



State House Speaker Promises To Kill 'Archaic Laws Repeal' S.B. 1066 Dead

by Mark Kerr
Observer Political Writer

PHOENIX - Attempts to repeal the sodomy, co-habitation and other archaic laws have been crushed for this session of the Arizona Legislature.

S.B. 1066, sponsored by Sen. Chuck Blanchard, (D-Phoenix), would have revised the Arizona Criminal Code by repealing statutes which made sodomy, oral sex, co-habitation and adultery a crime in the state.

The bill had originally passed the Senate Judiciary Committee, in March by a vote of 7 to 2 and was sent to the Senate Rules Committee for procedural review. The Rules Committee, chaired by Senator Matt Salmon (R-Glendale), had not put S.B. 1066 on the Rules Calendar to be considered. Senator Salmon would not return phone calls to The Observer or issue a statement on why he would not let the bill be heard before the committee.

With the bill stalled before the Senate Rules Committee and with time running out, several legislators decided to attempt a parliamentary procedure to make an "end run" around the Senate Rules Committee and get the bill through the legislature.

The parliamentary procedure the legislators attempted was to amend another bill that was proceeding through the House or Senate, which had been approved by one body, and that was germane to the subject of "archaic laws repeal", and attach S.B. 1066 to it. This move would have forced a House-Senate Conference Committee to review the amended bill and avoided the Senate Rules Committee.

The supporters of S.B. 1066 called this attempt a "stealth amendment", they wanted as little publicity as possible so that opponents of the bill in the legislature could not have time to mount a counter attack and defeat the legislation.

This maneuver was tried in the first session by Representative Cathy Eden, (D-Phoenix), who amended Senate Bill 1043, with an archaic laws repealer amendment. The amendment was defeated, in a vote taken at midnight, by a mere two votes. This maneuver was referred to as "Eden's Midnight Run."

The S.B. 1066 sponsor, Senator Chuck Blanchard (D-Phoenix), was to attempt the maneuver in the Senate. Representative Chris Cumiskey (D-Phoenix) was to attempt it in the House. Two bills were H.B. 2054, which dealt with HIV testing for Juvenile Delinquents, and S.B. 1291, a clean up bill to revise the Arizona criminal code were the bills to be amended.

But, the publicity about the impending action on S.B. 1066 had been leaked out to the public and political groups. Some political groups mounted a campaign of phone calls to legislators, advertisements in publications, letter writing and lobbying to get the bill passed through the legislature. These actions, legislators noted, upset the strategy they had planned to get S.B. 1066 through the legislature.

Also, the Speaker of the House, Mark Killian, (R-Mesa), got wind of the action and in the Republican House Caucus, promised to kill any legislation going through the House of Representatives that had Senate Bill 1066 attached to it as an amendment. Thus removing S.B. 1291 as an option to S.B. 1066 supporters.

Speaker Killian would not return phone calls to the Observer or issue a statement on why he opposed the "archaic laws repeal" and why he made the promised threat. But two Republican House members, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, stated that Speaker Killian "personally opposes" S.B. 1066 due to his religious beliefs, he is a member of Latter Day Saints, the Mormons. The two Republican representatives also stated that G.O.P support began to "peel off" when Killian made the threat in the House Republican Caucus meeting.

The effort in the Senate was thwarted when Senate President John Greene (R-Phoenix), held up H.B. 2054 for consideration, until the effort had been ended, which occurred with Speaker Killian's promised actions.

Reaction to the defeat of S.B. 1066 was swift, Patti Jo Angelini, lobbyist for the Arizona Human Rights Fund, a Gay and Lesbian rights group, expressed her disappointment at the defeat of S.B. 1066.

When asked how an archaic laws repeal could pass through the Arizona Legislature, Angelini stated "that with the big turnover in the Legislature in 1994, people should work to getting more moderate Republicans and Democrats elected so that a bill like S.B. 1066 has a chance in a 'moderate' legislature."

Angelini commented that the 1993-94 session of the legislature was one of the most conservative she had seen in her years as a lobbyist.

It is expected that this current session of the Arizona Legislature will conclude at the end of this week. Arizonans will go the polls and elect a new legislator this year.

Same Sex Marriage: Hawaiian Update

SAME SEX MARRIAGE GOES
TO THE LEGISLATURE

HONOLULU, HI - Hawaii may be the last state to have entered the Union, but as it moves ever closer to being the first state to recognize same gender marriages, a miracle of significant proportions is unfolding. The State Supreme Court decision in May, 1993, set this miracle into motion.

In December 1990, three same-sex couples applied for and were denied marriage licenses. They then sued the State of Hawaii for the right to marry. In July 1991, the District Court dismissed the case, but the decision was appealed on the basis that the state's refusal to allow couples to marry "deprived them of access to a multiplicity of rights and benefits."

Hawaii's miracle occurred two years later when the Hawaii State Supreme Court ruled in favor of the same gender couples. Writing for the majority, Justice Levinson agreed with the couples, reasoning that the state's refusal to issue marriage licenses to them unfairly deprived them of access to these rights and privileges. The Court ruled that the current ban violated the equal protection clause of the State Constitution that prohibits discrimination based on gender. In order to continue to deny marriage licenses to same sex couples, the state must prove a compelling interest to the court.

State Attorney General Robert Marks is working to prove that compelling interest. The case is scheduled to be heard in April 1995, but in the meantime, several legislators are trying to derail it through legislation to limit marriage to opposite sex couples. Final resolution of the case could take up to two more years.

If the Supreme Court ultimately decides in favor of same sex marriage, Gay and Lesbian couples will be able to marry immediately. Couples from the mainland who marry in Hawaii can seek recognition of their unions in their home states. Such efforts would set into motion a national same-sex marriage movement that could ultimately end up in the United States Supreme Court.

THE HAWAII EQUAL MARRIAGE PROJECT

As the case began to take shape in the Supreme Court, the couples formed the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project, now under the auspices of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center in Honolulu. Initially charged with securing a victory in the courts and raising funds for the rapidly increasing legal costs, the project blossomed into a volunteer run organization that educates the public, the media and the legislators about the case. The Marriage Project has worked diligently to counteract the work of the religious right wing which has mobilized to block the movement for equal marriage rights.

Some members of the State Legislature are determined to interfere with judicial process. During the months following the Supreme Court's decision, House Representative Terrance Tom held a series of hearings state wide to sample public sentiment on the issue of same sex marriage. Many in the Lesbian and Gay community felt that these hearings were an attempt to stir up anti-Gay sentiment to influence the case. Thousands of people throughout the state testified both for and against same sex marriage.

When the Legislature convened in January, 1994, Rep. Tom quickly introduced a bill that proposed to limit marriage to couples who appeared to have the ability to procreate. Despite an outpouring of eloquent opposition testimonies at public hearings from such diverse groups as Native Hawaiians, clergy from a number of denominations, civil rights and ethnic organizations, straights and Gays, the bill sailed through the House with a vote of 34-17.

At the hearings, religious extremists railed against same-sex marriage and told legislators that Hurricane Iniki, which devastated the island of Kauai last year, was God's punishment. The hearings were a turning point for many Lesbians and Gay men, who braved hostility and hatred to testify for the first time in public about their lives.

Following the rapid passage of the bill by the House, the Gay community quickly geared up for what seemed likely to be an equally speedy treatment of the bill in the Senate. Just ten days later, further public hearings were conducted. Another bill was introduced that proposed a constitutional amendment to ban same gender marriage. This bill was especially threatening to Gays and Lesbians because it would change the state constitution's bill of rights to legalize discrimination. Dan Foley, attorney for the couple stated that it "would [be] divisive to the community and a threat to all minority groups."

Through the efforts of HERMP and other local Gay rights groups, members of the Lesbian and Gay community flooded the Senate with phone calls, letters, and personal lobbying against the bills. One senator exclaimed to his Lesbian visitor, "Why, you're only the second Gay person I've ever met!"

Through the lobbying efforts of those favoring same gender marriage, many legislators who still opposed full marriage rights came to recognize the inequalities faced by same sex couples, and urged the consideration of a domestic partnership bill. A week later, yet another all day hearing was held on a new Senate

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

UPDATE

Pot Eases Pain, Arizona Suspect Tells Judge

GLOBE - A man facing drug and gun charges said he will argue in court that marijuana provides the only relief he can find from pain and other hardships inflicted by AIDS.

Michael Peterson, pleaded innocent in Gila County Superior Court and a June 6 hearing is scheduled to decide when he should be tried on charges of possessing marijuana, possessing drug paraphernalia and weapons misconduct.

The last charge was filed because police found a semiautomatic weapon and ammunition near the marijuana, an offense even if the gun is legal, said Deputy County Attorney June Ava Florescue.

In an interview, Peterson said he smokes about six marijuana cigarettes a day to relieve pain, nausea and headaches. He said pot is the only thing that relieves a lack of appetite that's caused his weight to fall from 244 pounds to 160 pounds in recent months.

The case would be the first in Arizona in which the defense contended marijuana was being used for medical reasons, said Allen St. Pierre in the Washington, D.C., office of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

Monte-Jon Celebration Sunday, April 17

TUCSON - IBT's, in conjunction with Monte's lover Rhett Gable, will host a celebration of the life, laughs, and hangovers of Tucson's own "Thin White Duke", Monte-Jon Gilmer, on Sunday, April 17, friends in the community of Mr. Gilmer are invited to attend. The affair will be a pot luck and celebration of Monte's life.

A photo memory board of Monte is being compiled and will be presented to Rhett at the event. Anyone wishing to contribute photographs, art, or memorabilia of Monte-Jon is asked to contact Big John at IBT's, 882-3053. It is asked that contributions for the board be made by April 10th, so please dig through your memories and contribute. This will not be a maudlin event. It will be a fitting soiree for an old "girl-friend", a party with some food, some drinks, some snuffles, and some David Bowie. Music will be provided by Jon Haase with some surprises. Frankly, the only thing missing will be Monte.

Pride Festival Needs Volunteers, Entertainers

PHOENIX - With the 1994 Pride Festival less than two months away, Arizona Central Pride (ACP) is looking for volunteers and entertainers.

According to President Beth Verity, most volunteers are needed during the actual festival on June 4th and 5th, but immediate help is needed as well.

"Right now, we need volunteers to help out at fund raisers. The Board of Directors just isn't large enough to attend every event, and a lot of it is really simple work, like collecting funds, writing receipts, and selling t-shirts."

Those available for volunteer work before or during the festival should call Ernie Mendoza at 468-1297. In addition, entertainment slots are currently being filled on two stages. Performers and speakers should contact Entertainment Director, Garry Mangum, at 265-1050 as soon as possible. For further information, call the ACP voice mail at 352-7165.

Tucson Gay Softball League Growing

TUCSON - The first meeting of T.G.S.A. (Tucson Gay Softball Association) took place at the Venture-N. The meeting covered the formation of T.G.S.A. and the recruitment of members. The second meeting of T.G.S.A. will take place Sunday, April 17th, 11:00 a.m. at the Venture-N. There will be a practice after the meeting so T.G.S.A. is advising those who attend to bring their gloves.

T.G.S.A. still needs more players & sponsors. Informational packets will be mailed out to all business owners in the near future. T.G.S.A. thanks Jim Dondson, owner of the Venture-N, for being the first business owners to commit to sponsoring a team.

To become a member of T.G.S.A., please come to the next meeting. If you can't attend, please call Dan Senglaub at (602) 622-4503.

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American Atheists Hail Defeat of 'Nipple Bill'

PHOENIX - American Atheists hailed the defeat of State Senate Bill 1026, introduced by Rep. Leslie Johnson (R-Mesa), known as the infamous "nipple bill".

Conrad F. Goeringer, the group's Arizona director, praised the House Rules Committee, which killed the proposed legislation that would have outlawed activities not meeting "contemporary community standards". In its original form, the bill would have banned "thong" or string bikinis, which allowed exposure of the buttocks.

Mr. Goeringer credited public letter writing and awareness of the constitutional and civil liberties involved for the defeat of SB 1026. "It shows that Arizonans do not want government at any level interfering in private affairs and religious zealots who insist on using the state apparatus to enforce their notions of morality onto the rest of secular society". Mr. Goeringer also termed victimless crime laws "a convenient excuse for some legislators to distract attention from genuine, urgent matters such as education, jobs and the economy".

SB 1026 would have proscribed various body parts from public display, including the area of the breast below the top of the nipple, as well as the anus and buttocks. "I'm really worried that as I do my late-night shopping, I may be accosted by a gang member who drops his pants and 'moons' me", joked Mr. Goeringer. "Maybe Rep. Johnson has more experience there in Mesa getting 'moon'ed than I have".

Northampton Responds To Influx Of Lesbian Tourists

NORTHAMPTON, MA - The secret is out about this little New England town and its unusually large Lesbian community.

Dubbed a "town like no other" by Newsweek and "Lesbianville, U.S.A." by the National Enquirer, Northampton has had more than its share of attention from the press in the last two years. So much, in fact, that the civic and business organizations were not initially prepared to handle the tidal wave of phone calls and letters that came in from Gays and Lesbians around the country, requesting information about visiting or moving to the area. It seemed as if comedienne Kate Clinton's prediction of a "Lesbian gold rush to Northampton" was indeed coming true.

Step in Northampton's Lesbian and Gay business community. In response to the increased demand for information about the area, several community business leaders got together and formed the Northampton into a recognized Gay and Lesbian travel destination along the lines of San Francisco or Provincetown. The Guild has published a brochure about the area that is specifically geared to the Lesbian and Gay visitor. "We literally had people driving four or five hundred miles into town and wandering around where to go," said Martha Nelson, Guild President. "Now we have a concise way to relate information about what's available here and how to find out more."

The brochure is already going into its third printing and is available free of charge. To receive a copy, send a self addressed, stamped business envelope to: NALGBG, P.O. Box 682, Northampton, MA 01061.

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Gays In The Military: Court Appeals Update

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The case was appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit; a panel of three judges of that court reversed the district court decision in late 1993, ruling that the military's action against Steffan was a violation of the constitution's guarantee of equal protection. However, the full appellate court then vacated the panel's decision and set the case for rehearing, which will be held on May 11, 1994.

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CONCERNED WOMEN OF AMERICA
Anti-gay, anti-abortion, "pro-family" agenda via grassroots organizing and Congressional lobbying. Pressures elected officials via local groups ("prayer chains"). 600,000 members, 800 US chapters. Beverly LaHaye, 370 L'Enfant Promenade SW, #800, Washington, DC 20024.

EAGLE FORUM
A women's organization powerful in national and Republican party politics thanks to Phyllis Schlafly, founder. Mother of a gay man, she opposes AIDS education, sex education, daycare, family leave, abortion rights, the ERA, and NEA funding. 80,000 members. Phyllis Schlafly, Box 618, Alton, IL 62002.

FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL
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Opposes gay rights, reproductive freedom, teaching evolution, and sex education except abstinence. Newest group is National Task Force for the Preservation of the Heterosexual Ethic in America. Active in DC, OR, and CA to outlaw civil rights protections for G/L/B people. Now organizing anti-gay ballot initiatives in California and elsewhere. Helped repeal G/L rights in Irvine and Concord, CA. Advocates AIDS quarantine. 25,000 Churches nationally. Rev. Lou Sheldon, 100 S. Anaheim Blvd., Ste. 320, Anaheim, CA 92805.

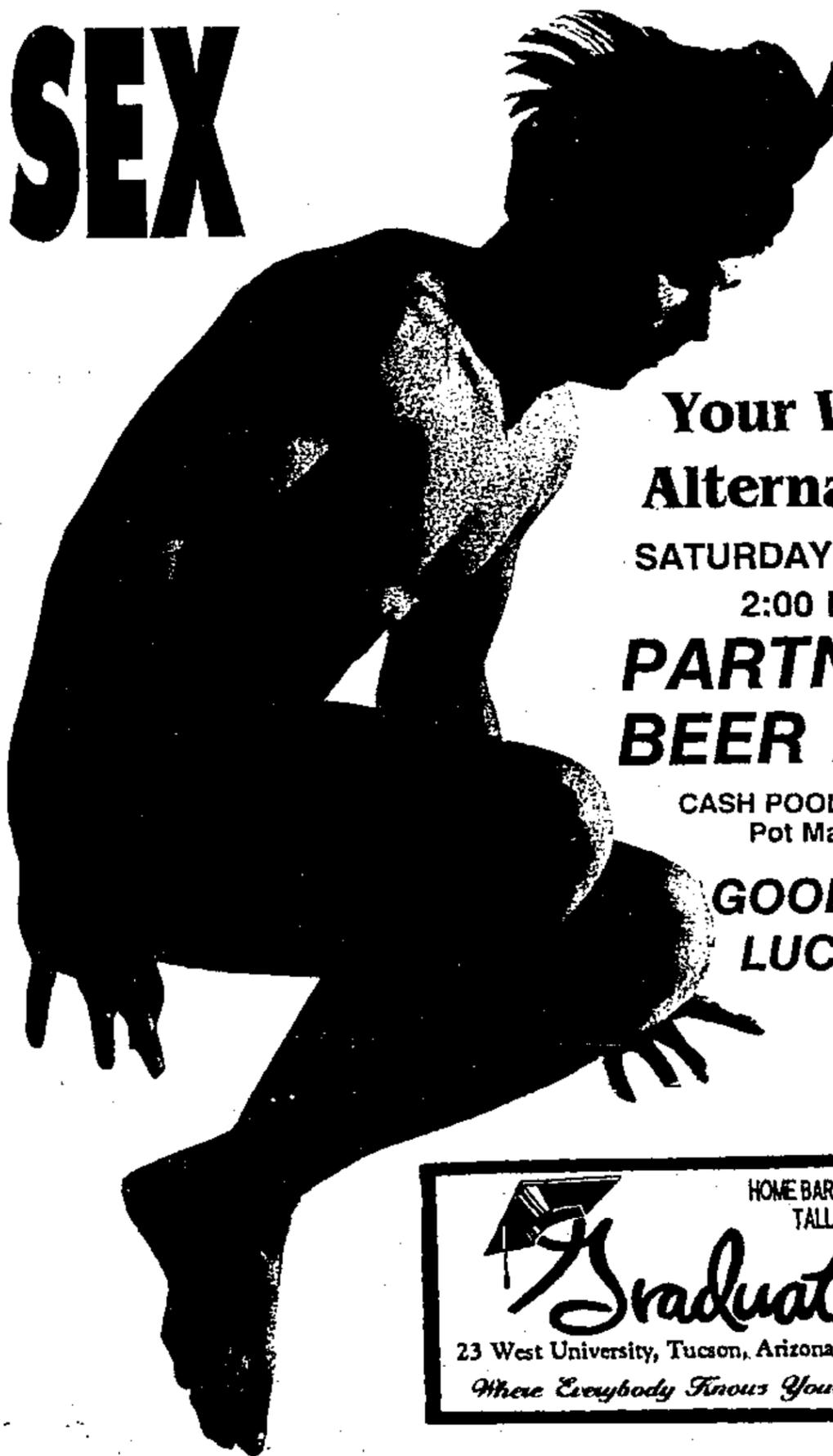
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A research/education organization. Formed National Empowerment Television (NET) to mobilize Right for grassroots lobbying. Hopes to expand to cable TV. Operates Judicial Selection Monitoring Project. Has four TV shows including two to target black conservatives and college campuses. Paul Weyrich, 717 Second Street, NW, Washington, DC 20002.

OPERATION RESCUE
Nationally known for violent shut-downs of abortion clinics and vandalizing property, terrorizing women and health-care providers including stalking, harassment, and other intimidation tactics. Trains activists. Added gay rights to agenda when Clinton proposed to lift the military ban. 35,000+ members. Randall Terry, P.O. 1180, Binghamton, NY 13902.

CHALLENGER
Principle center of the Christian Reconstruction Movement. Leader in establishing Christian legal organizations and a major think tank. Publisher, speakers bureau, and seminar presenter. Rousas John Rushdoony.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS/CITIZENS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
Goal is to bring public education under Christian control. Priority is disruption of public schools via attacks on curricula, text books, and school boards. 1,250 chapters. Dr. Robert L. Simonds, P.O. Box 3200, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

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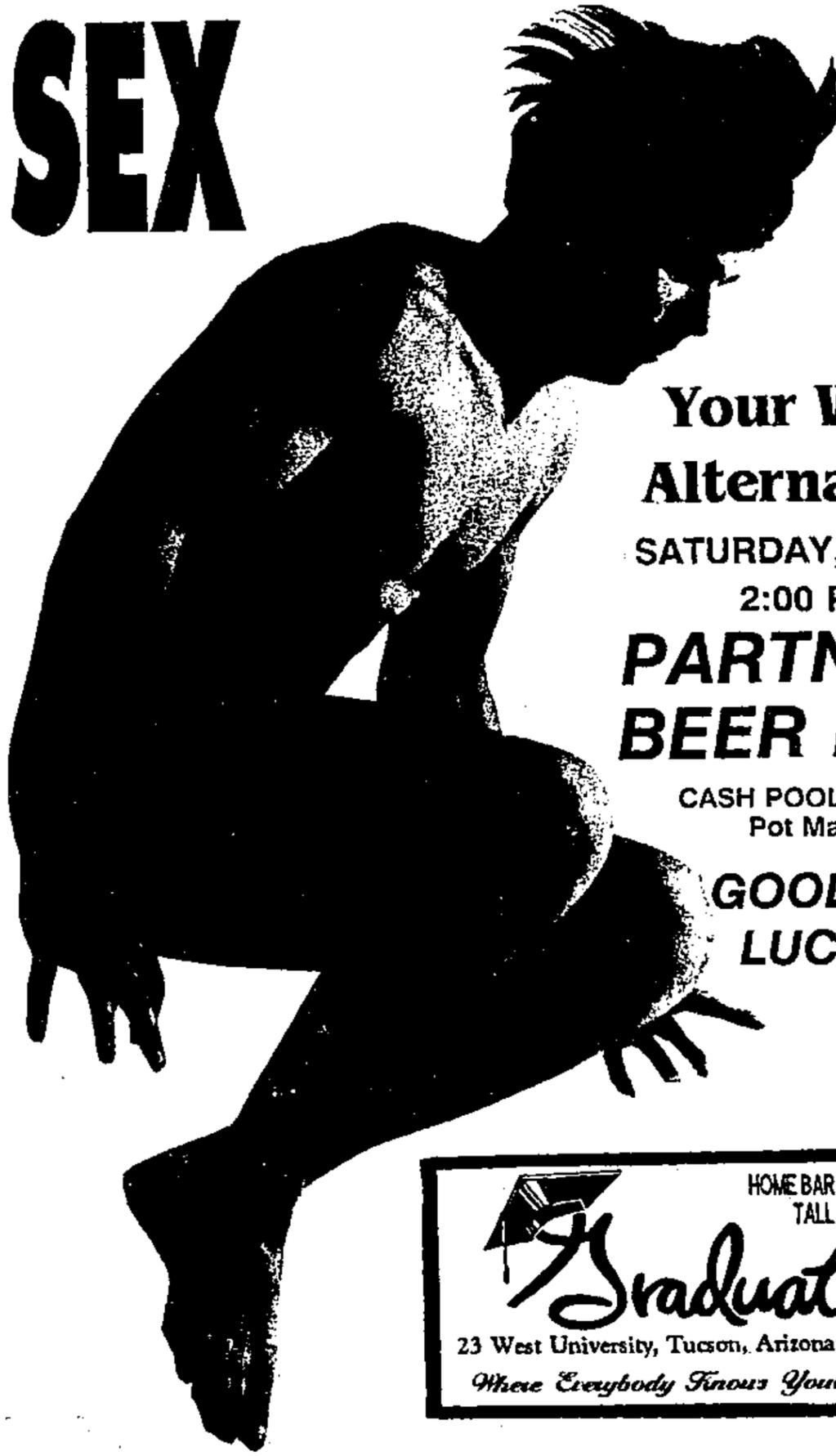
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A research/education organization. Formed National Empowerment Television (NET) to mobilize Right for grassroots lobbying. Hopes to expand to cable TV. Operates Judicial Selection Monitoring Project. Has four TV shows including two to target black conservatives and college campuses. Paul Weyrich, 717 Second Street, NW, Washington, DC 20002.

OPERATION RESCUE
Nationally known for violent shut-downs of abortion clinics and vandalizing property, terrorizing women and health-care providers including stuffing, harassment, and other intimidation tactics. Trains activists. Added gay rights to agenda when Clinton proposed to lift the military ban. 35,000+ members. Randall Terry, P.O. 1180, Binghamton, NY 13902.

ORACLETON
Principle center of the Christian Reconstruction Movement. Leader in establishing Christian legal organizations and a major think tank. Publisher, speakers bureau, and seminar presenter. Rouns John Rushdoony.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS/CITIZENS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
Goal is to bring public education under Christian control. Priority is disruption of public schools via attacks on curricula, text books, and school boards. 1,250 chapters. Dr. Robert L. Simonds, P.O. Box 3200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628.

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Review - Desert Voices Concert

by Susan L. Roberts

Jim Gall and Desert Voices put together another ambitious program woven around a theme of struggle and liberation on Saturday, March 26. The "Celebrate Us! Celebrate Life!" concert started with a quote from Berniece Johnson Reagon. "I have often been asked, 'With all the trouble you've experienced, how can you sing?' I say, because of it we must sing."

In the course of the evening Desert Voices did sing. And how! For three hours!

There was so much music! "T-LC", a Lesbian chorus and Grand Canyon Men's Chorale came down from Phoenix to join Desert Voices. We heard pieces from Johannes Brahms to Ella Baker, Richard Rogers to Fred Small.

The theme of struggle and liberation recurred with two Spirituals. Mr. Gall reminded the audience that African Americans used Spirituals as a way to communicate, including news of their escapes from slavery. Mark Edwards, Fran Westra and the rest of the chorus did a powerful rendition of "In Dat Great Gettin'-Up Mornin'."

The concert started with eight excerpts from Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzer that they sang in German. Translations provided in the program helped make the choice of music seem relevant to the celebration of Gay and Lesbian love. Unfortunately, the singing was too often overshadowed by the piano.

The piano did blend beautifully with the chorus on "The Road Not Taken," but overbearing musical accompaniment was most disappointing on "Ella's Song (We Who Believe In Freedom)," where a synthesized recording all but drowned out Julia Arriola's solo beginning. Despite the recording, Martie van der Voort was able to raise her voice above the music and the chorus was able to project the popular piece well enough to move the audience into an enthusiastic intermission.

The high spots of the evening

were two campy pieces. The Grand Canyon Men's Chorale parodied Richard Rogers with "There is Nothing Like a Guy." Fran Westra and James Shaffer did a delightful bit of Mozart with "Propaganda." Fran's blonde bouffant wig and ball gown, caused many in the audience to recheck the program credits and remark to the person in the next seat, "Is that her?"

Darren Connell did some sign language interpretation during Pastiche's numbers. His striking hairstyle provided some delightful gender bending. Although I'm not fluent in American Sign Language his performance seemed to be a good match for the lyrics and style of the music being performed.

Desert Voices seems to be flourishing under Gall's leadership. His ability to plan a program around a theme of liberation is good for our souls. We need to laugh as well as sing. Parodies and campiness have the power to liberate, not only the Gay/Lesbian community, but the straight community as well. Laughter and music are common human denominators.

The Desert Voices concert finished with the entire audience singing together. The Holly Near tune was an apt one. We are singing. Singing for our lives.

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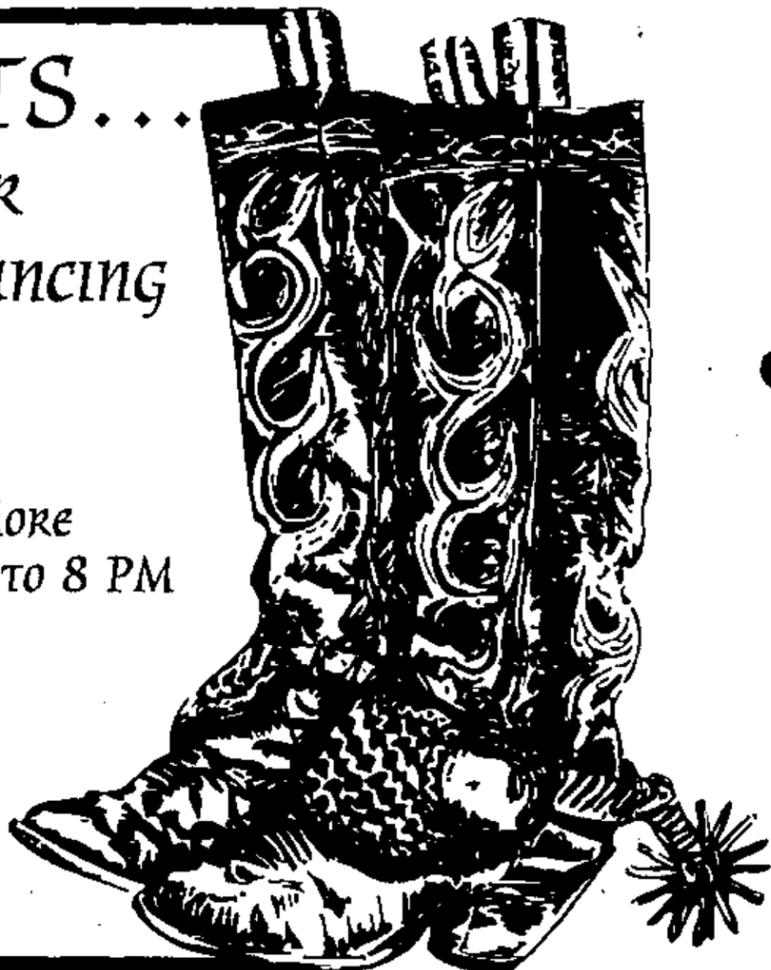
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POLITICS '94 by Mark Kerr

S.B. 1066, the "archaic laws repeal" which would have stricken the sodomy, co-habitation, just to name a couple of the statutes, from the Arizona books was killed for this legislative session.

The bill was stalled in the Senate Rules Committee, which is chaired by the ultra-conservative, homophobic, Republican Matt Salmon from Glendale, and a parliamentary procedure was tried last week to circumvent the Rules Committee by placing S.B. 1066 on to another bill as an amendment.

The House Speaker, Republican Mark Killian of Mesa, got wind of this and issued a promise that he would kill any bill that had the 1066 language attached to it.

[See story on page 1 for full details.]

S.B. 1314, which would change the guidelines, in Arizona, for getting permission for HIV testing from specific written consent to informed oral consent is awaiting, as of press time, it's Third Reading before the full House.

Last week, the bill was approved, with amendments, by a voice vote by the full House and went through the Engrossing Process by House Rules Committee Attorney's.

Here's the catch, which could go in our favor, the word around the capitol is that this will be the last week of the session and if the bill does not get it's third reading, the bill is dead. So it's now beat the clock, and we hope the bill loses.

Another bill in the news, the GOP backed "billboard bill", which would void the voter approved statutes in Tucson, Mesa and Phoenix, passed the state Senate this past week. [It shows that Phoenicians do not believe in the concept of democracy. Hail Phoenix, to hell with the rest of the state!]

Here's the gist of this story, in the State Senate there are four persons running for higher office, three statewide and one federal. Senators Stan Furman and Peter Rios for Secretary of State; Senator Lela Alston for Superintendent of Public Instruction; and Senator Chuck Blanchard for Congress. These four people are running in the affected areas where voters approved these measures which are being repealed.

Well, two of them changed their initial votes from yes to no, Rios and Furman. The two others voted yes, Blanchard and Alston. When reached for comment, Sen. Alston stated that this vote would affect her chances in Pima County, which is considered pivotal in a Democratic primary contest, which Alston is in with incumbent C. Diane Bishop and former Tempe Mayor, Harry Mitchell.

The bill now goes to Governor Symington, himself involved in a primary contest, for his signature. He has not stated if he will sign the bill, but he had previously pressured lawmakers into holding hearings on the bill.

This past Friday and Saturday were the deadlines for the recall petition drives on Pima County Assessor Alan Lang, and Pima County Supervisor Ed Moore respectively.

The coalition led by the National Organization for Women, Pima County Democratic Women, Pima County Green Party and Total Recall filed 86,631 petition signatures to force a recall election of Alan Lang. The coalition needed 60,201 valid signatures to meet the minimum requirements.

When reached for comment, Lang stated he plans to challenge the petition gathering process and said he would run in a recall election, if it came to that, and would win the election.

The other recall, led by former State Representative John Kromko on Ed Moore failed. Kromko, in a news conference stated that he was 600 valid signatures short of the minimum requirement of 11,000 signatures to force an election.

Some end notes for your perusal:

State Senator Patti Noland, (R-District 13), will have a cakewalk in her re-election bid. How you ask? The District 13 Democrats have not found anybody to run against her. (They have fallen on hard times! LD 13 Democrats used to be THE organization in Pima County. Not anymore!)

Former Democratic State Representative Marion Pickens from District 9, now redistricted in L.D. 14, will run for the vacant House seat. Democratic Rep. Ruth Solomon of L.D. 14 plans to run for the Senate seat being vacated by Cindy Resnick.

Another "Demo sacrificial lamb" in the CD-5 race. Mortgage banker J. Kenneth Orms will announce his candidacy next week for the Democratic nomination. He will challenge Gary Auerbach to see who will face Republican incumbent, Jim "NAFTA" Kolbe.

State Democrats cleared over \$80,000 in their mega fund raiser this past week in Phoenix. Their guest of honor was Vice President Al Gore. Persons attending stated Gore gave a great pep talk to the party faithful who attended, which number over 500.

In a race, which the Star and Citizen will ignore, the Constable race in JP 5, will have a contest for Republican incumbent, F. Lee "Do Nothing" Archer. Ted Prezelski, the chair of the University Democrats, stated he plans to run for the Democratic nod to challenge Archer.

And so it goes!

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Torie Osborn's article, "The Enemy Within Our Ranks", printed in *The Observer*, issue #506, dated March 30, 1994, certainly leaves food for thought.

Jim Jones was a great leader, so great in fact, over 900 people followed him to their deaths. What made him a great leader, was his ability to speak his beliefs and attract a following. Unfortunately, criticism was considered blasphemous, and no system existed whereby his usurpation to omnipotence could be opposed. Intelligent, charismatic and one of the cult community's best, he nonetheless, turned out to be a very sick and demented soul.

This is not to imply all Gay leaders are comparable to Jim Jones, or that we are a cult. What is being said here is that as a civil rights movement, we owe it to ourselves to take a good look at our leaders, and not follow blindly anyone who claims to be working in our best interest. Not all would be leaders, would be great leaders. Nor are all judgments of good leaders, sound.

What tends to marginalize our movement, is that nearly anyone can lay claim to leadership. With a little determination, anyone could find a few, very unthinking naive individuals to support whatever misguided cause they might be promoting, believe they are working in the interest of all gays, declare themselves leaders, have their followers perpetrate a couple of bad acts, and draw media attention to a collective movement, and all Gay people, involved or not.

Our movement does not have a truly democratic process allowing all of us to scrutinize and elect those who represent us. To refute and expose, via the "rags", those people, and yes, even those organi-

PERSPECTIVE

By Tony De Ninno

Of Leadership And Enemies

zations, which would have us follow them into the jungles of Guyana, is often our only recourse. However, once the more self aggrandizing elements execute their agendas in the name of Gay, and draw media attention, we all end up paying the price of not having questioned or disclaimed them and their actions.

There are many good organizations seeking to fulfill our collective goals for equal rights. Unfortunately, not all of us have time to be involved in every groups electoral or decision making processes. Consequently, megalomaniacs do slip through the ranks, and our movement is fragmented, not by "horizontal hostility", but by a few too many Jim and Jane Jones', who would have us not question their *kool-aid*

Indeed, there are many good and qualified leaders acting in our behalf, and we should respect them by giving our support, but never unquestionably. Questioning, or "attacking" if you must, exposes the good leaders, as well as the bad. If a few fundamentalist leaders in our community do not wish to be challenged, they should get out of the leadership business. Those who possess true leadership qualities aren't afraid of challenges from within their own ranks.

We are indeed at a cross roads, as our movement of the 90's rolls full steam ahead, there are as many opportunists as opportunities. As mature decision making adults, we should be questioning by what authority, and by what virtue, we are being directed. Cannibalism, or feeding

on ones own, is an unsavory political practice. Truly good leaders, will neither indulge it, nor allow themselves to be eaten. Speaking out and standing up against those whose goals are suicidal to our collective movement, and whose motives are pursuant to self interests, is common sense expressed, not cannibalism

The task of building a truly democratic representation of the Gay community, within the framework of a larger society, would be monumental, maybe even impossible. But, what would be the point if we respected, valued and acknowledged leadership in all its forms? Had we been so indoctrinated in 1992, George Bush, respected, valued and acknowledged would still be President.

We do need strong leaders; leaders who believe in what they are doing, enough to withstand and defend against criticism; leaders who are wise enough to change course when they are off track; leaders who are virtuous enough to push collective strategy over personal agendas; and last but not least, leaders who can admit when they are wrong, redress their ideological stand, and move on with grace.

Yes our leaders need to be respected and valued; but they must also be willing to earn their credit by taking actions which have been well thought out, and which best serve the interest of all. Such leaders need to prepare and rehearse their statements, so as not to rant maniacally in tempered tantrums after being cornered in situations which create irrational

assessments. And above all, the agenda they promote should be able to withstand the weight of criticism. Should our leaders become paranoid and consider, dialogue, debate and yes, an occasional attack form within the ranks, an environment of fear, then perhaps they should look deep within, and see what it is they stand for, which frightens their peers.

We do need to question authority. If those in authority can not, or will not, give us valid and acceptable answers, we need, to speak out loud enough to be heard by others, for someone might be wizened to some crap, they might otherwise be falling for. If our leaders, when questioned, give verifiable and acceptable answers, then not one of us should hesitate to give unfettered support. However, even good leaders make mistakes, so we shouldn't take for granted that all the causes, for which our chosen leaders stand, are correct. Our continued questioning and debate may enable those in leadership positions to avoid embarrassing themselves, ourselves and the community as a whole.

In Arizona, we have the monumental task of fighting the hate initiative. Even if Frank Meliti has done himself in through his own ineptitude; the "Good People of Arizona" have proven to us before that they are quite capable of hanging onto worthless and stupid hate mongering causes; therefore, we can not afford to let down our guard. Those who are in the forefront of the battle, by taking on leadership roles, must also be willing to answer their constituency and not assume they can have blind trust. Had the supporters of hatred not exhibited blind trust in Frank Meliti, they would not be in the embarrassing situation they are now in. We cannot afford to lose our causes, due to lack of internal scrutiny, hopefully we never will.

THURSDAY - APRIL 21st - 8 to 10pm

SUMO

WRESTLING

8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

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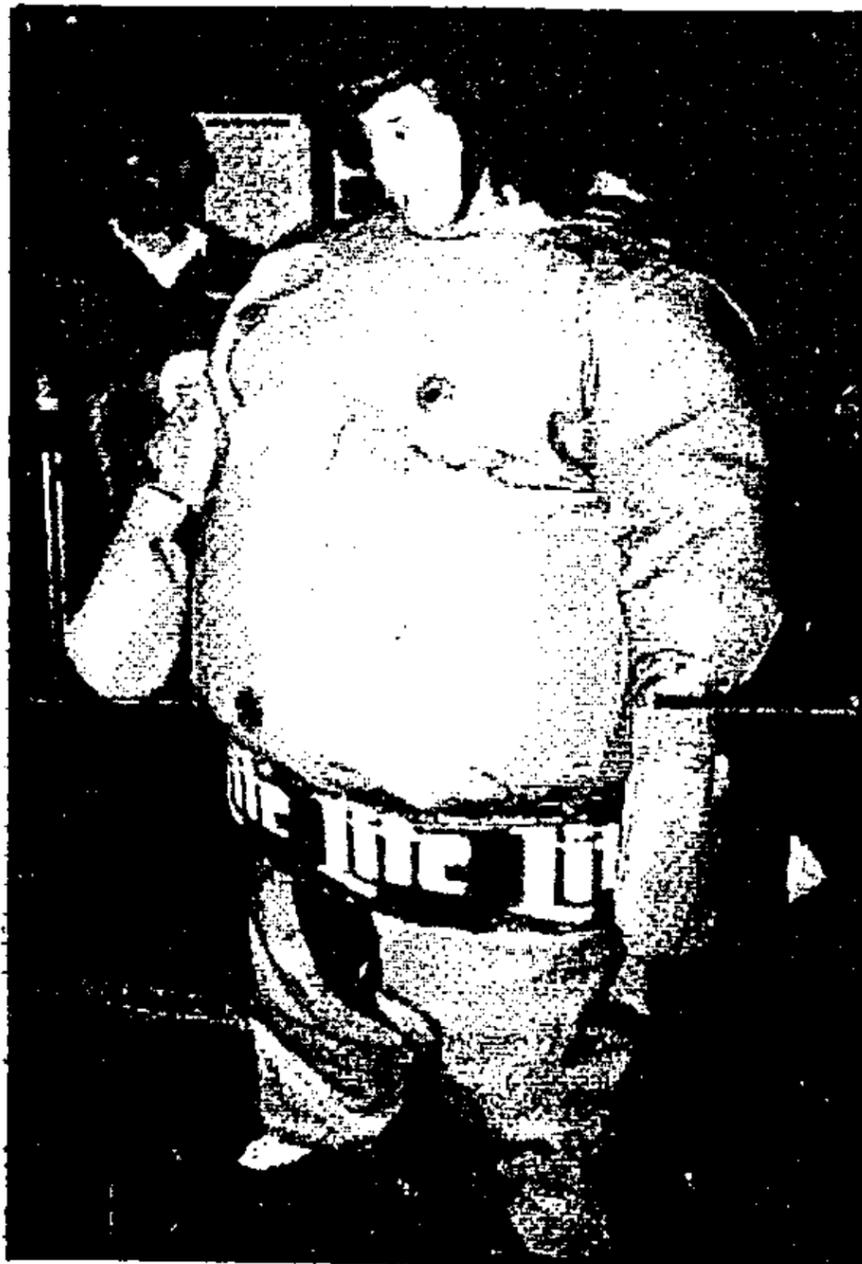
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WINGSPAN

[This is a copy of a letter sent to Tucson Mayor, George Miller and the City Council from Debra E. Wood, Vice President of Wingspan and the Board of Directors of Wingspan.]

Dear Mayor Miller and Council Persons,

We are writing to you regarding our previous letter of March 31, 1994. That letter was in support of Tucson AIDS Project's grant applications that are currently under consideration. That letter was also published in the Observer, a Tucson Gay and Lesbian newspaper. Some members of our community have misunderstood the content of the letter as expressing support for TAP in a dispute between TAP and some members of our community over the management of TAP. It was not our intention to take a position in that dispute. We are not qualified to evaluate the claims made by either side in this issue. Rather, it was and is our aim to express our support of the activities of TAP and all of the AIDS service organiza-

tions as expressed in their mission statements. The current community controversy over AIDS services is tragic. We hope that Mayor and Council can provide leadership to ensure that the people of Tucson receive the finest possible AIDS services.

Sincerely, Debra E. Wood, VP Wingspan, and the Board of Directors of Wingspan.

Notice to the community: Wingspan does not wish to contribute to the divisiveness in the community. Given the state and national political climate the Gay and Lesbian community faces we hope to facilitate interactions within our own community that lead to healthy debate without permanent discord. Our method of doing so is to be of service to all segments to our diverse community and to encourage a continued dialogue on controversial issues.

Thanks from your community center.

WHAT'S UP DOC???



I hope you have not waited too long for the deadline this Friday midnight. If you haven't finished your taxes yet, you had better get going or wait in a long line just to mail out a request for an extension.

comment, I agree, he can be a bitch. He also needs to learn to throw darts, especially when a drunk can come in and beat him.

When Rumorz closed up last Wednesday, they went out in grand style. Hand was telling me that approximately 400 people were there for the final day. With the bar going to open as a straight bar, I wonder how many years it will be before it becomes Gay again. Now to see some of those smiling faces that use to serve you during the day, are now over at Stonewall/Eagle.

Don't forget, this Saturday will be Partners beer bust at the Graduate. Stop in and watch the oldest bartender in Tucson, who has more ear rings than most drag queens. What pair will he and Stan be wearing?

Well, not much to pass on to you this week, so I'll end this column for now. Have a sunny and bright week.

Quote for the week: Occasional failure is the price of improvement.



Hopi asked me to print a correction to the comment I'd passed on to you a couple weeks ago. He was offended by the word Butch. He said it should of read BITCH. Well, after seeing him a couple times since first passing on the

Wednesday, April 20

• **ANONYMOUS** •
• **HIV TESTING** •

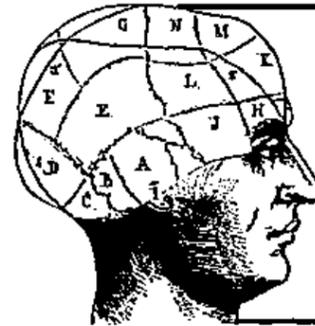
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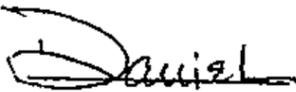
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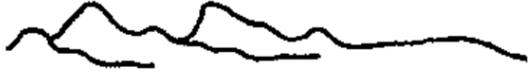
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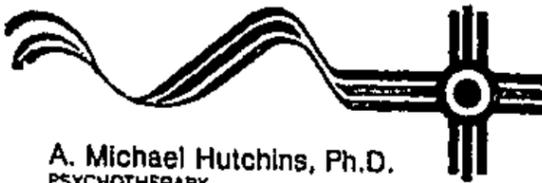


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News From MCC/Tucson

by Ben Corbin

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Thought for the week: Give not expecting a reward for the gift.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

The family is a big issue in today's society. It is often said that the breakdown of the nuclear family is the root of many of our problems such as violence, alcohol and drug addictions, teen crimes, suicide and the like.

I was the product of a very dysfunctional family. I knew I was a Lesbian from a very early age, even though I didn't know what the word was for it. My parents tried to "guilt trip" me into being ashamed and tried to make me "change my ways". Instead, I rebelled and plunged myself deeply into the Gay community, eventually becoming a "bar dyke", hooked on drugs as well. I was very unhappy, as my life basically consisted of a trail of superficial and broken relationships that were awfully short-lived and few and far between.

When I was in my late twenties, my folks came to town and took me out to lunch to inform me that they were disinherit me. My attitude at the time was "I don't care; leave me alone".

By the time I was 30 they had both passed away and I really had some difficult times reconciling things. I thank

God that I was able to make peace with my mother before she died, but regret the fact that my father could never accept me for who I am.

Does any of this sound familiar to you? Well, I have a message of hope and joy for everyone dealing with similar issues!

Just as I had know of my Lesbianism at an early age, so I had become a Christian when I was in junior high school. I had a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I had drifted away from the church, however, when I was in college and started my "partying career".

When I "hit bottom" I started going back to church. On October 22, 1989, I became a member of Cornerstone Fellowship. There I've found a wonderful, loving body of believers, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I've learned to call God "Abba" which means "daddy" when translated. Last spring at Cornerstone I attended a series of very helpful group sessions for women survivors of sexual abuse. Through regular attendance at worship services, Bible studies, and social activities I have grown closer to the Lord, and I have gained the loving, accepting family that I've always longed for.

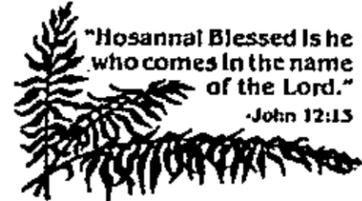
John, the beloved apostle, wrote in one of his letters, "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1 John 3:1) You're warmly invited to join this group of God's children anytime! Sunday worship is at 10:30 am and 6:00 pm. Adult Sunday School is at 9:00 am, and Wednesday Bible study is at 7:00 pm. For those who are living with HIV, GLIA (God's Love In Action) hosts a luncheon every Tuesday beginning at noon in the Social Hall.

You don't need to feel lonely and without a family ever again!

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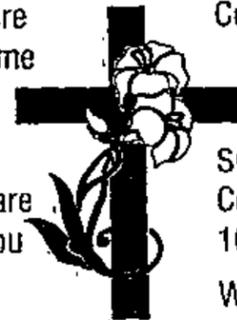
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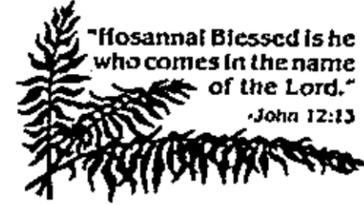
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CALENDAR of upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

IBT'S - Benefit for the National MPS Society will feature a Glamazon show and auction beginning at 9:00 p.m. The auction which will be held during the show will feature special items from local Gay & Lesbian celebrities, including Madame X's Miss Gay Tucson Crown; Monte Jon's 'Dietrich' by Clark; Rick Norman's Cowboy Hat; Rodney's 'Route 66' vest and many more items. A fun night, a fun show and a great cause.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

GRADUATE - Partners' Beer Bust here from 2 to 6 p.m. in conjunction with their regular Cash Pool Tourney. Come on down!

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

IBT'S - There will be a celebration of the life, laughs and hangovers of Tucson's own Monte-Jon Gilmer, a lifetime community member, who passed away recently. Monte's lover, Rhett Gable will host the celebration and invites all friends of Monte's to attend. The affair will be a pot luck and celebration of Monte's life. This will not be a maudlin affair. It will be a fitting soire for an old friend, a party with some food, some drinks, some snuffles and laughs. Frankly the only thing missing will be Monte. Anyone wishing to bring photographs or memorabilia of Monte is asked to contact Big John at IBT's.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

CLUB 2520 - Big Fundraiser for Team Arizona going to the Gay Games in New York. From 8 to 10 p.m., the night will feature Sumo Wrestling. If you want to volunteer to wrestle, come on down or call 881-6212 and sign up. It looks like a 'fund' night so come on down for an evening you won't soon forget.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

IBT'S - It's an IRS party. Come on by and try their 1040 EZ Drink Special.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

CLUB 2520 - Anonymous HIV testing by Pima County Health Department will take place here from 5:00 until 7:30 p.m. Here's a great chance to get tested.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Deidre McCalla, a prominent urban singer, songwriter will be performing at the Southwest Center for Music, 2175 N. 6th Ave. at 8:00 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. For more information or tickets call 884-1221.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

"Living With HIV" will be the discussion at a wellness workshop to be held at the University Medical Center (Arizona Cancer Center Conference Room) from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. There is no admission but there is limited enrollment. Please call 626-7301 by April 3. Lunch will be catered by Dakota Cafe. The medical center is located at 1501 N. Campbell.

The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Parents Network meets for a support and discussion group every third Saturday of the month. This month's meeting is a play day at Reid Park; 3:00 p.m. at Ramada #24 in Reid Park. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual parents, partners and family members are invited to attend. Call 325-6001 for more information.

"Everything you always wanted to know about Sex(ism) will be the subject of the Prejudice Reduction Discussion Group at Wingspan this morning at 10:30 a.m. Learn how we can grow beyond our perceived notions about the opposite sex. Call 742-1535 for more info. Wingspan is located at 422 N. 4th Ave.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Today and every third Sunday of the month, Picture Rocks hosts a spiritual celebration for Lesbians and Gays with mass at 6:00 p.m. and a potluck supper immediately following. For additional information on programs or masses call 744-3400 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

A special classical music concert as a benefit for Frensdorff House. Pianist Edward Muller will be performing at the Deaf and Blind School beginning at 5:00 p.m. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 with tickets available at Antigone's and 4th Avenue Social Club. For more information call 622-1437.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

An all-women's dance beginning at 9:00 p.m. presented by Latinas Latinas de Tucson and featuring the popular women's band Rare Breed. 9:00 p.m. at the 4th Avenue Social Club. \$5 donation requested. Proceeds to sponsor Latina Lesbian Cultural Evening and Conference Sept. 16 & 17 featuring Cherie Moraga.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo, will be celebrating their anniversary this weekend, and will open the celebration with a worship service this evening at 7:00 p.m. with special guest Evelyn Schave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Cornerstone Fellowship continues their Anniversary Weekend Celebration with a Worship Seminar from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. today with a special Worship Service at 7:00 p.m. with special guest Evelyn Schave. Call if you plan on attending the Worship Seminar because a complimentary lunch will be served. RSVP to 622-4626.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Anniversary activities wind up at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo, with a full schedule of activities today. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. followed by Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. and a Potluck at 12:30 p.m. There will be a healing Service at 6:00 p.m. Happy Anniversary!

THURSDAY, MAY 5

UBGLAD (United Bisexuals, Gays and Lesbians with Dignity), the Pima Community College Group will meet in Room RC-5 from 3:00 to 4:30. For more information call Nicole or Wayne at 884-6562.

FRI. SAT. SUN. MAY 6-7-8

Fiesta de Mayo Weekend. This is a major fund raiser for Pride Week activities including the big annual picnic. Watch for more details.

JUNE 12 THROUGH 18 - PRIDE WEEK

Watch for more details as the time draws closer.

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CALENDAR

sunday

CLUB 2520 - Open Noon. Saled Bar and Western Steak Fry 4 to 7 pm. AGRA C/W Dancing and Beer Bust 5-8, all you can drink \$5. C/W and Progressive Dance Music 8 to 1.

EAGLE - Opens at 10am with special prices on Blandy Marys all day. 3pm Pool Tournament with Beer Bust.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8 pm, all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Blandy Marys and Screens \$1.25 til 7 pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.

IBT'S - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. Beach's B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 3-6. Tea Dance 4-8. Rock 'n' Roll dancing later.

STONEWALL - Opens at 4pm with pool tournament. T-Dance begins at 4; Disco dancing 8 to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. 301 Dart Tournament 4 pm, \$3 entry fee. Cash prizes. Patio Bar Beer Bust 3-7 pm, B-B-Q 5-7 pm.

monday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 well 8-1 + Moon Madness "Backery". C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 9pm.

EAGLE - Happy Hour in the Eagle 10am to 8pm with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Uniform Nite, drink specials to those in uniform.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

Bring in your VHS movie and they'll play it. (No porno please!).

HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50c Draft Beer 7 to close.

IBT'S - Open noon. Happy Hour 4-8pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. 8pm to midnight, 50c draft beer. Mellow Jazz Mondays with Pat from 9 to 1

STONEWALL - Opens at 8pm for dancing. Enjoy midnight specials.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar opens at 7pm

tuesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer 8 to close. \$2.50 pitcher of beer and get a free sub sandwich 8-10. T-Squares Advanced Group 7pm. Country/Western dancing and Trash Disco Black Light Party begins at 9 pm.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am to 8pm. Leather Nite, drink specials to everyone wearing leather.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25, Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Schnapps 75c 7pm to close

IBT'S - Open noon. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer & well. 8 pm to close \$1.50 Well Drinks.

STONEWALL - The Fables Revue Show at 9:30 plus Midnight specials.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Patio Bar opens at 7 pm

wednesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. 50c off on everything from 8pm to close. Drink Specials all night. ID required. C/W dance lessons with Edgar 7:30-9:30

CLUB CONGRESS - Rod Farrow's "Queen Extravaganza" here from 8 pm to 1 am, featuring caged dancers.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am to 8pm. Bowler's Nite, drink specials to bowlers all night.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50c off all call drinks 7 to close. Disco dance music 8-1.

IBT'S - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm, \$1.25 domestic beer & well. \$1.50 Bud Product Special 9 pm to close. (Specials do not apply during shows)

STONEWALL - Open at 8pm. Salsa Nite. Corona and Margarita specials.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 Longacres & Well. Patio bar opens 7pm. Bar Chart Nite from 7pm. Happy Hour prices for "upwardly mobile" men.

thursday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. Men's Nite - 50c draft beer 9pm to 1am. C/W & Progressive Dance Music begins at 9 pm. Dart Tournament 8pm. Bar matches per.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am-8pm. Country Nite, drink specials to those in western attire.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Rattlesnake or Corona \$1.75 9pm to 1am. Country/Western dancing 9 to 1.

IBT'S - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburgers 4-7. Underwear Nite 10 to 1 - win a pair of Calvin Klein underwear. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer to those in their underwear.

STONEWALL - Open 8pm. Male Erotic Dancers 10pm, Midnight specials

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 Longacres and well. Patio bar opens at 7pm. Leather Nite 8 to midnight. Special prices for men in leather. Pool Tournament 7pm, \$3 entry fee.

friday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. (well and domestic beer). C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 8pm.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am-8pm; Hot Hot 4' Dancers 6pm

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25 draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12-7pm well or domestic beer \$1.25. Dance 9-1

IBT'S - Open noon. Happy Hour 4-8pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburgers 4-7. GoGo dancers 10pm. Dance Party Weekend 9 to 1 with DJ David Z.

STONEWALL - Opens 8pm. Karaoke hosted by Crash at 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 Longacres & well. Patio Bar opens 7pm.

saturday

CLUB 2520 - Open Noon. C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 8pm.

EAGLE - Opens at 10am. All day special on screwdrivers and canned beer well 8pm.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well drinks \$1.25 draft 75c Schnapps 75c. Pool Tournament 2pm, \$3 entry fee, pot watched.

HOURS - Open Noon. Dancing 8-1.

IBT'S - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon to 8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 Hamburgers 4-7. Dance 9pm to 1 am with DJ David Z. and Go Go dancers begin at 10pm.

STONEWALL - open at 8pm, Salsa and Dance Music.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Patio bar opens at 7pm.

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From The **POOP SHEET**
by Ace London

Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns!

Why in thee heel did you choose the parental entry units did??!! Oh, haven't I asked myself that question a time or two! Why didn't I pick a set who were filthy rich? What did I have in mind in picking the parents I did? A Dad who laid some nasty whip marks on me a time or two...I picked?! A Mother who easily could have been the Virgin Mary incarnate...I picked?!

Why them? And! Why would anyone choose parents who'd abandon them? Or, why would anyone pick parents who'd spoil them rotten and make them weak? I guess what it all comes down to is: we choose a very special genetic entry into life and environment.

Whether you're in your nineties or nineteen; do you have a future? Of course you do silly. We all have a future. So! It is possible we might be able to get enlightenment of our future?

Maybe. So I'd like you to try something. Take a pen and paper and write down every reason you can think of as to why you chose the parental entry vehicles you call Mother and Dad. Then, make another list of what you think you've received from this relationship. After you've had time to study and think about these lists.

So much to think about when you're a homosexual, isn't it? It really is no wonder that Gays have shaped so many of the premiere philosophies of the world. This may have spawned from our need over the centuries to seek answers as to why we're homosexual. We've innately known we couldn't consciously choose to

be homosexuals in this lifetime...yet that's really all most of us over the centuries have had; we've had to accept and live with that innate knowledge.

Nowadays however, we are hearing it might be an inherited gene or something which "produced" a homosexual. Another small step for man and a whopper for mankind if scientists are correct on this one! There is also the possibility we did choose to become homosexuals...But, we chose it prior to our entry into our physical life form.

And then, of course the next question arises: Why would I choose to be part of a despised minority group - in any life? Do you think it could be that being a homosexual is something very special?

Stop The Hate rallies, such as the recent one in Tyler, Texas, are probably good ideas to protest Gay bashing in any given neighborhood. When people gather in love, it is a positive action!

It also shows the neighborhood watchers a larger group than they'd expected turned out in support. We have to remember there is strength in numbers. And guess what? Strength in numbers means one individual counts simply by attending an event. The media definitely conducts body counts at such events. They are special events; attended by special people.

Channel change: What a strange phenomena that Gay men should be at-

tracted to and surround the lives of so many great female super stars. It's like a bee being attracted to the flower.

As a result of this phenomena I often question whether or not these strong women would have become the super stars they are today if they hadn't been surrounded by these supportive, "creative" Gays? We could have missed the auras of such as Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand, Cher, Jayne Mansfield, Joan Rivers, Mahalia Jackson, Bette Davis, Mae West, Janet Gaynor, Mary Pickford. What a list! Think of all the entertainment world would have missed. And again I say: I think homos were meant to be very special people.

How often over the years one hears this: "what in the world does she see in him?" Well it's no different in our homosexual community, is it? "How can she possibly like her?" "What does he see in him? He's balding!" Ah, thy name is "vanity"! And yes, human is human whether straight or Gay when it comes to courtship, "makin' it", and loving. We are a sturrrange animal!

We select our friends because they fill our various needs in our life and in our quest for maturation. Our loves and lovers are also chosen because they fulfill individual peculiar needs. Of course it's no one's business what she sees in her, what he sees in him, what Black sees in White, what Brown sees in Yellow, what Red sees in Albino.

What it comes down to is: our

selection/attractions are very special people who fill needs in our lives; making us richer and wiser for having made the selection.

It feels so good to be someone special, doesn't it? Even at times when our someone special is acting like a real bitch or bastard...we still know we are special to them - in spite of everything. What's really special though, is the fact that platonic love exists. We have the opportunity of transcending the "norm".

We can truly have brothers and sisters around the world and we could create a strength unheard of, all through love. With all we've gone through in our coming out process, we, above all, have the opportunity to at least attempt this. You see, our community is a special community.

Well, that's it from the Poop Sheet.

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From The **POOP SHEET**
by Ace London

Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns!

Why in thee heel did you choose the parental entry units did??!! Oh, haven't I asked myself that question a time or two! Why didn't I pick a set who were filthy rich? What did I have in mind in picking the parents I did? A Dad who laid some nasty whip marks on me a time or two...I picked?! A Mother who easily could have been the Virgin Mary incarnate...I picked?!

Why them? And! Why would anyone choose parents who'd abandon them? Or, why would anyone pick parents who'd spoil them rotten and make them weak? I guess what it all comes down to is: we choose a very special genetic entry into life and environment.

Whether you're in your nineties or nineteen; do you have a future? Of course you do silly. We all have a future. So! It is possible we might be able to get enlightenment of our future?

Maybe. So I'd like you to try something. Take a pen and paper and write down every reason you can think of as to why you chose the parental entry vehicles you call Mother and Dad. Then, make another list of what you think you've received from this relationship. After you've had time to study and think about these lists.

So much to think about when you're a homosexual, isn't it? It really is no wonder that Gays have shaped so many of the premiere philosophies of the world. This may have spawned from our need over the centuries to seek answers as to why we're homosexual. We've innately known we couldn't consciously choose to

be homosexuals in this lifetime...yet that's really all most of us over the centuries have had; we've had to accept and live with that innate knowledge.

Nowadays however, we are hearing it might be an inherited gene or something which "produced" a homosexual. Another small step for man and a whopper for mankind if scientists are correct on this one! There is also the possibility we did choose to become homosexuals...But, we chose it prior to our entry into our physical life form.

And then, of course the next question arises: Why would I choose to be part of a despised minority group - in any life? Do you think it could be that being a homosexual is something very special?

Stop The Hate rallies, such as the recent one in Tyler, Texas, are probably good ideas to protest Gay bashing in any given neighborhood. When people gather in love, it is a positive action!

It also shows the neighborhood watchers a larger group than they'd expected turned out in support. We have to remember there is strength in numbers. And guess what? Strength in numbers means one individual counts simply by attending an event. The media definitely conducts body counts at such events. They are special events; attended by special people.

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♈ **HOROSCOPES by Daryl** ♋
 ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

Roller coaster highs and lows prevail this week. One common fact pulls you through the maze. Sensibility and finance are at the forefront. Be sure to get adequate rest time.

TAURUS

APRIL 20 - MAY 20

Your work takes you to a different department or new job all together. You have carefully planned this change and welcome the boost to your income. Cupid will work in your interest this week, too!

GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUNE 21

Some long awaited financial pay-off or settlement has finalized to a definite date of receipt. Caution yourself against immediate disbursement of cash until you know what's what!

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 22

Your ability to "win friends and influence people" has public relations brimming. Use this time to qualify good business contacts and future opportunities. Your significant other will play a big part in fueling your dreams.

LEO

JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

Postcards or letters that you have recently mailed made a lasting impression, work moves along swiftly and profitably. Set your sights to vacation plans.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

Your patience is exercised more than once in matters concerning someone close to you. However humbling, these concessions will help to keep the relationship close entertaining is a definite must.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 23

Short trips involving friends and far away destinations make you "airport friendly". Routine enjoyment is one the list where family is concerned. Keep some time aside for yourself to enjoy.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 21

You are barreling along at a fast pace. Keep it all together and you will be fine. Last minute commitments may drive a wedge into your plans but, you'll do fine.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

Precious words are uttered to you this week from an unusual source. You reflect on happier times by way of this inducement. Surprise an old schoolmate with a phone call and brighten your world.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

You break out of the work routine by socializing and in some cases pushing the edges of the envelope. You are now able to pick your friends for some party ideas you have for the future.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18

Your attempt to appear innocent pays off and gets you the attention you desire. Swift social plans scoot you off to a lunch rendez-vous with sweet intentions. You will be spooned this week.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20

Careful not to over indulge with food, it may appear to become habit. Friends find moment of laughter and fun at a quick get together. A secret shared enlightens your immediate outlook.

POSITION AVAILABLE
PROJECT DIRECTOR
HIV PREVENTION FOR YOUNG GAY MEN

Conduct Community Level Intervention (CLI), including needs assessment, program design, implementation, and evaluation, to prevent HIV transmission among men under 25 who have sex with other men.
 Salary: 23-25K. Excellent Benefits.

This is a collaborative project of several agencies. Interested persons are encouraged to pick up job description and application instructions from one of the participating agencies:

PACT for Life, 801 W. Congress
 Pima County Health Dept., 150 W. Congress, Rm. 334
 Shanti Foundation, 602 N. 4th Ave.
 Tucson AIDS Project, 151 S. Tucson, #252

Completed applications must be mailed to:
 Selection Committee
 P.O. Box 1630
 Tucson, AZ 85702

Postmarked no later than April 28, 1994.

Be sure to mail your application to the address above; agencies will not accept them. No phone calls please.
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Bears of the Old Pueblo

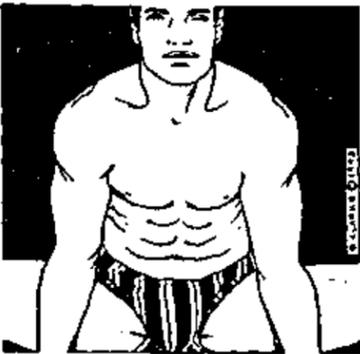
by Brad Spaulding

As I was flipping through the personals in the last issue of the Echo, I saw this ad, "Daddy Bear, looking for serious cab." Now, I know that getting around Phoenix is difficult, nowadays, but have people gotten to the point that they need to put out a personal ad for transportation? Plus, this guy doesn't want any ordinary cab; he wants a "serious cab." I guess there are some taxis out there who doesn't have any sense of commitment. My advice to the Echo: Shell out the extra bucks and hire a proofreader.

This is going to be a short article, folks. My advice: Read it twice. Here we go.

Saturday, April 16 - The Bears will be going on a Bar Crawl to help promote our group. One of us will be dressed as an actual bear to mingle and

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flirt with all of you prospective Bear members. Our schedule looks something like this: 7-8 pm Venture-N, 8-9 pm The Graduate, 9-10 pm IBT'S, 10-11 pm Club 2520, 11 pm-12 am Hours, 12 am-1 am Stonewall/Eagle.

Wednesday, April 20 - The third Wednesday of every month is Restaurant Night. Come to the Venture-N at 6:30 pm. We'll decide upon a good, inexpensive local restaurant and go there at about 7 pm. Don't worry about being late; just contact one of the Venture-N's friendly bartenders and ask where the Bears went. Everyone is invited, so let's go Dutch with the Bears (any other "national preference", you'll have to ask nicely).

Saturday, April 23 - We're going on a wine tasting trek to Webb's Winery on East Benson Highway. For more information, call our Vice-Chair Bear Wayne.

Thursday, April 28 - Bear's Business Meeting. 7:30 pm. Read next week's article for more details.

This week's Bear Hunting Grounds: Bookman's on Campbell and Grant. Here's your chance to get in some hard reading.

Until next week, Happy Hunting.

Bear Event Info: contact Wayne at 887-3115 before 9 pm.

Bear membership: contact Brad at 882-4149.

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Double Mischief

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by Wendy Caster

Coupon Clipping Pervert, C'Est Mol

I always mean to be cool, but somehow I always end up...lukewarm. It was true when I was a teenager, and it's true now. Watching the Christian Broadcasting Network, I have learned that Gay folk are continuously having sex or overthrowing the government or practicing witchcraft. Continuously! But not me. I don't convert God fearing housewives from the straight and narrow (to the Gay and wide?), nor do I collect fetal scalps.

I clip coupons.

It all started when my lover Liz and I decided that I'd take care of the finances, she'd take care of the cats, and we'd share the dishes. By reading books and newspaper financial sections, taking care of details here and there, and putting us on something resembling a budget, I got our financial life in order. I double-checked our savings, made Liz get disability insurance, and refinanced the mortgage (though there's still more to do; there's always more to do!).

Then I discovered a large weakness: I stink at investing our retirement money. Mind you, I can recite the basis of a balanced portfolio: enough money in a CD or money market to pay six months of bills in case of emergency; major long term investments in stocks because the stock market historically outperforms everything else; some bonds for safety.

But, I wondered, what if I put money in stocks, and that's the day the

market collapses? What if I put money in bonds, but inflation goes sky high and my money becomes worthless? What if the stock market gets stronger and stronger, but I pick the one mutual fund that fails? It's all complicated and scary.

In addition, according to the money mavens (who clearly grew up in a better neighborhood than I did), at my advanced age of 39, I should have hundreds of thousands of dollars saved/invested (ha!), or else face a seniorhood of sharing food with my cats (or eating the cats).

To find ways to save more money, I perused *Your Money or Your Life* and *The Tightwad Gazette*. They're very inspiring, but there's no way I'm going to live on brown rice or cut paper towels in half to make them last twice as long.

In the midst of this, cutting coupons seem simplicity itself. It reliable and effortless and offers a guaranteed return. Even the cost of the Sunday paper barely counts as overhead since my lover does the crosswords.

I started with the occasional 50 cent coupon, but, just like a compulsive gambler, I soon craved larger payoffs. My first big win was a box of scoop kitty litter, on sale for \$2.79; when the store doubled my \$1.00 coupon, that box of kitty litter, which usually cost \$3.99, suddenly cost \$.79! It was a sale-double-coupon combo: the trifecta of coupon

clipping.

Then there was my first free toothbrush: on sale for \$1.49; purchased with a doubled \$.75 coupon. Jackpot!

I started driving my friends crazy announcing my great buys. I would hand someone a Dr. Pepper and announced, "That only cost 18 cents!" (a fact I'm still impressed by).

Now my condo has a newspaper recycling box, and my coupon holder (it's a black and white striped accordion file with a Velcro closure-very chi chi, I assure you) runneth over, as I pull leftover coupons out of the papers. Few of my neighbors clip coupons, which is not unusual; although 7.7 billion coupons were redeemed in 1993, that huge number accounted for only 2.3% of the coupons distributed.

I guess most people don't want to take time to clip coupons, but I make more in an hour spent clipping coupons than I do in an hour spent editing the *Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow Metabolism and Convulsive Therapy*, which are only two of my frequent assignments. And, quite frankly, clipping coupons is more fun.

Of course, I slip up. Once or twice I've bought something I didn't actually need, just because the price was good. And then there was that truly evil coupon, which I used twice, offering a free box of Pop Tarts with each purchase of Frosted Flakes. (Is this the land of plenty or what?) And, I admit it: sometimes I just run into 7/11 and get efficiently ripped off. However, we saved \$120 using coupons in the first three months of 1994!

I'll never be cool. I worry too much about mundane matters. I obsess about money. But have you encountered those books of coupons for restaurants? Five bucks off at Black Angus!

See you there!



SOME OF OUR 1994 EXCLUSIVELY GAY OFFERINGS

April 1-3 Palm Springs White Party
 April 24-May 2 QE2 Transatlantic NYC/London
 May 7-15 Women's Costa Rica Adventure
 June 18-25 Gay Games IV & Cultural Festival - NY
 July 3-10 Grand Canyon Rafting
 Aug 22-29 Alaska Cruise / Pied Piper

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Notices

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Hissard Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 326-3555

FACT - People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson, 801 W. Congress. Office hours 8 to 5 M-F (8-7 Wed): Support Group meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Call 770-1710 for info.

SIHANTH FOUNDATION OF TUCSON
Help us help others in giving emotional support to persons with life-threatening illnesses and their families, friends. Contact us Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 622-7107. VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED.

P.P.L.A.O. - Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 16264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

Casa De La Paloma Apostolic Church, 225 W. Flores, Tucson. Worship Services Sundays at 11 am & 6:30 pm. Wednesday & Saturday Bible Studies 7 pm. Tuesday, women's Rap Group 7 pm. Coming out issues couple counseling provided. For appointment Pastor S. Lewis for info 323-6855.

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Alcohol 790-8922 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

OLD PUEBLO BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
For meeting dates and locations or membership information call 795-6055 or write: OP, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85733

SORORITY - A support group for male & female Transsexuals, Transvestites and Gay cross-dressers. Family oriented. Meets at 8 pm 2nd Saturday of each month. Call: 793-3456. NOT A DATING SERVICE.

YOUNG AND GAY?

Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 422 N. 4th Avenue from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

WOMYN'S THIRD FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE meets third Friday of each month at Universalist Church 4831 E. 22nd Street. \$2 at door (more if you can, less if not).

ARE YOU A GAY MAN 40 OR OLDER? Do you enjoy the companionship of your peers? Call Cronies 888-7264 in Tucson.

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP), 351 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 232 (The Broadway Center Bldg.). Direct services for persons with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Prevention education programs. Business hours, M-F, 8-5. 322-226. AIDS Hotline: 326-AIDS.

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL IN TUCSON
Call information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

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

AIDS HOTLINE - 326-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitates. Call 884-0476 Tucson. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 422 N. 4th Ave., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all). General Meetings every 4th Sunday 6:00 p.m. Parents Support Group meets every 3rd Wednesday. Information 624-1779.

GAY SUPPORT GROUP: Lesbians and Gay men meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Fox-bills Church, Swan and River Road. Call the church at 299-9063 for information.

LICHEN HIKING CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. 795-3610.

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX
For information and membership write: CBPA at P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave. 624-1779.

TEN PERCENT meets every Wednesday on the UofA campus in the Student Union room 281 at 6 p.m. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual members of the community are invited.

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanbers is a nudist group open to all - Nude activities scheduled both indoors and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASI to: Tucson Tanbers, P.O. Box 84-G, Corona, AZ 85637.

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life explanation and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9070

"QUEER BISBEE", Bisbee's Lesbian and Gay Alliance, has a general meeting every 3rd Sunday at 7 p.m. at the YWCA in Bisbee.

PRESCOTT GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP now forming. Are you lonely? Scared? Confused? Need Friendship? Support? Please write to us. We will respond to all in confidentiality. We're here for you... don't be alone! For students and the community. YAO, Box 8663, 3200 North Willow Creek Road, Prescott, AZ 86301-3720.

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP. This ongoing therapy group, facilitated by a licensed psychologist, provides a safe place to work on interpersonal blocks and self-esteem issues. Membership will be limited to 8-10 people. Call Randy Oberhoff, Ph.D. 623-3390

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, write PO Box 41141, Tucson AZ 85717 or come to our general meetings the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm on the Venture-N patio.

GAY AND LESBIAN OVERBATTERS ANONYMOUS. Sup'binging, purging and overeating. Get a life! Call 793-3488 / 290-1739. Come to a meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 pm at Monty Berks, 1001 N. Wilmet.

TUCSON ROOMMATE LOCATOR SERVICE
Men and women both welcome. Office 624-8265.

"LAMBDA CAR CLUB, Grand Canyon Region" for information about membership or activities call Bill James 622-3808 Tucson.

LESBIAN AND GAY ALANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Toll 581-8850 or Room 964-2384.

AT EAST AGAIN, A men's discussion group, meets at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave, at 7 pm every Tuesday. All Gay and Bisexual men are welcome.

JOIN US! P.L.G.C., Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, is a national organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Tucson chapter formed in May 1993: PLOC de Cristo. We invite all Presbyterians to join us at our meeting on the 4th Sundays of each month at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3809 E. 3rd St. Tucson in Gehens Hall. For more details contact Nancy Brown, 327-1293.

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RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF ALL LATTER DAY SAINTS - SOUTHWEST - Don't give up your religious beliefs and principles. Be with brothers and sisters of R.F.D.S., LDS Moroni faith. For more information call 325-1664 or 1-800-755-2928. Sacrament Meetings Sundays 1-2 (social after). Mondays Family home evening 7-9 p.m. All welcome. Bring a friend.

UofA FACULTY AND STAFF for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equity meets on the fourth Monday of each month for a Brown Bag Lunch from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Room 283 or 285. Open to UofA faculty and staff concerned about Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues.

ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO, S.I.D.A. - AIDS INFO LINE 882-3933. Also seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/ English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish groups in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Early Intervention Center, 801 West Congress, Tucson, AZ 85719. 770-1314.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-0803 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

AMERICAN GAY & LESBIAN ATHEISTS advocating state/church separation. Monthly meetings and support for the non-religious. Write: 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 121, Box 211, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2903. "Educating Our Community Since 1985".

SOURCES UNLIMITED, a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave message.

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Admirers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

AGRA-Tucson announces a Press Conference for the 1994 Saguaro Regional Rodeo at 9:00 p.m. on March 16 in the Parkview Room at the Ramada Inn Downtown. Address: 475 N. Granada, Tucson. 504

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS! Arizona Nude Dudes or ANDES/Tucson for short, is a Gay men's nudist group. We hold local activities each month and have connections to Gay men's nudist groups across the country. For further information please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ANDES/Tucson, P.O. Box 64044, Tucson, AZ 85728-4044. For faster reply please include phone number.

MALE, FEMALE, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Info: Steve, 323-8436 or Wingspan, 624-1779.

FRIENDSHIP HOUSE, a group living facility for people living with HIV/AIDS. Private rooms with shared kitchen and living area. Free cable. For more info call Paul, 622-1437. Contributions accepted for direct patient services.

TAKE! SQUARE DANCE LESSONS for fun at Club 2520. Beginners "Basic Classes" start every Fall. Watch "T-Squares" dance every Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., 2520 N. Oracle. G&L benefit performance requests encouraged! Dance 745-9212.

SUN COUNTRY NATURISTS: Social Nudist Club for men and women. Write to: Sun Country Naturists, P.O. Box 43772, Tucson, AZ 85733-3772

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adricane at 889-7298.

GAY & LESBIAN HIKING CLUB forming in Tucson. Persons interested in planning and/or participating in desert and mountain hiking and backpacking experiences which average 8 miles or more are encouraged to respond. Hikers must be willing to create a drug/alcohol-free, environmentally friendly experience. Call pager number 445-3712 and leave your e-mail or write Les McAllan, P.O. Box 42532, Tucson, AZ 85733-2532.

MANE MEN: Peopla network for long-haired Gay guys! To join, send photo, self-description, 2 IRC's. Box 231, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4

Personals

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Monica Grant In Tucson Concert April 22

TUCSON - Monica Grant, considered one of the "hottest (Lesbian) tickets" on the women's concert circuit, brings her raucous, comedic rhythms and memorable melodies to the Southwest Center for Music, 2175 N. 6th Avenue, Friday, April 22, 1994 at 8:00 p.m.

Monica's unique comedy style blends stand up, quick witted comedy (comparable to that of Ellen DeGeneres) with music and into a partnership where each element supports the other, and together they reach an audience at its heart. Women throughout the country have enjoyed not only her music but also the lyrics that entertain, and deal with images and feelings that touch all of us. Monica definitely has a consistent knack of Getting to the Heart of It!

Grant's music is a combination of original pop, country, cabaret, and even polka. She usually accompanies herself on acoustic guitar, but has also been known to break out a kazoo, or an accordion (the leather straps are her favorite part, she admits).

In 1990, Monica was the featured performer at the Gay Games in Vancouver, British Columbia. She has also artistically contributed to the success of every women's music festival in the nation, and has performed in over 100 concerts throughout her 10 year career. She is also a favorite performer at Gay Pride events all over the country.

Monica's first tape, "Harbor Girl," was produced by Melanie Monsur in 1989 and has won acclaim from critics and fans alike. Her second recording

(available on CD), "The Heart of It," produced by Teresa Chandler, is quickly collecting an enthusiastic following.

Monica Grant comes to the Tucson area via Tempe based Sassy Sisters Productions, a Lesbian owned and operated women's event promotion company.

The Southwest Center for Music is the premiere acoustic concert hall in Tucson and intimately seats 320. They also boast a small cafe serving food, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

Tickets are \$8.00 each and can be purchased by mail (check or money order) - Sassy Sisters Productions, P.O. Box 25085, Tempe, Arizona 85285; or until 4:30 p.m. the night of the show at Antigone Books, 600 N. 4th Avenue, Tucson, 792-3715, or at the Southwest Center for Music Box Office. Tickets can also be purchased the night of the show at the Center, with the box office opening at 7:15 p.m.

Valuable door prizes, such as Cardinals' football tickets, Monica Grant CD's and tapes, a message, dinner certificates, and movie passes will be given away at the show. Tapes and CD's will be on sale the night of the performance, with Monica available for autographs.

The entire concert will be ASL interpreted for the hearing impaired with special seating available for those with special needs. The Southwest Center for Music is Wheelchair accessible. For further information call (602) 898-4863.

Marriage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

bill proposing domestic partnerships.

The domestic partnership bill, a virtual replica of Denmark's model and the most sweeping introduced to date in this country, sparked strong debate among advocates of same gender marriage. The bill would grant Gays and Lesbians most of the rights of marriage immediately until a victory in the court case would grant the remaining benefits. However, domestic partnership still falls short of the group's goal for full and equal marriage rights. "We see domestic partnership as an incremental step towards our final goal of

equality in marriage," stated Maggie Tannis, spokesperson for HERMP, "but it's still a case of separate and unequal. We will not end our struggle until we have achieved full equality."

With a majority of Senate Judiciary Committee members unwilling to support the domestic partnership proposal and the constitutional amendment, both bills were killed in early March. Still alive is the bill that would clarify state law to allow only heterosexual couples to marry.

Because of the lobbying efforts of the Lesbian and Gay community, homophobic members of the legislature have been stymied in their efforts to get a bill passed which will stop same sex marriage. Given the controversial nature of the issue, will the potential miracle of same sex marriage actually become a reality in Hawaii? Foley is optimistic. "I feel good about the case. We hope to prevail, but we can't assume anything."



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