap Gay men.

ACLU: MARINE CORPS ACTED UNCONSTITUTIONALLY IN PROSECUTION OF LESBIAN SOLDIER

NEW YORK, NY - The American Civil Liberties Union last week accused the military of selectively prosecuting Lesbians and Gay men for sodomy in violation of the constitution. The ACLU's contentions were contained in amicus curiae brief filed with the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Military Review on behalf of Barbara Baum, one of several Lesbians prosecuted for sodomy in a 1988 investigation at the Marine Corps' base in Parris Island, South Carolina.

"Barbara Baum is the victim of a malicious investigation, an unconstitutional prosecution, and cruel and unusual punishment," stated William B. Rubenstein, Staff Counsel to the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. "Had Corporal Baum been engaging in sodomy with a man, she would never have been prosecuted, much less served time in prison."

The Marine Corps discovered Baum's activities after her lover's disgruntled ex-boyfriend reported her to the military in 1986. Although the incident was fully investigated, the Marine Corps took no action against Baum or her lover for nearly two years. In 1988, however, the Marines began what has been labelled "a witchhunt" against Lesbians on Parris Island: Baum was one of four women court-martialed and several dozen others were administratively discharged from the Corps in connection to the investigations.

"There is absolutely no justification for prosecuting soldiers for activities which occur in private, off-base, and off-duty," said Rubenstein. "Although the Marines like to say that 'a Marine is a Marine 24 hours a day,' the fact of the matter is that only Lesbian and Gay male Marines are held to such a standard," he added.

Indeed, the ACLU amicus brief makes clear that heterosexual soldiers are not prosecuted for private, consensual sexual activities which take place off-base, off-duty, although the military's sodomy statute applies to both same-sex and heterosexual sodomy. The ACLU argues that such "selective prosecution" of Lesbians and Gay men violates the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution.

"Selective prosecution based solely on sexual orientation is repugnant to the principles underlying the Bill of Rights," commented Nan D. Hunter, Director of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

In Corporal Baum's appeal, her lawyers raise numerous other issues including the alleged bias of several members of her court-martial, the fact that one of the charges against her was unsubstantiated, the failure of the trial judge to properly instruct the jury, the relative harshness of her sentence and the unusually long delay which preceded her sentence.

In addition to the Baum case, the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project is assisting several other women ensnared in the Parris Island investigation. The ACLU is also involved in formulating a strategy for a Congressional response to the mistreatment of Lesbian and Gay soldiers.

"We would like to see Congress address the serious constitutional injustices the military has been permitted to inflict on Lesbians and Gay men for too long," Hunter concluded.

PHOTOGRAPHS SOUGHT FOR LESBIAN RESOURCE BOOK

NEW YORK, NY - Ginny Vida, Editor of "Our Right To Love: A Lesbian Resource Book" is inviting Lesbian photographers to submit photos of Lesbians for possible inclusion in the revised edition of "Our Right To Love," to be published by E.P. Dutton.

Photographs depicting affection, friendship, outdoor scenes, indoor scenes, Lesbians at play, Lesbians at work (professional, white collar, blue collar, entrepreneurs), individual portraits, Lesbians engaged in sports or other activities, Black, White, Asian American, Latina, and Native American Lesbians, younger, middle-aged and older Lesbians, abled and differently abled, are being sought. Lesbians who are national or local movement leaders are also desirable subjects for photos.

"I'm looking for photographs that portray Lesbians as women who are making positive contributions to society, enjoying life and interacting in a positive way with others," Ms. Vida said.

Photographers will receive $35 for each photo published in the revised edition, payable upon publication. Photos must be in black-and-white, professional quality, and all persons pictured must sign a photo release which the editor will provide. Photographers will be credited in the book.

"Our Right To Love" is an anthology of Lesbian writing that includes more than 40 essays, dozens of personal testimonies, more than 100 photographs of Lesbians plus some Lesbian rights supporters. The original edition was published in 1978 by Prentice Hall.

Photos may be submitted to: Ginny Vida, Editor, "Our Right To Love", 45 Plaza St., #1-G, Brooklyn NY 11217. (718)789-0391.

IN MEMORIAM

Richard "Dick" Gregory passed away in Tucson on Sunday, Oct. 1. He was 59. Surviving him are two brothers and three sisters, all of Springfield, Missouri, where services were conducted on Friday, Oct. 6.

Dick taught for the Tucson Unified School District as a music teacher until his recent retirement. He was a member of the Tucson Symphony and the Tucson Masons and Sabbar Shrine where he played in the band.

He received his B.S. Degree from Drury College in Springfield, Missouri and his Master of Music Degree from Vander Cook College in Chicago, Illinois. He was also a Korean Veteran.

As a long-time resident of Tucson, Dick will be remembered as a very familiar and well known member of the Tucson Gay Community His family suggests that remembrances be sent to the American Cancer Society.

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Harassed L.A.P.D. officer to tell his story to OPBPA

TUCSON - Mitchell Grobeson was always first and foremost — in Culver City High School, at Chapman College, at the Los Angeles Police Academy.

As an LAPD officer, Grobeson filled drawers with awards and commendations from superiors, from the public he served, from the chief of police, from the city council . . . . .

MITCHELL GROBESON

Then, one night in December 1984, Grobeson, off duty, was stopped in West Hollywood by a county sheriff's deputy. Another man was in the car with Grobeson. He still remembers the words the deputy radioed to LAPD:

"Send a supervisor. Your man's a fruit."

On Sept. 28, 1988, Grobeson filed a $5 million lawsuit against LAPD for harassment because he is Gay. On Friday, Oct. 20, Grobeson will tell his story at an open meeting of Old Pueblo Business and Professional Association (OPBPA) at the Hotel Park Tucson.

By all accounts, Grobeson continued as an outstanding police officer after December 1984, while pressure increased from his fellow officers to drive him off the force.

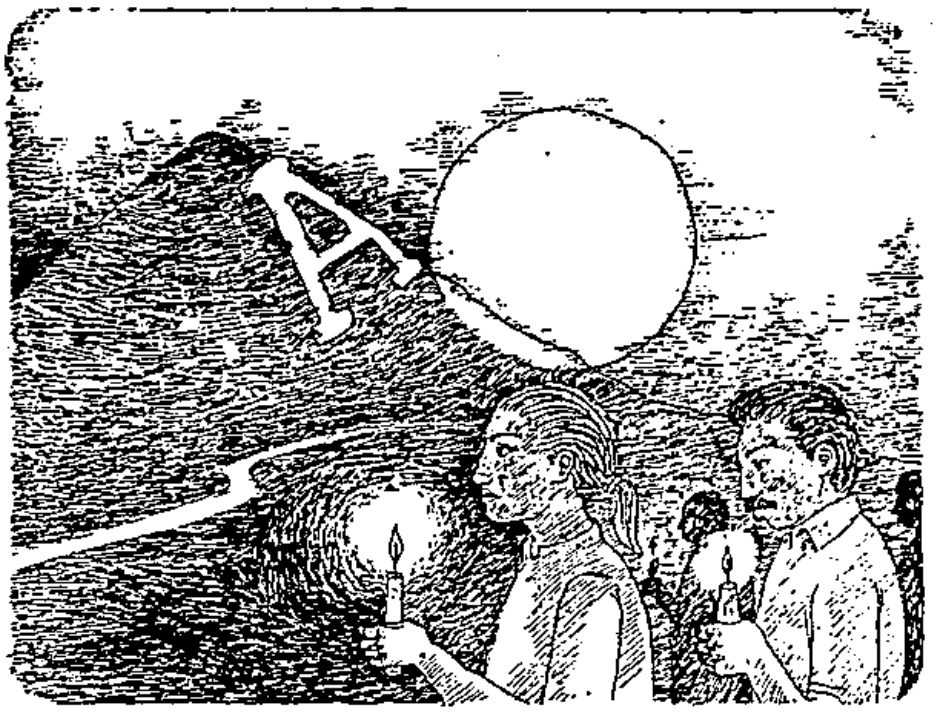
In the first months of 1988, Grobeson received 135 letters from citizens commending his work. Despite this, he alleges, the department assigned supervisors to follow him during his on-duty and off-duty hours to gather evidence of his homosexuality.

Ten LAPD officers were assigned, Grobeson says, to recruit convicted felons and cocaine addicts to file false complaints against him.

It is a harrowing story, a harsh reminder that all the protective laws on the book -- and Los Angeles has several — won't stop humans from striking out in blind bigotry against the threat of people who are different.

Get acquainted time begins at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 20. Mitch Grobeson begins speaking at about 8:00 p.m.

It is OPBPA's annual homecoming meeting, free to all members — past, present and future — and their guests.



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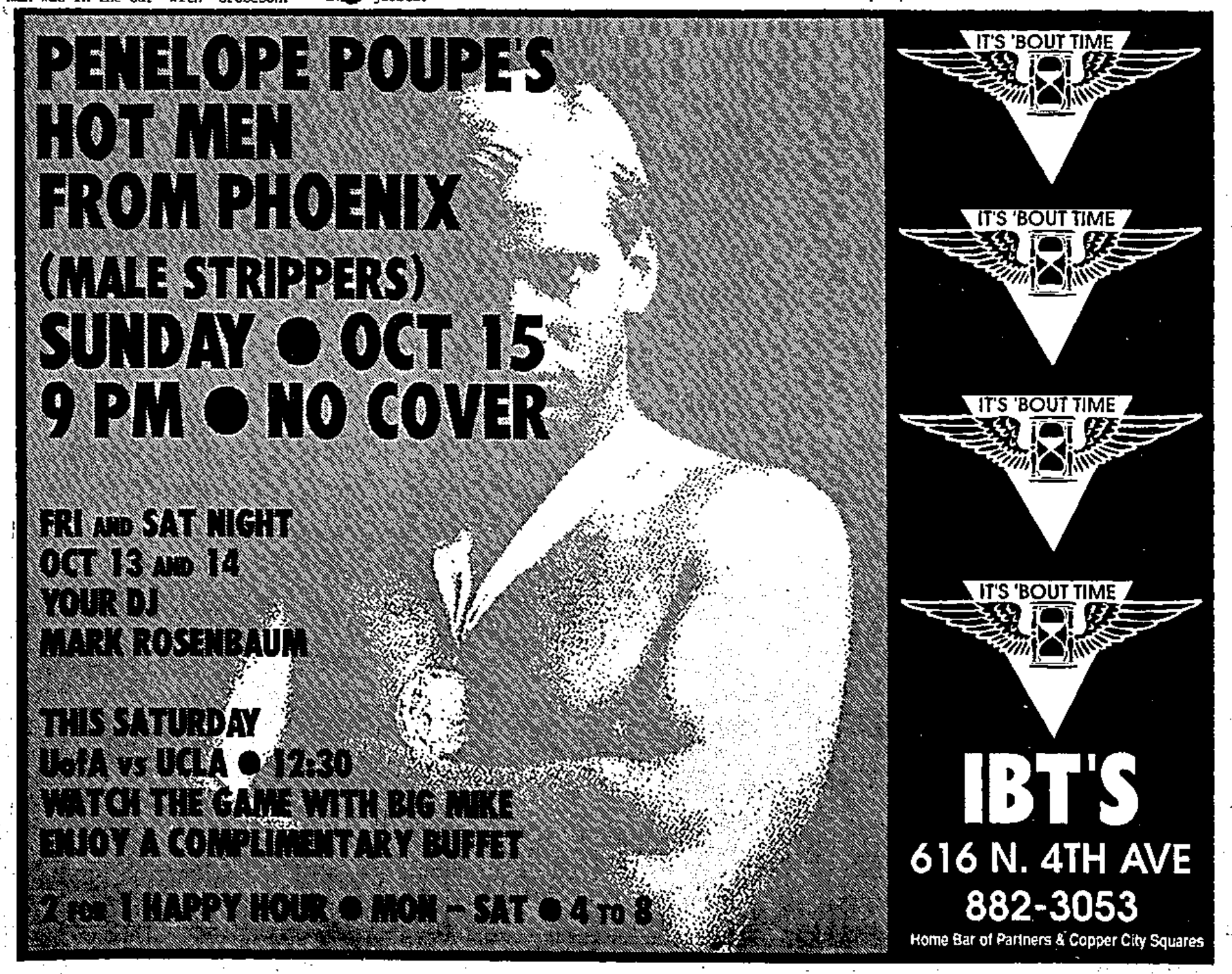

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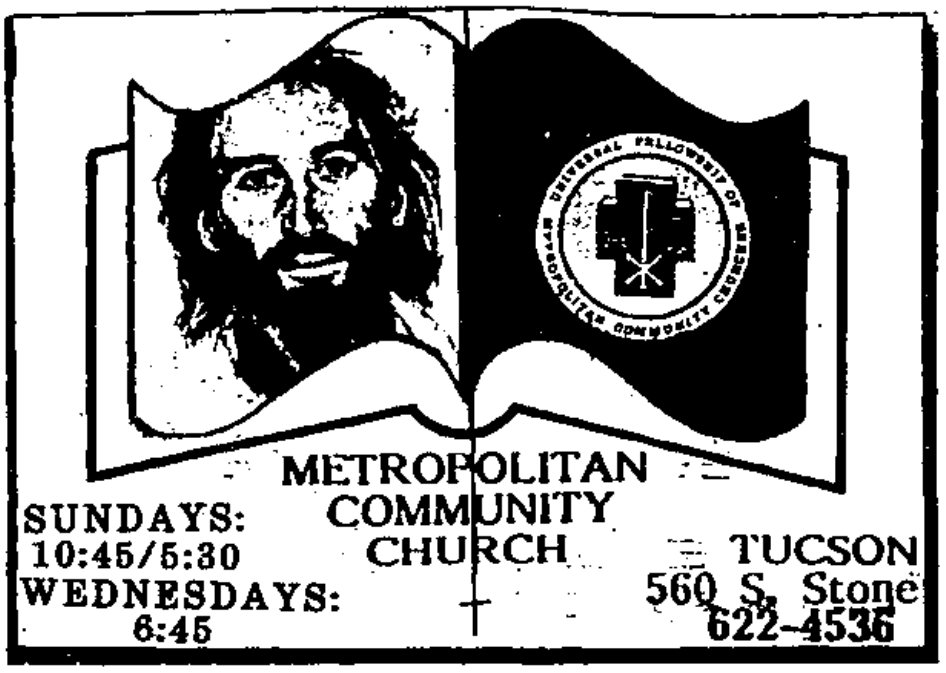

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'Festival Of The Trees' Major Year-end Fundraiser For P.A.C.T.

TUCSON - Christmas in October? Visitors to the P.A.C.T. (People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson) will find more than a little of the "holiday spirit" in the bustle of activity leading up to a major year-end fundraising event. The office staff, Board members and volunteers are busier than any elves, working with dedication and anticipation to make the Festival of the Trees a success.

Here is what is being planned to brighten Tucson's holiday season come mid-December: Starting this month, P.A.C.T. is recruiting individuals, corporations and civic organizations to sponsor a tree. A donation of $500 sponsors a Corporate Tree, $100 a large tree, $50 a small tree and $35 a wreath. By early December, all this greenery will be gathered in the Tucson Convention Center for decorating. P.A.C.T.'s goal is to assemble 200 trees.

The decorators will consist of individuals, businesses, school classes, church groups and similar entities willing to garland a sponsored tree or wreath as their own particular project, donating materials and labor in the spirit of the occasion. Trimming the trees will take place Thursday, Dec. 7 all day and evening and Friday, Dec. 8 until noon.

Tree sponsors, decorators, representatives of the media and local government officials will be invited to an inaugural reception hosted by the P.A.C.T. Board of Directors on Friday, Dec. 8 at 4:00 p.m. The Festival Grove will be opened to the public at 5:00 p.m. and the display may be visited through Saturday, Dec. 9 until 4:00 p.m.

Visitors will be encouraged to make contributions to the Festival's fund-raising goal. A suggested donation of $3.00 will be requested for persons over 18-years-of-age. This donation will include a raffle ticket for one of three trees judged "best decorated"; extra raffle tickets will be sold for one dollar each.

Trees may be purchased during the Festival for the posted prices suggested by P.A.C.T.

The remaining trees, each bearing the name of its sponsor and decorator, will be auctioned at 4:00 p.m. on Dec. 9. A full program listing sponsors and decorators will be circulated among potential bidders in attendance. The program will have space for business-card-size advertisements.

Proceeds from Festival of the Trees will support P.A.C.T.'s goal of a Drop In/Living Center operating by this time next year.

More help is needed to prepare for the Festival. P.A.C.T. members and friends who can volunteer time to recruit sponsors, transport the trees, or enlist decorators are asked to contact Tom or Jerome at the P.A.C.T. office at 322-9808.

PHS widens use of AIDS drugs

WASHINGTON, DC - Last week the federal government changed the way it handles promising, but medically unproven AIDS drugs.

Public Health Service officials say that they will allow expanded distribution of dideoxyinosine, or DDI - the first time an unapproved, experimental AIDS drug will be so widely available so early in its testing.

AIDS patients "have said they want to be able to make the choice to take a drug before it has been proven safe," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of AIDS research for the government. "The responsibility for safety now becomes a matter of individual choice."

"[This is] an exciting day for people with AIDS," said Mark Harrington of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power in New York. But, Harrington says, "We really have to wait to see if the people we know need the drug really start to get it in the next couple of weeks."

Many physicians may be reluctant to prescribe an unapproved drug or go through the red tape involved, he says.

Under the plan, patients who cannot tolerate or don't benefit from AZT, will be able to get DDI free from its maker, Bristol-Myers Co. - even if they can't get in expanding government trials.

AZT, made by Burroughs Wellcome Co., is the only drug proven effective against AIDS, but it poses severe side effect.

In early human trials, DDI appears to be helpful. But the trials also show that high doses can cause serious side effects, including damage to the pancreas and nerves in the feet.

Lower doses will be given to 2,600 patients about to enter standard trials, and to patients who now will have access to DDI outside official trials.

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D.L. Installs New Officers

TUCSON - Desert Leathermen installed newly elected officers for the coming year last Sunday, Oct. 8 at an anniversary Beer Bust and Dinner held at Mi Casa Su Casa.

Pictured above (l to r) are Dennis Bell, Treasurer; Chris Stout (standing in for Abby Snowhite), Recording Secretary; Nita Terlisner-Willey, Corresponding Secretary; Bert Hoop, Road Captain and Ernie Hoop, President.

Congratulations to all DL on their 4th Anniversary and to the new officers, much success in the coming year.

---

by Ernie Hoop

TUCSON - Visitors from Las Vegas, Nevada, Monterrey and San Diego, California, as well as residents of Tucson joined Desert Leathermen in their Mystery Run IV and Fourth Anniversary held last weekend, Oct. 6-7-8.

The premise of DL's Mystery Run is that a "crime" takes place, and everyone is invited to figure out "whodunnit". Easier said than done, many found out.

The weekend included a tour through the Arizona Winery, near Nogales, where a "murder" took place, and an overnight stay in Patagonia at the Stage Stop Inn.

Once in Patagonia, the participants "invaded" two local watering holes, and by the end of the evening had given the residents a taste of the true spirit of brotherhood that has become a trademark of Tucson's Lesbian and Gay community. Everyone also had to remember the numerous clues that would help to identify the "killer". But after the smoke cleared, one person was found guilty, and one person solved the case.

The winners of this year's

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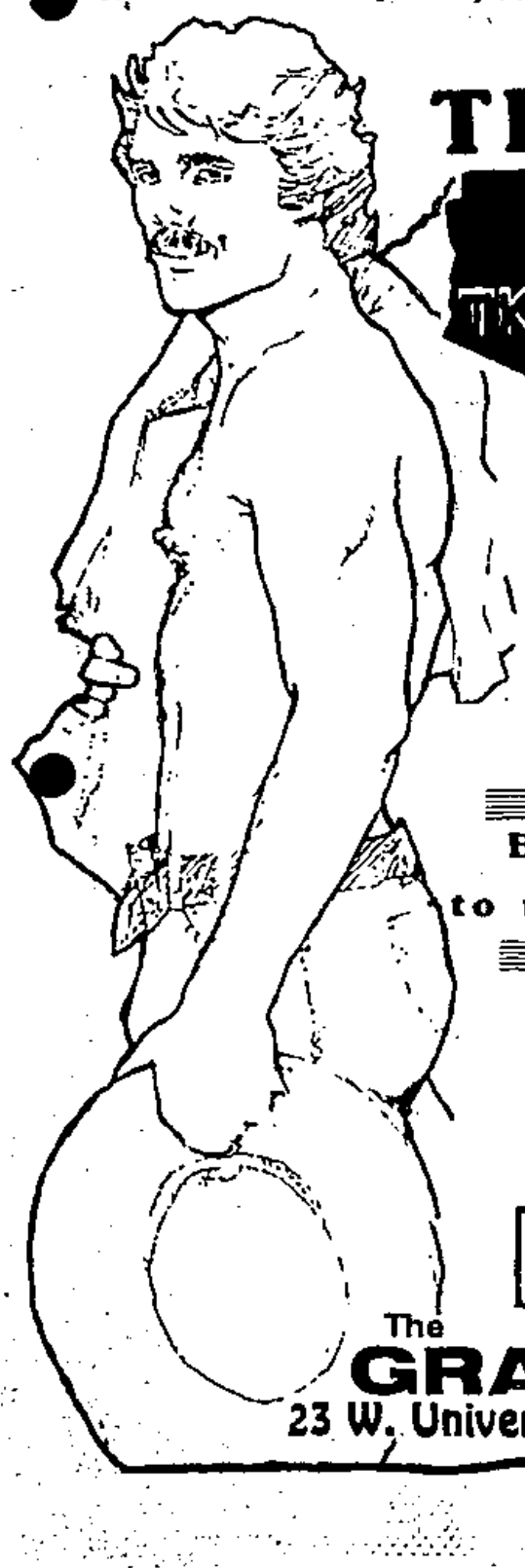

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A COMMENTARY BY

CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY McPHERSON

Saturday Night Live (on tape)

I once had an argument with a friend of mine. It was 1977, a few months before my high school graduation and he and I were in the school hallway during rehearsals for "Oklahoma!" arguing about which television show was better: "Monty Python" the British import (Me) or "Saturday Night Live" (Him).

I remember thinking how ludicrous it was to argue about something so banal --what with bell-bottomed pants and sideburns being priorities one and two back then.

And now, 12 years after that argument, I'm still trying to figure out the answer.

I was (and still am) a die-hard Python fan. I cannot forget fountains of blood gushing from severed arms, the "Cheese Shop" sketch, or John Cleese in drag arguing about the gender of the penguin on the television set and whether or not it had escaped from the zoo. "(It doesn't have 'Property of the Zoo' stamped on it!") But Sunday night, Sept. 24, I sat through 15 years of ground-breaking comedy with the "Saturday Night Live" Anniversary Show.

Right up there with bleeding appendages was the "Bass-O-Matic" --I still remember laughing so hard at that when I first saw it 14 years ago that I fell off the recliner. And Baba Wawa, and Chevy Chase's President Ford, and the "Bad News Bees".

I guess I always had watched this warped sense of humor --which remains with me still.

(Shortly after the above detailed argument, on opening night for "Oklahoma!" I gave a particularly valued girl friend a bouquet of one dozen rose-stems: not the flowers, just the stems. I'm still remembered for that).

I was forced to relive a lot, during that anniversary show. And forced to feel sadness again for Gilda Radner's death. I was sad when Lucy died, but Lucy was from another generation --I only shared some of the laughter. When Gilda died, however, a bit of my adolescence went with her. My, how we have changed since the show's premiere on October 11, 1975.

Is it really true that no great comedy shows have been done since these two landmark shows first aired? Or, through the veil of the years, does it just seem that way?

* * * * * *

CAPSULE COLUMN #1: A nice touch in the September 29 episode of "Dallas" came during a scene in a drug rehab clinic. The scene opened on a poster about AIDS prevention for pregnant mothers. Nice going, guys!

CAPSULE COLUMN #2: Shelly Winters, Oscar-winning actress, has come out with another tell-almost-everything bio called "Shelley II" (Simon & Schuster, $22.95). Taking up where her first autobio, "Shelley, Also Known as Shirley" (1980) left off. Winters regales film fans with tale after tale of the glorious Golden Years of Hollywood.

My opinion of this always-fine actress changed immeasurably with the reading of theses two tomes; once thought to be superficial and trite (in person) I now realize how much her personal pains and tragedies were reflected in her critically-acclaimed, award-winning work. Any fan of this fine actress will love this second book in the planned biographical trilogy.

At Spes Non Practa: See you next week.

QUOTE . . .
"IT'S NOT THE MEN YOU SEE ME WITH, IT'S THE MEN YOU DON'T SEE ME WITH . . ." - Mae West

IT'S 'BOUT TIME

IBT'S IS GETTING BUSIER

WHAT'S UP DOC?

You can really tell Fall has arrived. I can remember a few years ago, when I was a child, going with my father out into the woods to look at all the different colors the trees had turned. I guess I could drive up Mt. Lemmon to see them but I'll pass for now.

This coming Saturday it will be TKO's Beer Bust time again at the Graduate. They will have the UofA vs UCAL football game on, so why not stop by, watch the game and sip a few cold beers with everyone.

In honor (I hope) of the game, TKO's Beer Bust will start at 1:00 p.m. and run along with the game. Stop in all you Wildcats, and, I guess, if there are any Bruin fans out there, you are also welcome. Let's cheer our Wildcats on to a big victory.

At TKO's meeting last Saturday, the club again voted to have a turkey raffle at each bar again this year. These jars should be arriving at the bars in a couple weeks. As always, there will be one turkey for each bar, 10 to 15 pounds each, so be sure to buy your tickets early.

The club also voted to have their annual $100 Christmas Tree Raffle in December. As the time draws closer for each of these, I will pass on more details to you.

Also, TKO has chosen their November Beer Bust day, Nov. 11, as "swap meet day" for the club too. Then the club will also be accepting canned goods with these goods going to Shanti for their food drive coming up in December. Watch the OBSERVER for advertisements on all of these events more from other clubs and organizations that will be coming up.

Don't forget the first Annual Halloween Ball coming up at Mi Casa Su Casa, Oct. 28. There will be a $10 donation per person or $15 per couple donation requested at the door. Everyone is expected to wear a costume. I'll be telling you more about this event as the time draws closer. Remember, your donations here are tax deductible.

This being a slow week for a change, gives me the opportunity to pass on these reminders for all as the holiday season approaches us. Please be extremely careful when it comes to the parties - drinking and driving. I cannot tell you enough that Pima County has Arizona's toughest DUI laws, and it takes years to get one off your record if caught. It is also expensive, both through the courts and the insurance thereafter.

With that I'll wrap it up for this time, with a special thank you to everyone in Tucson for being such a loving town to all.

OUT ON THE TOWN

So, where is that not-so-new generic bar located anyway??? Behind the blue door - behind the blue door.

Whatever happened to Mrs. Gallo and Bartels and James? The wedding date has apparently been set. The Baron's husband and husband's wife to be, decided a wedding date that should not be, especially when compromising positions occur where someone will see.

Is Miss Rexall Mae keeping Granny happy and the tears out of your eyes. And is Granny holding or just sporing? Are the family jewels cut or uncut? Will the family ever be together again?

Clyde just rolled into town and his wheels just rolled away.

Where's that dependable footmobile? Will a couple of the bars in town be merging sometime soon or will there be a fly in the merger? Speaking of which, does that fly wear a hat? Miss Mae's box recently had a partial hysterectomy or lobotomy or was that a lypo suction?

Speaking of boxes, the Kelly Girls did manage to get a new box! And is Nurse Jane still living high on her box or has she finally come down?

Tina and Puchi are still around and getting used to their new box.

So will JTs ever be blessed with another graceful cow such as last weekend. Will the floor ever be the same" Madam Butterfly LIVES!

Leave it to Granny, Miss Mae, R. Wila to do the Southeastern Arizona tour, encompassing Bisbee, Tombstone, Douglas and all points in between including St. Elmo's and the Copper Queen Hotel. The tour apparently left behind a fear-stricken waiter and angry, haughty bar manager who thought he played a great game of shuffleboard. And poor Sophie who might still be standing at the bar or the dance floor waiting for her Don Juan donning dance duds doing disco delivering dazzling dance steps.

Theresa Brewery returned to the Old Pueblo for a short visit rounder than ever as a full figured girl. However, the Old Pueblo couldn't handle more than a few days of her, so she was extradited back to the French Quarter.

Who said a date only lasts a couple of hours? From the Ponderosa to the bars and again all points in between, breakfast included!!

Is Sister Mary Virgetta correct in saying that Josefinetta Johnston has a new husband! Thank god he doesn't have blue yes or Sister Mary would have been peddling her butt somewhere else!

If it wasn't for sunglasses and a little discretion, a certain family reunion, some closet doors would not be there!!

Cowboy may now really be since he has his own cowgirl with evidence from Laramie, Wyoming. So, what's with KITTY WONDER and the new outlaw in town. Does Dudley Do Right do cowboys and Vanna said she really was safe, probably because she's always missing! Can't get any safer than that!!

Til next time, forever yours
Jza Jza La More

AND BUSIER

TUCSON!
GET READY FOR
BEACH PARTY II

Beach Party II
OUTDOOR CONCERT

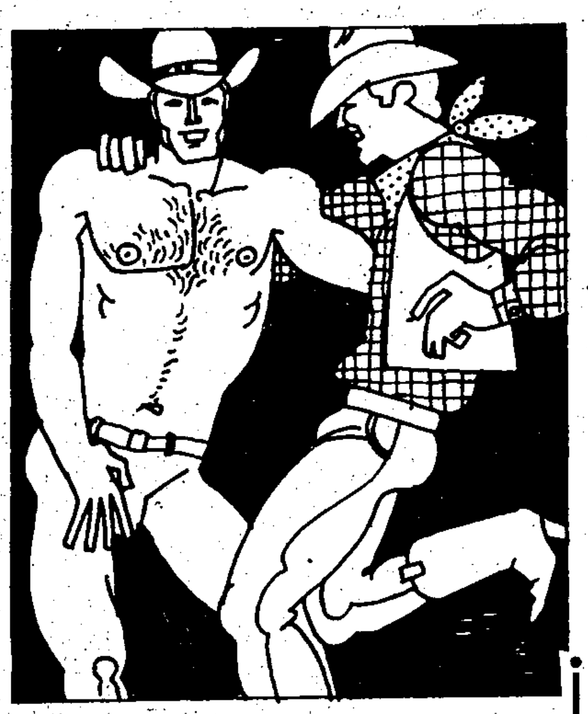
THINK BACK!
B.J. Thomas
Jan & Dean
The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie
The Grass Roots
Six T's

October 15, 1989
Gates Open At 9:30 a.m.
Concert Begins At Noon
at SPORTSPARK
(I-10 at Ina Road)

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE JOSHUA TREE
FREE TICKETS
DAILY
AND
AFTER
BEACH PARTY II
SHOW
9:30 P.M.
STARRING
BECKY
MARC ANTHONY
JAKE
AND
SOME SPECIAL
SURPRISE GUESTS

JOSHUA TREE / BACK POCKET · 2921 N. 1st AVE · TUCSON

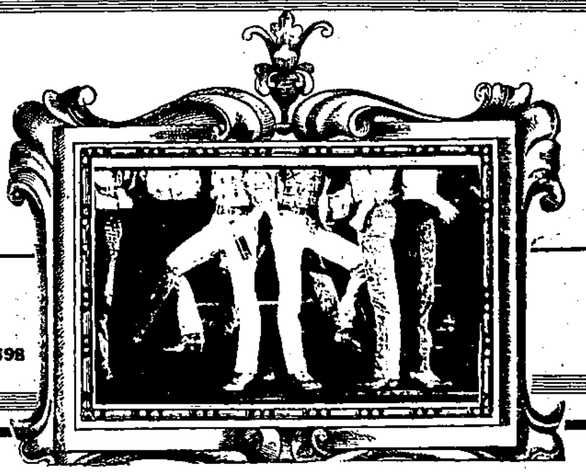
Joshua Tree/
Back Pocket
2921 N. 1st Avenue 622-6233



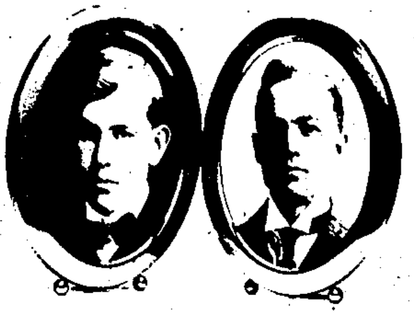
RUMORZ

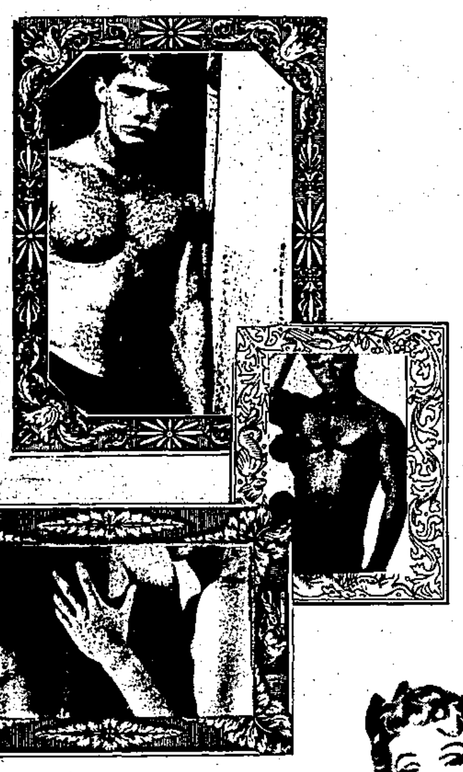
GAY gazette

Issue 291 November 14, 1898



EXTRA!





Three cheers

Special Guests
LOREN JOHNSON

COPPER CITY SQUARES

and Miss Gay Tucson
CHRISTINE SHADE

SUNDAY
OCT. 15
S.O.S.
HOEDOWN
1:00 - 9:00 P.M.

$2.00 DONATION

requested at door but will be waived for those who cannot afford it.

A DAY OF WESTERN DANCING

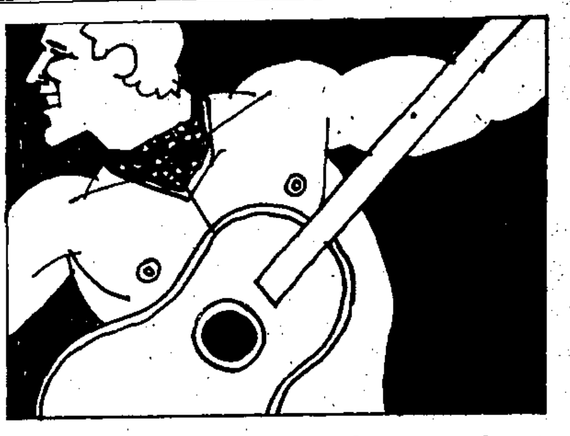
MUSIC – FOOD
AND ENTERTAINMENT !

Guest DJ JOEY from
CHARLIE'S
in Phoenix

An Invitation.

To one classic experience

RAFFLE DRAWINGS ALL DAY
$1,000 In Prizes
include a 13" COLOR TV
to be drawn at 9 p.m.



S.O.S. is a community service organization

Rumorz 2222

2222 N. Stone,
Tucson | 791-0309

CALENDAR
of upcoming events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

COLETTE'S - Showtime! starring Penelope Poupe' and Lady Casondra beginning at 8:30 p.m. $2 at the door.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

GRADUATE - TKO Beer Bust 2 to 6 p.m. Free raffle tickets for prizes. Then Loren Johnson performs beginning at 8:30 an the SOS Hoedown Kick-Off Show.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

COLETTE'S - The ever popular Lisa Otey holds forth here with her unique vocal stylings. Catch it!

IBT'S - Penelope Poupe' returns with those Hot Men from Phoenix. They begin shedding their clothing at 9:00 p.m. and there is no cover. Check this out and watch these hot male strippers!

JOSHUA TREE - Beach Party II will be celebrated here following the big outdoor concert held at Sportspark. Showtime begins at 9:30 p.m. and will feature the vocal stylings of Becky plus the talents of Marc Anthony, Jake and some of your other favorite entertainers. There was a big party after the concert last year and there is a chance that some of the headliners from the concert will be in attendance too! Check it out!

RUMOR HAZZIT - Sisters of Sonora (SOS) will hold their big Fall Hoedown here. 1 until 9 p.m. Joey, popular DJ at Charlie's in Phoenix will be spinning your favorite C/W dance music all day and evening. Also appearing will be Loren Johnson, the Copper City Squares and Miss Gay Tucson Christine Shade. There will be raffle drawings all day long for the $1,000 worth of prizes including a 13" Color TV which will be raffled off at 9:00 p.m. There is a $2.00 donation at the door which will be waived for anyone who cannot afford it. A big time in the old town tonight!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

COLETTE'S - It's Womyn's Night here again with the entie evening devoted to womyn's music. Good times.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

COLETTE'S - It's the monthly Country/Western Night here and Loren Johnson makes it all happen. Come on down!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

COLETTE'S - It's that great "Dating Game" once again here. An evening of hilarious entertainment by some unsuspecting people. Fashion/lingerie show before the game.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

GRADUATE - The 7th Annual Turnabout Night takes place here. Watch for more details or contact the Graduate for Roger or Kenny Anne.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Pianist David Payne will be playing your favorite tunes at the Baby Grand piano from 1 to 5. A nice way to spend a Sunday afternoon with your friends.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

COLETTE'S - Singer - songwriter Anne English entertains here. A wonderful talented performer.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

COLETTE'S - Even though the real day is Oct. 31, Halloween will be celebrated here with a real old-fashioned party. Costumes will be judged here at 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

COLETTE'S - Singer Patti McCulla will be performing here beginning at 8:30 p.m. Come early and get a good seat.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

COLETTE'S - Halloween II, 9:00 p.m., a mini-version continued from Saturday with another costume Contest and all! Happy spooks to all.

GRADUATE - Halloween at the Graduate. A show with the crowning of a new Miss Graduate of 1989. Costume Contest with prizes of $50, $75 and $100.

SPORTS

THE NEW JOSHUA TREE BOWLING LEAGUE
FIRST HALF OF 1989-90 SEASON
MONDAY, OCT. 9, 1989

TEAM	WON	LOST	PCT.	GB
1. BANANA NUT BREAD	22	6	.786	--
2. THE BACKDOOR BOYS	21	7	.750	1
3. "THE WEEK AFTER NEXT"	20	8	.714	2
4. BACK POCKET	20	8	.714	2
5. BOOK BROTHERS LIMITED	15	13	.536	7
6. SOMETHIN REAL CUTE	14	14	.500	8
7. JOSHUA TREE	12	16	.429	10
8. THE STRAY BALLS	9	19	.321	13
9. THE VIRGINS	7	21	.250	15

HIGH GAME SCRATCH: THE BACKDOOR BOYS 715 / BILL C. 231 / CAROL N 163.
HIGH GAME HANDICAP: THE WEEK AFTER NEXT 873 / MARK K. 264 / TINA N. 234.
HIGH SERIES SCRATCH: THE BACKDOOR BOYS 1936 / BILL C. 572 / CAROL N. 410.
HIGH SERIES HANDICAP: BOOKS BROTHERS LTD. 2495 / BOB S. 701 / TINA N. 622.

HONOR ROLL: BOOKS BROTHERS LTD. 2495 / BILL C. 572 / CAROL N. 400.

Non-Bar
CALENDAR

[NOTE: IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT OR SPECIAL HAPPENING THAT YOU FEEL SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THIS NON-BAR ACTIVITY CALENDAR, PLEASE CONTACT BEN CORBIN PRIOR TO MONDAY OF THAT WEDNESDAY'S PAPER FOR INCLUSION IN THAT WEEKS ISSUE. AFTER FIRST NOTICE HAS APPEARD IT WILL APPEAR WEEKLY UNTIL THE EVENT HAS TAKEN PLACE. MR. CORBIN MAY BE REACHED AT 297-1909 OR 622-4536].

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

C.A.T. committee meeting. This meeting will be held at Mi Casa Su Casa starting at 6 p.m. This will be a general meeting and will include a pot-luck supper in conjunction with the regular meeting. This will also be a BYOB function.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Arizona Lambda Democratic Caucus invites you to a party to introduce Tucson's Democratic City Council Candidates to the Lesbian and Gay community. The affair is being held at 1602 E. Greenlee (one block south of Prince Road on the corner of Greenlee and Cherry). Come and meet your City Council Candidates! Bring a friend.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Anne English, vocalist, musician, songwriter and popular entertainer will perform at Boomer's Cafe Espresso at 8:30 p.m. It's still warm enough to spend the evening on the patio under the stars. Open until 3 a.m.

All Miss Gay Arizona Pageant candidates will lmeet at 2:00 p.m. on the Patio at IBT's. Anyone interested in more information on the Pageant is welcome to attend also.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

A benefit dance "St Joan's Arc: The Dance" for Wingspan will be held at the Club Congress, 311 WEast Congress from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission of $3.00 for Lesbian/Gay Alliance members, Wingspan members and students. For all others admission will be $4.00. I.D. will be required to be served any alcoholic drinks. All ages welcome.

KXCI Women's Radio Broadcast today features Bluegrass - Country and Traditional Music. 7 to 8 p.m. 91.7 FM.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Mi Casa Su Casa's Taco Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. Weather pemitting, this event will be held poolside. A $4.00 donation is requested for the open buffet.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Former Los Angeles police officer Mitchell Grobeson will come to the Hotel Park Tucson to tell Old Pueblo Business and Professional Association members and guests about the circumstances that led to his dismissal from the force, and harassment that defied L.A.'s liberal laws against discrimination based on sexual orientation. Greetings begin at 7:30 p.m., the meeting at 8. This is OPBPA's homecoming night, free for all.

Womyn's 3rd Friday Coffee House meets at Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd. $1 donation at the door if you can. This month will feature Boomer's Coffee Cart.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Mi Casa Su Casa's First Annual Queen's Bazaar and Swap Meet will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Buy-Sell-Trade. Hats, wigs, make-up, dresses etc. Plus an All-You-Can-Eat B-B-Q $4.00 Donation. Set up for Swap Meet is free. Christine Shade is your hostess for the day. Clean out your closets!

Boomer's Cafe Espresso will present Emily Young on her Acoustic Guitar. Plan now for this evening of entertainment. Open until 3 a.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

KXCI evening of Women's Radio Broadcast today features an interview with Robin Nagore, director, Northwest Neighborhood Center. 7 to 8 p.m. 91.7 FM.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

The Arizona Lambda Democratic Caucus will meet at 7:00 p.m. at 560 S. Stone (MCC church building) Everyone invited.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Mi Casa Su Casa will have their annual Halloween Costume Ball. This will be done in the Mi Casa Su Casa tradition so watch for another first. This will be an admittance by invitation only, so for more info in obtaining your invitation call 885-0115.

WEEKLY MEETINGS

EVERY TUESDAY

HIV/AIDS Emotional Support Group, 7:30-9 p.m. every Tuesday, TAP office, 151 S. Tucson Blvd. #252. call 322-6226 for more info.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Positive Approach to Living with HIV, at P.A.C.T. office every Wed. 7 P.M. You do have choices, come and learn. 151 S. Tucson Blvd. #282.

EVERY 1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY

"IMAGES" Shanti Support Group - 7 p.m. A support group focusing on positive attitudes, self-love and self-healing. HIV+/AIDS persons encouraged. Call 571-0372 for location.

EVERY SATURDAY

HIV Wellness Clinic for HIV+, ARC/AIDS. Balancing the mind, body and spirit in a supportive and confidential atmosphere. Yoga, nutrition and treatment options. Every Saturday, 1-4 p.m., 151 S. Tucson Blvd. TAP and P.A.C.T. offices.

Family, Friends and Lovers Support Group. 1:30 p.m. Shanti Office. Call 622-7107 to reserve a place.

Tucson
CALENDAR

sunday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Noon to 7 pm Draft Beer .50 per glass; Bloody Marys $1.25. Steak Dinner 5 pm to ??? $4.00. DJ from 9 pm until 1 am, Linda Fizdale.

COLETTE'S WEST - "Wine Down Nite" $1.00 Wine 8 pm to Midnight. Movie Nite on the big screen at 7 pm.

GRADUATE - All White Well $1.25 daytime / $1.50 nites.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Flamingo Cafe open noon to 4, great food from your hostess Kenny Anne. Noon to ??? Country Music - line dancing - drink specials. Dance 9 - 1.

RAINBOW ROOM - Open Noon until 1:00 a.m.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - Noon to 6 pm. Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys $1.25 + Schnapps .50/shot. DJ Dwayne 9 to 1.

monday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Noon to 7 pm Draft Beer .50 Schnapps .75 /4-8 pm Well $1.50, Domestic Beer $1.25 / 8 pm to 1 am Miller bottle or Schnapps .75 Bowler's Special with Fiesta Bowling card .50 off well and beer 9 to 1.

COLETTE'S WEST - Daily sandwich special. All White Well $1.00 from 8 pm to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour prices opening until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 4 pm, Well drinks $1.25 (w/juice $1.50), Longnecks $1.50, Draft .75; 4 to 8 pm Two for One. 8-1 Miller Products $1.25. Dance 9 - 1.

RAINBOW ROOM - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4 to 7 pm: Two for 1 drinks. Bowlers Special 1/2 price drinks for bowlers.

RUMORHAZZIT 2222 - 4-7 p.m. 2 for 1 well/beer. Monday Night football on giant screen plus complimentary food by Coach John; Monday night drink specials. Dewey DJs at 9.

tuesday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Noon to 7 p.m. Draf Beer .50 - Schnapps .75 / 4-8 pm Domestic Beer $1.25, Well drinks $1.50. Corona Beer $1.00 ot Well Tequila $1.50 from 8 pm to 1 am. + 'Stop Light' specials. Bobby Jr. DJ's at 9.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special. Longneck Bottle Beer Special: $1.25 from 8:00 until midnight. DJ from 8 to midnight.

GRADUATE - .50 draft from opening to closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 4 pm Well drinks $1.25 (w/juice $1.50), Longnecks $1.50, .75 draft; 4 to 8 pm Two for 1. 8-1 Bud Products $1.25. Dance 9 - 1.

RAINBOW ROOM - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m.: Two for One drinks.

RUMORHAZZIT - Open Noon to 1 am. 2 for 1 well/ beer 4-7 pm. VJ/DJ 9-1 with Dwayne.

wednesday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Draft Beer Bust from Noon to Close Draft Beer .50 - Schnapps .75 / 4-8 pm non-premium beer $1.25, Well drinks $1.50. DJ Linda 9pm.

COLETTE'S WEST - Daily sandwich special. Schnapps $1.00 from 8 pm to Midnight. Pool Tournament 8:00 p.m.

GRADUATE - Non-premium beers $1.25 days / $1.50 nites.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 4 p.m. Well drinks $1.25 (w/juice $1.50) Longnecks $1.50 & .75 draft. 4 to 8 Two for One. 8-1 Well Nite, all Well .75, Dance 9 - 1.

RAINBOW ROOM - Happy Hour 4-7 pm: Two for One drinks.

RUMORHAZZIT - 4-7 p.m. 2 for 1 well/beer. Bud Can Beer Nite - .50 per can, plus .50 schnapps from 7 pm until close. VJ/DJ Reuben begins at 9

thursday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Draft Beer Bust from Noon to Close Draft Beer .50 - Schnapps .75 / 4-8 pm non-premium beer $1.25, Well drinks $1.50. DJ 9 to 1 Dave Pierson.

COLETTE'S WEST - Big League Baseball on TV with .50 draft and .50 Hot Dogs during game. "Sudsersize!" .75 draft beer from 8 pm to Midnight.

GRADUATE - All Dark Well $1.25 days / $1.50 nites.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 4 pm Well Drinks $1.25 (w/juice $1.50). Longnecks $1.50. Draft .75, 4 - 8 pm Two for One. 8-1 Beer Bust, all can beer .50/can. Dance 9 - 1.

RAINBOW ROOM - Happy Hour 4-7 pm: Two for One drinks.

RUMORHAZZIT - 2 for 1 well/beer 4-7 p.m. Kegger 8 pm to 12 am .50 per glass, munchies. Video/disco dancing with Reuben from 9-1.

friday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Noon to 7 pm Draft Beer .50 / Schnapps .75 / 4-8 pm non-premium beer $1.25, Well drinks $1.50. DJ 9 pm to 1 am, Bobby Jr.

COLETTE'S WEST - International Happy Hour plus Party Nite - Hourly Drink Specials 8 p.m. to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 4 pm, Well Drinks $1.25 (w/juice $1.50), Longnecks $1.50, draft .75; 4 to 8 Two for One; 8-1 Well drinks $1.50 (w/juice $1.75); Dance 9-1.

RAINBOW ROOM - Happy Hour 4-7 pm: Two for One drinks. DJ "Spin" Flinn plays from 9 to 1.

RUMORHAZZIT - 2 for 1 beer/well 4-7 p.m. Progressive Friday: Well drinks .75 from 7 to 9 then up a quarter each hour til 1 am. VJ/DJ Reuben 9-1.

saturday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Happy Hour 5-8 pm $1.25. non-Premium Beer and $1.50 Well Drinks. DJ 9-1 Bobby Jr.

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

GRADUATE - Drink Specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 4 pm, Well Drinks $1.25 (w/juice $1.50), Longnecks $1.50, Draft .75; 4 to 8 Two for One. 8-1 Well drinks $1.75 (w/juice $1.75); Dance 9 - 1.

RAINBOW ROOM - DJ "Spin" Flinn plays from 9 pm to 1 am.

RUMORHAZZIT - Open Noon to 1 am. .99 Corona Nite 8 pm-12 am. A hot dance nite with VJ/DJ Reuben 9-1.

CENTER for HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
a professional corporation
10 E. Broadway, Suite 206
The Westerner Building
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Daniel B. Overbeck, Ph.D.
CERTIFIED PSYCHOLOGIST
(602) 884-0476

JAMIE ANDERSON LP AVAILABLE

TUCSON - Tsunami Records has announced the release of "Closer To Home" by Jamie Anderson. "It's women's music full of strength, honesty and humor — folk blended with blues, rock, bluegrass and country." The album is being distributed nationally and is available in Tucson through Antigone Books, Colette's West, Womancraft or directly from Tsunami Records.

Known for her warm alto voice and personable stage manner, Jamie Anderson has been performing since 1979. She has played for a large variety of audiences, from coffee houses to concert halls, all over the United States. Jamie has completed two national tours and will tour again in the Spring of 1990.

"Closer To Home" features Jamie on vocals and guitar. She is joined in the studio by some of the Southwest's finest musicians. Jamie's wonderful songwriting skills are featured in songs like the hauntingly beautiful "Closer To Home" (about armament funding), to the hilarious "Straight Girl Blues" ("Why do these straight girls look so butch to me?"). The album also contains "Save All Your Saturdays" an exciting love song to a woman, and "Sidewalks", a biting tune about the homeless; both songs are by Arizonan Michelle Marquand.

This is Tsunami Records first release, and is available nationally through Ladyslipper, a national distributor of women's music. Started in January of this year, Tsunami will release more albums by Jamie Anderson.

PHOENIX CHOSEN AS ONE OF 18 FOR AIDS TREATMENT RESEARCH PROGRAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

taking research to the people, and, in this way, involving those who might otherwise have no access to the best AIDS therapies that medicine can offer."

Lawrence Deyton, M.S.P.H., M.D. NIAID assistant director for community research, said that the number of responses to the institute's request for proposals was unprecedented in the history of NIAID. "We were especially pleased by the high quality of the applications we received," he said. "Clearly, there is a need for community-based research, and there are many dedicated physicians and nurses, as well as interested patients who are eager to participate in this kind of program.

Contracts for the Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS have been awarded to groups of health care providers who serve large numbers of persons who are infected with the AIDS virus, and who have varying degrees of expertise in conducting research.

The awards include 11 "Stage One" contracts, awarded to groups of investigators with limited previous clinical research experience, and 7 "Stage Two" contractors, awarded to groups already capable of conducting clinical research. The Phoenix Shanti Group received a "Stage One" contract.

NIAID will provide will provide CPCRA participants with technical assistance in such areas as epidemiology, biostatistics and pharmacology, and will provide training in data management, ensuring patient compliance practices, follow up procedures and other methodology necessary to the success of the studies.

News From MCC Tucson

The City of Tucson has started yet another major street reconstruction. South Stone Avenue from the downtown area to 17th Street is now ripped to shreds. South Stone Ave. is now a one lane street going south and there is absolutely no parking on Stone Avenue.

But MCC/Tucson is accessible and parking is available. Proceed south on Stone Ave. to 17th Street. Turn right on 17th Street and drive one block west to Rubio. Rubio is a named street but it is more like an alley but very easy to find. Make a right turn into Rubio and drive north just past the MCC/Tucson building, a large parking area is on your right and extends through to Stone Avenue. From what we can find out, South Stone will be under construction for approximately six months!

Our regularly scheduled services will continue with no interruptions. Our Sunday Morning Service starts at 10:45 a.m. and our Sunday Evening Service starts at 5:30 p.m. Our Wednesday midweek Service starts at 6:45 p.m,. The church office is open on Wednesdays through Saturdays from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. The church telephone number is 622-4536, if you need any information.

This coming Sunday, MCC/Tucson will be joining SOS with the Annual Hoedown at Rumors with a Bake Sale. Join us as SOS presents one of the 'really big' events of the year.

Thought for the Week: There is one thing about being bald - it's neat.

DESERT LEATHERMEN'S 'MYSTERY RUN' A 'KILLER' OF A WEEKEND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

awards were: Doc Moffit, CCMC, San Diego - Sherlock Holmes Award; Abby Snowhite, DL - Dr. Watson Award; Skip Scroggins, Satyricons M/C, Las Vegas - Miss Marple Trivia; Peggy Terlisner, GDI, Inspector Clouseau Award.

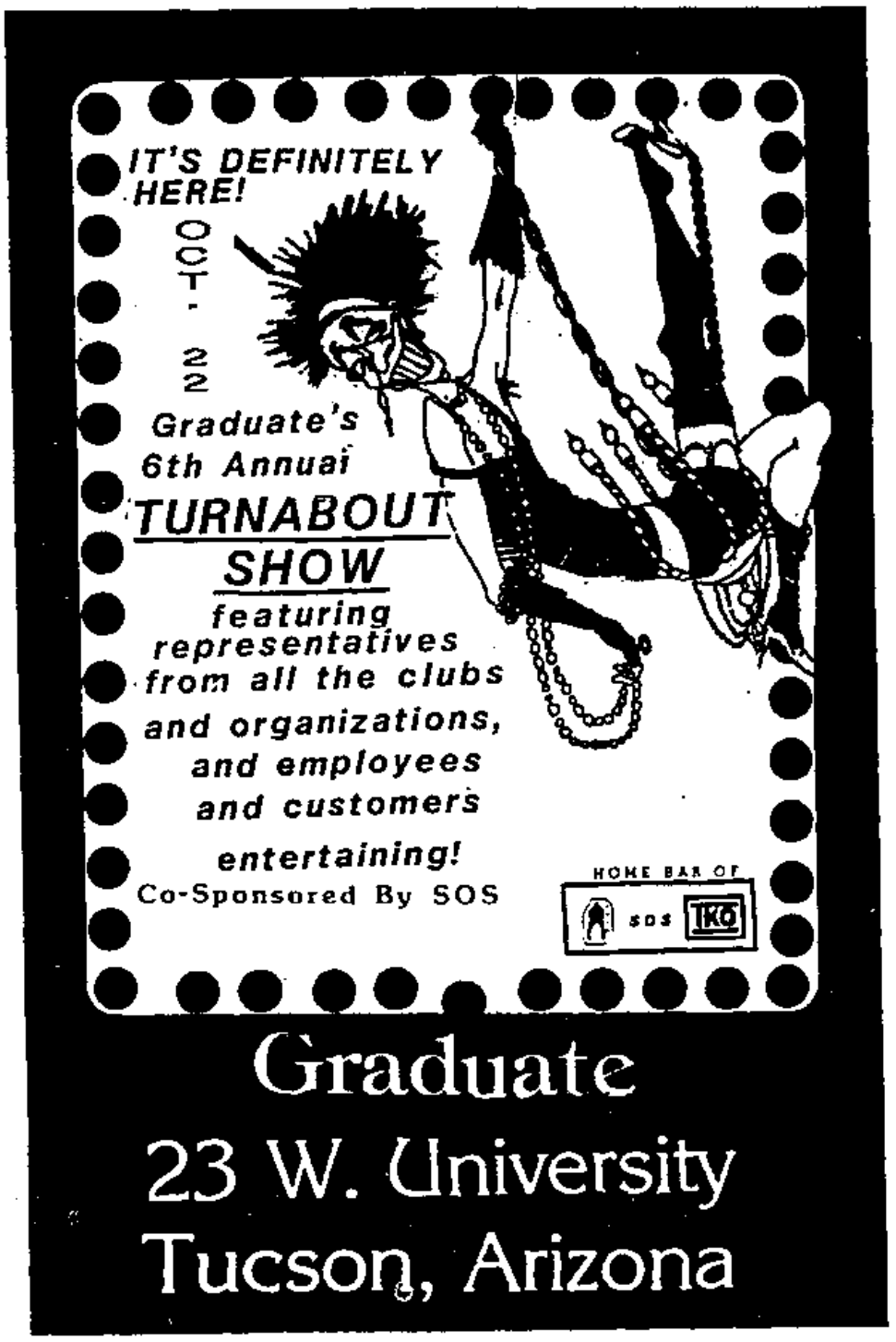
The weekend culminated at Desert Leathermen's 4th Anniversary Beer Bust and Dinner at Mi Casa Su Casa. Entertainment that evening was provided by IBT's Copper City Squares, Margo Leigh, Michelle Kristi, and of course, a Desert Leathermen tradition was upheld as Kate Smith once again sand "God Bless America".

DL also installed their new officers for the coming year. The group is pictured above. Newly elected president Ernie Hoop also made the announcement that Bill Finley would be serving as his First Lady for the coming term.

A gift of a colorful pinata was presented to CCMC, in remembrance of Desert Leathermen's visit with them in San Diego in August.

Cocktails were available poolside all evening. A hearty chuckwagon-style dinner was served, including Token Broad II's homemade peach cobbler. Everyone who attended was treated to an evening of fun, community love and downright upstanding brotherhood.

No definite plans were forthcoming as to next year's Mystery Run and Anniversary, but Desert Leathermen have certainly found a formula that seems to be very successful.



NUDE ECSTATIC MASSAGE WORKSHOP

Freeing the Body Erotic

A weekend of nude erotic massage for gay men, conducted by Joe Kramer, Director, San Francisco-based Body Electric School of Massage.

★ Join in the exciting adventure of developing a new mode of erotic connection among gay men!

★ Step out of the Dark Ages, open your heart and develop new ways to play and celebrate life!

★ Develop pleasurable, healthy, loving ways to connect with yourself and others using Taoist, Tantric and Native American approaches to massage.

Saturday October 21 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday October 22 9 am – 5 pm
$150

Write: Workshop, P.O. Box 11218, Phoenix, AZ 85061
Or call: (602) 242-9537

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PLUS TOLLS, IF ANY
FREE LINE:
327-8972
Recorded Personals

METRO COMM. INQUIRIES
327-8972

STARZ by Daymonn

ARIES
Penetrating issues must be dealt with in close relationships. You may be feeling overly aggressive this week so be sure you consider the reaction other people will have to your enthusiastic pursuit. Remind yourself that others may not be as straightforward with what they feel. Persuasion in the right area will break the ice and allow for a happy close encounter of the sexual kind.

TAURUS
A close female friend has interesting information you will want to hear. Work related issues can have a strong effect on your goals for the future. Love is a process of sharing feelings to insure that love will grow. Financial involvement may be difficult to keep out of your love life.

GEMINI
You will meet a very attractive person that is somehow linked to women you work with. This new person has bright ideas about entertainment and the potential of profit. Do not agree to any bargains until after you have taken time to think things over.

CANCER
This is a good year to achieve some very personal and private goals you have set for yourself. Focusing energy in and around the home is wise. Working with or for an emotional female can cause a degree of stress but this is a passing influence.

LEO
Be careful if you are considering a financial move with a female friend. Joint financial involvement has protective energy influencing the outcome but the profit from such a venture could be less than you expect. The work environment may be experiencing irritable feelings coming from many other people. Stop and think before taking decisive action.

VIRGO
Your desire to achieve greater financial security could encounter interference from friends if you are too easily influenced. One very supportive friend could come to your rescue if you find yourself involved over your head. Thank your lucky stars this friend is there to be your ally when you really need someone you can trust.

LIBRA
Work and fellow employees may be filled with unpleasant conversations you will do your best to stay out of. If someone is deliberately trying to screw up your day, avoid becoming involved in an overly emotional manner. See through what others are trying to do and balance this uneven situation.

SCORPIO
It could be the proper time to act to secure a long dreamed of goal. Be aware that a secret you have wanted to surprise someone with may not be as much of a surprise as you thought it would be. If someone you know has been holding a grudge from the past you may find this person seeking subtle revenge in the near future.

CENTAUR
A Centaur is, in some mythologies, described as a monster having the torso of a man and the horse's ass. If there is a sign more honest than Centaur I am sure these other signs are a little less blunt about it. Centaurs are almost always optimistic and enjoy having a way with words that is often followed by laughter.

CAPRICORN
It appears in the graph that you are telling someone important things about expansive partnership developments. It also appears that some of this information is going to a third party you are unaware is receiving your words second hand. Carefully guard your reputation. Keep your own secrets but keep the secrets of others as well.

AQUARIUS
A good friend could be the key to stumbling onto a better job potential. Carefully consider what you want from the long-range picture. They say that when there is a fork in the road, it is wise to consider directions before departing down the wrong path.

PISCES
Friends who you respect can be the escorts to an interesting romantic alliance. There could be a degree of uncertainty and mystery surrounding the near future. Powerful people may be in a position to bring you unexpected advancement.

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Some condoms allow AIDS virus to escape study says

LOS ANGELES, CA - Four of the nation's most popular condom brands permitted the AIDS virus to escape in laboratory tests, prompting researchers to warn users that they should not assume that all condoms work equally well in preventing spread of the disease.

The researchers found that the AIDS virus leaked in one of the 10 condoms tested in each of three brands, and six of 25 tested in the fourth.

"The chance of using a defective condom is small," the study, conducted for UCLA, concluded, but the laboratory results "suggest that all condoms may not be equally effective in preventing (AIDS) transmission."

That conclusion conflicts with a key element of the federal government's AIDS-prevention strategy, which assumed that all condoms blocked the transmission of the AIDS virus with equal effectiveness. The government has emphasized condom use without regard to possible differences among brands.

The 1,000-page report of the federally-funded study, obtained by the Los Angeles Times under the Freedom of Information Act, also listed 10 top ranked condom brands that performed well in a wide variety of laboratory tests.

The top-10 ranking was dominated by products manufactured by Schmid Laboratories, which markets the Ramses and Sheik condom brands and Circle Rubber Corp., which makes such products as Gold Circle, Gold Circle Coin and Pleaser.

The UCLA report found the Mentor brand to be apparently highest-ranking. However, because the Mentor Corp. changed the manufacturer of the condom it markets after the UCLA testing was completed, researchers said the ranking was open to question.

Overall, among the thousands of condoms tested, the study found that 0.66 percent of the condoms - more than one of every 200 - failed, either allowing water or air to escape, breaking in tensile strength tests or leaking the AIDS virus.

The researchers called for more effective condom-safety programs by the Food and Drug Administration - with inspectors taking samples from retail store shelves instead of factory stocks.

Here are the latex condoms that permitted the AIDS virus to escape, either through pinholes, tears or pores in the rubber membrane:

** Lifestyles Conture (Ansell Americas Inc.)
** Trojan Naturalube (Carter-Wallace Inc.)
** Contracept Plus (National Sanitary Laboratories)

The Contracept Plus test (in which six of the 25 leaked) apparently was based on a batch of condoms that had deteriorated badly during storage.

National Gay & Lesbian Crisisline

CALL 1-800-SOS-GAYS
(1-800-767-4297)
HOURS: 5-10 p.m., Mon-Fri
1-5 p.m., Saturday
(Eastern Time)

The National Gay & Lesbian Crisisline/AIDS 800, is the only nationwide toll-free service providing information, referrals and counseling to Gay men and Lesbians - their families and concerned friends. It is the only national hotline for AIDS information and counseling that specifically addresses the concerns of the Gay community, and serves as a major referral source for U.S. government hotlines.

Crisisline/AIDS 800 is staffed by more than 100 volunteer men and women who are professionally trained in phone counseling and crisis intervention. Their referral capabilities are backed up by a comprehensive database of more than 6,000 resources nationwide, including 2,000 entries for AIDS-related services.

More than 30,000 callers are directly assisted each year. A sample includes:

** The mother of a Gay man with AIDS who feels isolated and frustrated by the task of caring for him.

** The kid in the Midwest who is confused about his feelings for his best friend.

** The Gay teenager in Vermont who has been thrown out by her very religious family and is contemplating suicide.

** The elderly New Yorker "widowed" by the loss of her lover of thirty years.

** The married, middle-aged businessman in the South who has fallen in love with another man.

** The straight brother of a Gay youth who committed suicide after forced electroshock therapy.

** The many kids growing up Gay everywhere who need honest, specific information on how to prevent the spread of AIDS.

Crisisline/AIDS 800 is a program of the Fund For Human Dignity, a New York-based non-profit organization dedicated to better education about Gay and Lesbian lives. For general information, contact Sherrie Cohen, Executive Director, 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012 or call (212)529-1600.

Lambda 'Meet The Candidate Night' Oct. 13

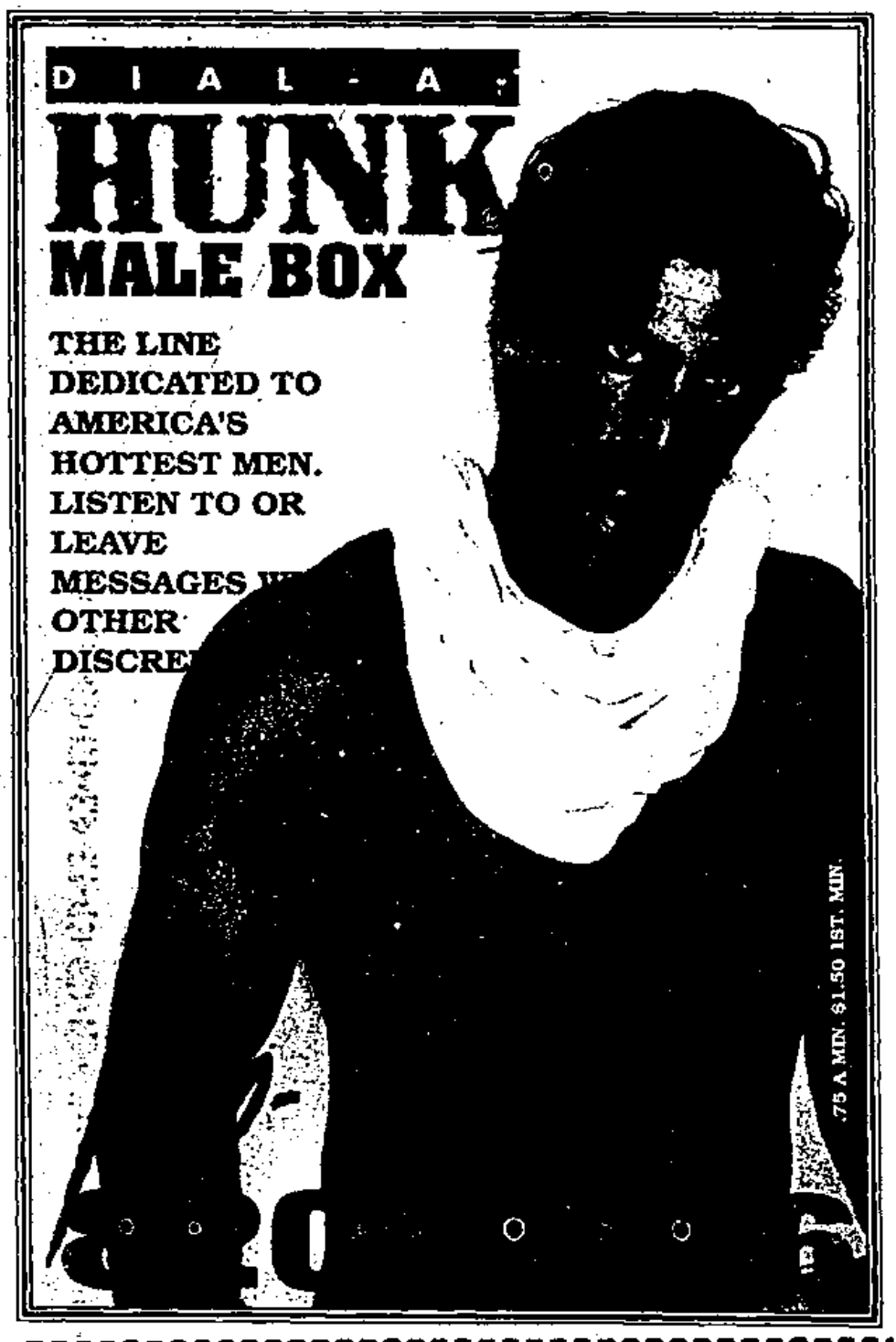
TUCSON - The Arizona Lambda Democratic Caucus' first major event is sponsoring "Meet The Candidate Night" on Friday, Oct. 13 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

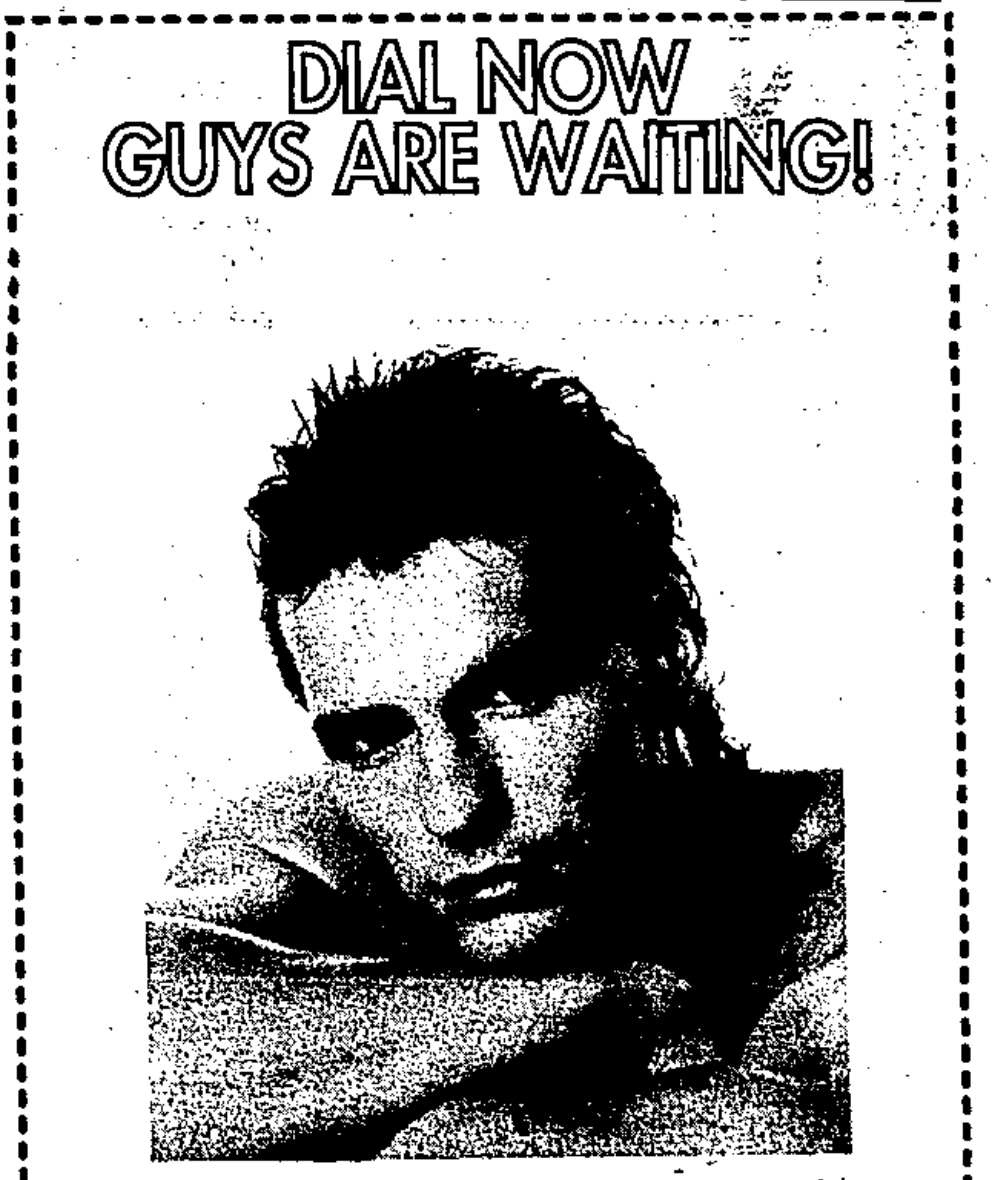
The candidates for City Council in the upcoming November elections who will be present include incumbent George Miller from Ward 3; Steve Leal, candidate in Ward 5 and Molly McKasson, candidate in Ward 6. All three will be in attendance to answer any questions regarding the political race or their opinions on the various issues and problems facing this city.

Also in attendance will be Mayor Tom Volgy and the other City Councilmembers, Janet Marcus and Bruce Wheeler.

There will be a no-host bar sponsored by Colette's West; Boomer's Cafe Espresso is sponsoring Hors d'Oeuvres. The Metropolitan Community Church Choir, 35-strong, will be there to entertain as well.

Everyone is invited to attend this spectacular first-time event which will be held outside, weather permitting. The Location is at 1602 Greenlee, one block south of Prince Road on the corner of Greenlee and Cherry, Friday, Oct. 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. Please come and bring a friend!





POLITICS '89

by Mark R. Kerr

HUNGARY: The delegates at Community Party Congress overwhelmingly approved a reform motion to disband the Hungarian Communist Party, and to replace it with a sociality party committed to democracy, similar to the West German Social Democratic Party, and the British Labour Party. There were 1,202 delegates present at the Congress. 1,005 voted for the motion, 159 against and 38 abstentions.

The resolution also stated that communism was history in Hungary. Also the name of the new party was to be the Socialist Party of Hungary. The new party is expected to join the Socialist International. In the spring of 1990, Hungary will hold free multi-party elections, for the first time in 41 years.

WASHINGTON, DC: The House of Representatives last week, under pressure from Senior Citizen groups, voted overwhelmingly to repeal the Catastrophic Health Care Act, which was introduced a year ago by the late Claude Pepper of Florida. By a vote of 360-66 the whole bill was repealed. Supporters of the Act, introduced an amendment to keep the portion of the Act that dealt with containing the costs of prescriptions. That was also defeated by a vote of 156-269.

ATLANTA: Former Atlanta Mayor, Maynard Jackson, scored a big victory in the Mayoral Primary, that was held last week. Jackson received just a little over 85% of the votes. He easily defeated Hosea Williams, who was on the City Council and who is also head of the SCLC, who received 14% of the vote. The remaining 1% went to the four other candidates who were in the race.

Maynard Jackson served as mayor of Atlanta from 1974 until 1981. Atlanta law states that a person cannot serve as mayor for more than two terms. Outgoing Mayor Andrew Young, is rumored to be planning a run for the Governor's office which is up for election in 1990.

PHOENIX: Last week, the City of Phoenix held their primary elections for the post of Mayor and the City Council seats that were up. The elections showed that mudslinging does not work, in fact it hurts a campaign. For Mayor, incumbent Democrat, Terry Goddard, easily trounced Arizona Republican Party Chair, Burton Kruglick, by an overwhelming 2 to 1 margin.

Charlie Harrison, of the Arizona Committee for Progress stated that the Gay and Lesbian vote was 95% for Goddard. Charlie also stated that during the campaign, Kruglick made an absolute fool of himself because of the mudslinging that was done, and to other charges that he made against Goddard.

In the City Council races, in Dist. 1, there will be a runoff between Skip Rumsea who finished with 39% of the vote, the the incumbent Bill Parks, who came in second with 34% of the vote. The other incumbent council members, Linda Nadolski, Calvin Goode, Thelda Williams, John Nelson and Howard Adams were re-elected.

GEORGE MILLER

A true friend to the Gay and Lesbian community of Tucson, one of the few in office that we can count on. George Miller is up for re-election to the City Council, Ward 3. When you vote in November for the Ward 3 City Council seat, there is only one choice - George Miller.

Miller was one of the City Councilman who helped to get the Anti-Discrimination Ordinance passed in 1977. Tucson is the only city in the Southwest and one of only a handful nationally that has passed an ordinance protecting Gays and Lesbians.

George led the protest when Anita Bryant brought her inquisition to Tucson, and helped to get rid of it. George is a progressive Democrat who thinks of Tucsonans first. He is a person who we can count on on the City Council. Cast your vote for George Miller, Democrat, for City Council - Ward 3.

COMMENTARY: Driving down Broadway last week, I noticed some new campaign signs up. I slowed down to see whose they were. They belonged to incumbent Republican City Councilman Roy Laos. They stated that you should vote for Roy Laos because of his leadership. What leadership? Who does he lead. Women, obviously not! He believes that women should be subservient. Gays and Lesbians? Nope! Need I remind you of all of his homophobia. Do his remarks regarding the Tucson Women's Commission, and Gays and Lesbians in general ring a bell?

The handicapped? Of course not, he believes, (and has voted), that people confined in wheelchairs should not be able to ride public transit. The constituents of Ward 5? Nope, he will not serve his full term, he plans to run for Mayor, and heaven forbid try to shove his warped views down Tucson's throat. Tucsonans expect city government to spend prudently. Does Roy? No! He goes and gets himself a 2,200 square foot office, which all the other city council members could fit their respective offices in. This man must be stopped, NOW!

BULLETIN BOARD: This Friday, the 13th, the Lambda Democratic Caucus will be holding a "Meet the Candidates Night" at 1602 E. Greenlee, which is at the southeast corner of the intersection of Prince and Campbell. You are all cordially invited by me to attend, so please do.

October 21st - a date to mark on your calendars. The Arizona Democratic Party State Platform Committee hearing takes place at the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union Hall, at 2432 E. Water Street, which is right by the intersection of Grant and Tucson Boulevard. The meeting starts with registration from 8 to 9 a.m. It is open to all Democrats, so please attend.

Until next time, take care.

* * * PARTY * * *

The
ARIZONA LAMBDA
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

is hosting a party to introduce
Tucson's Democratic City Council Candidates
to the Lesbian and Gay Community
on

Friday, October 13, from 7 to 9 p.m.

at
1602 E. Greenlee
(one block south of Prince Road on the corner of Greenlee and Cherry)

Join us poolside for a pleasant evening under the stars!

Come and meet your City Council Candidates!

hors d'oeuvres and liquids compliments of
Bentley's, the Food Conspiracy Coop, Boomer's
the Tucson Cooperative Warehouse and others

Entertainment by the Tucson Metropolitan Community Chorus

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

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Notices

CRONIES: For informatin on a social gathering of men and women preferably over 40, call 323-1661.

P.A.C.T. - People With AIDS Coalition of Tucson - Broadmoor Bldg., 151 S. Tucson Blvd. Office Hours 10 am to 5 pm, M-F. Wednesdays - 7 pm, Positive Approach to Living with HIV; Saturdays -Noon to 1 pm, Open discussion group; 1-4 pm, Wellness Clinic. Call 322-9808 for information.

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.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs at 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays in front of the Himel Park Library. For more information call Mitch at 326-3332.

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is a support group available to anhyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. In Tucson, anyone is invited to contact Joan 790-7526 or Jan 885-7118 or write P.O. Box 26394, Tucson, AZ 85726. All replies confidential.

COUPLES OF TUCSON, a social and support group for Gay and Lesbian couples. For more information write P.O. Box 56613, Tucson, AZ 85703-6613, or call Bev and Bobbie at 888-8694 or Don and Harlan at 888-9236.

CASA DE LA PALOMA APOSTOLIC CHURCH. Bible Study Group meets every Saturday at 7 p.m. Affiliated with National Gay Pentacostal Association. For more information call Sandy 323-6855 in Tucson.

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.

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP NOW FORMING. The group focuses on assisting members in integrating a positive sense of self and building caring relationships. For information, contact Michael Hutchins, Ph.D., 327-4024 Tucson. 217

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

UNCIRCUMCISED MEN'S GROUP: A social and educational support and networking group for men who are uncut and cut men who want to meet men who are uncut. Part of a national organization. Write for more information to: USA/AZ P.O. Box 40504, Tucson, AZ 85717.

TRANSSEXUAL AND LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Games, Ping Pong, Potluck, Conversation and Friendship. Ask for Laura or Joan - 888-4775 Tucson. 186

YOUNG AND GAY?
Lesbians and Gay youths under 23 meet weekly in Tucson for sharing, support and information. You are not alone. Call Renee 884-7413 (days) or Wayne at 882-4009 (evenings)

LAMBDA INTRODUCTION SERVICE
If you are a Gay male and are interested in meeting new pepole with hopes of developing a relationship please contact me at 323-0067. There are some questions you will have to answer but the service is free. This is NOT an escort service.

ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO, S.I.D.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 infmation, please all Enrique at 741-1965 in Tucson.

WOMYN'S 3RD FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE meets third Friday of each month at Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd St. $1 at door (more if you can, less if you can't).

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP), 151 S. Tucson Boulevard, Suite 252 (The Broadmoor). Services for people with AIDS/ARC or HIV+; Community education. Montly public meetings. Volunteers welcome. 326-AIDS (Hotline) or 322-6226 (Administration).

ROOMMATE REFERRAL OF TUCSON
Men and women both welcome. NO FEE. Call Bill James 822-3808 in Tucson.

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

GAY AND LESBIAN ADULT DIALOGUES are informal facilitated rap-group meetings provided free for our community in Southern Arizona. Compassion and confidentiality are emphasized. Occasional films and social outings included. Voluntary donations accepted. For G.L.A.D. contact information, call INFORMATION & REFERRAL at 881-1794 Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m.

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.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Want to strengthen your marriage. Considering leaving the marriage? Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Certified psychologist facilitator. Strictly confidential. Call 884-0476 in Tucson for details.

AIDS HOTLINE - 326 AIDS. Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. to Midnight. Information, Counseling, HIV-Related Services.

The exciting art of PETER Maher is on display at Chicago Connection, 628 N. 4th Ave during the month of October.

MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets Oct. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Oct. 22. Please call marc at 881-4582. Come join us for a safe, enjoyable time. Meet someone new.

ASIAN/ORIENTAL CLUB: Men interested in joining new social, educational, political and cultural group call Bob 885-7081 or Marc 881-4582 Tucson.

WINGSPAN: Tucson's Lesbian & Gay Community Center offers support groups / library / monthly newsletter. Hotline service, 2-4 weekdays, and Mon. & Wed. eves. Men's Night on Mondays 7:30 p.m. Womyns Night on Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Volunteer opportunities. For membership information call 624-1778.

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP)
TAP is seeking caring, compassionate people to work with people with AIDS. Training is provided. For an application and more information, call 322-6226 or the AIDS Hotline, 326-AIDS.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED/TUCSON is a fellowship and support gorup for Lesbian and Gay Lutherans. We meet monthly and all are welcome. For more information call Greg at 322-6334 or write to Lutherans Concerned/Tucson, P.O. Box 40252, Tucson, AZ 85717.

GAY SUPPORT GROUP
LESBIANS AND GAY MEN MEET WEEKLY for open discussions in a loving, supporitve atmosphere. Meetings rotate Wednesdays and Thursdayus from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Roads. Call the church at 299-9063 or Paul at 81-5651 for information.

NEED BUSINESS OR PERSONAL CONTACTS IN PHOENIX?
The Camelback Business and Professional Association (CPBA) has your information. For more details call CBPA President, Peter Hudson at 225-8509 or write CBPA, P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

Personals

DEAR DUSTY - Should we change the china pattern and invitations? Signed: Concerned Citizens for Happy Management. 273

GWM 48, SEEKS MATURE YOUNG GWM OR GSM, friend/lover. No drugs, fems apply. Send photo. P.O. Box 78647, Tucson, AZ 85703-8647. 276

HAPPY ANNIVERSARYS TO COLETTE'S WEST, LTD FOR 3; DESERT LEATHERMEN FOR 4; AND TOM NOVAKOWSKI FOR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR.....

HAPPY SENIOR COUPLE wishing friendship, fun with mid-50 male, slender, ready to please your fantasies. Single or together. Discretion assured. Occupant, P.O. Box 77203, Tucson, AZ 85703 273

Housing / For Rent

ROOM AND BATH EASTSIDE $225/MO. No other charges. May share home. 886-9080 Tucson. Gay Preferred. 273

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE HAVE PRIVATE ROOM FOR RENT. Modern 2-story condo overlooks river and horse ranches. Country Club/Prince area. Student preferred. Cable, utilities included. 325-7607 in Tucson. 275

1 AND 2 BEDROOM WITH BATH. Clean, quiet, secure. Craycroft & Grant; Glenn & Campbell; Alvernon & Broadway. All in Tucson. Adults. $250-$350. Many extras. Manager 885-6022. 277

Roommates

GWC WANTS THIRD MALE FOR TRIANGLE RELATIONSHIP. Live in desert and share life and expenses. Deposit. 883-8823 after 5 p.m. 273

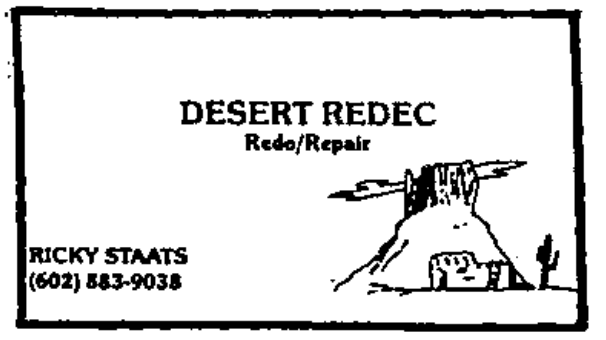
SHARE 2 BDR, 2 BTH HOME WITH GARAGE (for storage/work area) near University. $260/mo. plus 1/2 utilities. No deposit. IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY. 322-9125. 272

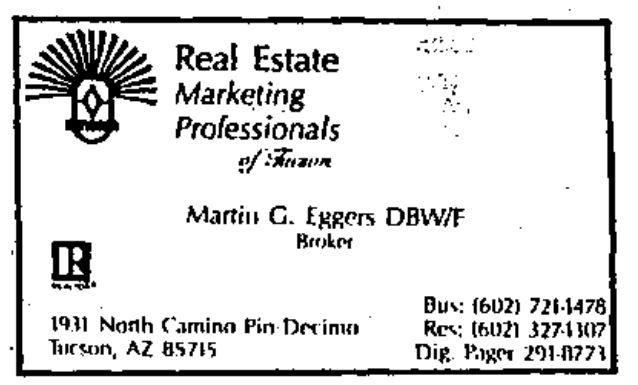
SHARE 2 BDR HOME. LARGE YARD. Pond, deck, greenhouse, animals. Furnished room. Long-term tenant. Speedway/Country Club area of Tucson. $235 + $100 deposit. 326-8473. 271

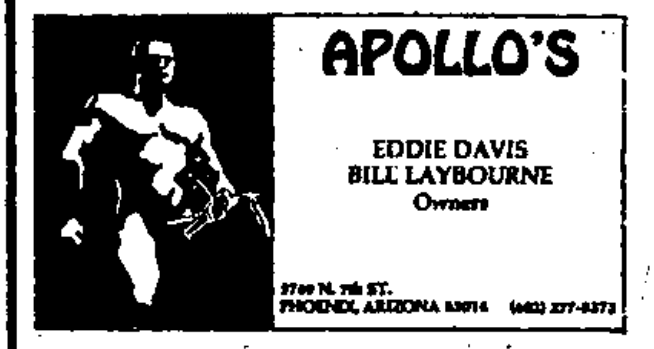
Employment

MISCELLANEOUS BAR HELP WANTED. Contact Jim at the Rainbow Room, 327-3390. 273

BKKPR AVAIL: Early mornings or eve's after 7:00 p.m. and weekends. Bank Rec's; A/P, A/R, Taxes, Paryoll, etc. Lotus 123, CYMA. 622-6408 273







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Federal Court orders Medicaid reimbursement for all uses of AIDS drug

NEW YORK, NY - In a decision of critical importance to persons with HIV infection, a federal appeals court has ordered Missouri's Medicaid agency to pay for AZT, even when the drug is prescribed for conditions other than those recognized by the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) labelling. The decision guarantees that Medicaid eligible persons whose doctor's prescribe AZT will be able to receive reimbursement for the drug.

"This is the most important legal victory for people with HIV infection concerning access to health care yet," said Nan D. Hunter, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union's AIDS Project, which co-authored a friend of the court brief filed on behalf of the AIDS Action Council in support of the Medicaid recipients in the case. "The court's decision ensures that Medicaid eligible HIV-infected persons will be reimbursed for the care that their doctors prescribe."

The care at issue in this case involved so-called "off-label" use of the drug AZT. In 1987, the FDA approved AZT with a label which stated that the drug was indicated for use in patients who had a history of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP) or fewer than 200 T4 cells.

The FDA has long held that once "a product is approved for marketing, physicians may prescribe it for uses or in treatment regimen or patient populations that are not included in approved labeling." Accordingly doctors have routinely prescribed AZT for use by HIV-infected persons beyond those indicated in the FDA labeling and this summer the government announced the results of clinical trials which proved the efficacy of AZT well beyond its labelled indications.

Notwithstanding the widespread use of AZT beyond its labelling, Missouri's Medicaid agency refused to reimburse eligible recipients for off-label use of the drug. In 1988, three individuals sued the agency in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, which, in September of 1988, ruled in their favor.

The court held that AZT was medically necessary treatment for the plaintiffs and the Medicaid agency's denial of coverage for off-label use violated applicable Medicaid requirements. This ruling was upheld this week by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in Weaver v. Reagen, No. 88-2560.

The Eighth Circuit's decision states that indications noted in FDA labeling "were not intended to limit or interfere with the practice of medicine" and thus that it was "improper for the State of Missouri to interfere with a physician's judgment of medical necessity by limiting coverage of AZT based on criteria that admittedly do not reflect current medical knowledge or practice."

The court concluded that Missouri Medicaid's approach to its coverage of the drug AZT is unreasonable and inconsistent with the objectives of the Medicaid Act," ruled that the agency could not "deny coverage of AZT to AIDS patients who are eligible for Medicaid and whose physicians have certified that AZT is medically necessary treatment."

"Because so many treatments for persons with HIV infection are newly developing, off-label use is critically important," said Jean McGuire, Executive Director of the AIDS Action Council, a national AIDS advocacy organization. "To the extent it guarantees Medicaid payment for off-label drug use, the Eighth Circuit's opinion is a major victory in the AIDS fight.

Hunter added that although the court's decision is only binding in the Eighth Circuit (which includes Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and the Dakotas) it would also be "persuasive precedent in other circuits and in encouraging private insurance companies to cover off-label uses." Many companies have denied such coverage for AIDS drugs in the past.

In a related development, the American Civil Liberties Union also announced that nearly every state Medicaid agency has guaranteed reimbursement for two newly approved HIV-related drugs — aerosolized pentamidine and ganciclovir. Following the FDA's approval of these drugs this summer, the ACLU surveyed state Medicaid agencies concerning their reimbursement policies.

"Every state except Alaska, Idaho, Mississippi, Nevada and West Virginia, has informed us that it reimburses for these drugs," said William B. Rubenstein, Staff Counsel to the ACLU's AIDS Project, which conducted the survey.

Pentamidine is a treatment for, and prophylaxis against pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), the number one killer of persons with HIV infection. In clinical trials, pentamidine (administered in an aerosolized form as opposed to intravenously) proved effective in protecting HIV-infected persons from developing PCP and thus in prolonging their lives.

Based on this data, the FDA approved the use of pentamidine in its aerosolized form. The Public Health Service recommends that HIV-infected persons with compromised immune systems (i.e., fewer than 200 T-4 cells) take aerosolized pentamidine regularly.

Ganciclovir is a drug used to treat retinitis cause by cytomegalovirus (CMV). HIV-infected persons are particularly prone to CMV infection, the consequences of which include a form of retinitis so severe as to cause blindness. Like aerosolized pentamidine, ganciclovir proved effective in clinical trials and was approved for use by the FDA this summer.

"After AZT was approved by the FDA in 1987, some states were slow to begin reimbursement for it and legal action had to be commenced," Rubenstein stated. "To ensure that the AZT experience was not repeated with these drugs, we immediately contacted state Medicaid agencies and reminded them of the legal obligations to cover medically necessary treatments, including HIV-related drugs. We are pleased by their responses.

Hunter noted that, "with the victory in Weaver v. Reagan, Medicaid reimbursement for each new drug that secures FDA approval should be available as to all uses of the drugs, whether or not the use conforms with the labelling. The rationale of the court's ruling was not limited to AZT."

Rubenstein concluded, "While most Medicaid agencies now appear to be paying for AZT, aerosolized pentamidine, and ganciclovir, we will continue our vigilance. If any persons are denied reimbursement for these drugs -- or denied reimbursement for off-label uses of any drugs — they should contact us or their local ACLU affiliate.