



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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IBT's 1997 Scholarship Winner Announced



TUCSON - Chip West, shown above between Frank Schepis and Dave Huff, owners of IBT's. Chip was the winner of the 1997 UofA Scholarship given annually by IBT's to a deserving student. See story below.

TUCSON - The management of It's About Time (IBT's) announced that Chip West was selected as the winner of their annual college scholarship.

IBT's annual awards scholarship moneys to a Gay or Lesbian student attending the U of A. West's written submission was cited the best of the many applicants who competed for this year's scholarship.

Since its inception, the IBT's scholarship has paid out \$3,200 to Gay and Lesbian students at the U of A. This

is in keeping with IBT's management and staff philosophy of supporting all aspects of the Tucson Gay and Lesbian community.

Chip has advised IBT's management and staff as a result of the scholarship he will be able to attend summer school and move his graduation date up to December of this year.

IBT's also wishes to thank Scott Shanks for his generous contribution towards this year's scholarship.

Conviction Of Florida Undertaker In PWA List Case

TAMPA, FL (NP) - Florida undertaker Greg Wentz was found guilty of violating the medical confidentiality of some 4,000 people with AIDS by a Pinellas County judge, in what's believed to be the worst breach of patient privacy in U.S. history.

In September, the confidential files maintained by the county in state-mandated tracking of AIDS diagnoses -- including names and contact information -- were mailed on computer discs to two Florida newspapers. The newspapers did not print the lists and turned the records over to police. The strongest evidence against Wentz was the presence of his own fingerprints -- and only his -- on the envelopes the newspapers received.

The discs were accompanied by anonymous notes claiming that they'd been obtained from openly Gay state health worker William Calvert III when he was drunk and showing them off in a Gay bar. Calvert was in fact one of only a handful of health workers who had access to the files, and will himself be facing misdemeanor charges (in a trial now indefinitely postponed) for allegedly mishandling the records -- but it has now been determined that the person who did the actual mailing to the newspapers was his former lover, housemate and business associate Wentz. The two had an ugly breakup in May 1996.

Calvert testified that Wentz pressured him repeatedly for use of the list of people with AIDS in order to market their funeral home.

Wentz claimed that he was "set up" in the case by a few of their mutual friends, who he theorized could have easily copied the disc while visiting Calvert. He explained the fingerprint by saying one of those friends had asked him to mail a stack of envelopes for him, a story which obviously left the judge unimpressed.

Yet when Wentz ranted against Calvert from the stand, he told stories that seemed to the judge to be similar to those in the anonymous letters to the newspapers. An answering machine recording of Wentz blustering at Calvert seemed to the judge to be making reference to using the computer disc to hurt Calvert's reputation.

Judge William Overton took less than an hour to conclude that prosecutors had "proved the defendant had the access, the ability and the motive" -- punishing Calvert for the breakup -- to duplicate the disc and mail out the records.

Wentz is the first man ever to be convicted in Florida on this particular

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY FOUR

Vaccine Made From Bird Virus Stimulates Body's Fight Against HIV

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) - A vaccine made from a virus that gives a pox to canaries but is harmless to humans has shown promise in blocking infection by the AIDS virus.

The vaccine has been injected into a group of healthy volunteers and found to cause a power surge of killer T-cells, a type of immune system warrior that protects the body from HIV.

"We take this as a positive sign," said Dr. Kent Weinhold of Duke University, but he noted that it is still uncertain whether the rapid rise in killer T-cells would be enough to protect people against HIV.

A report on the vaccine was delivered at a National Institutes of Health symposium on HIV vaccine candidates.

Weinhold said the canary pox virus used in study causes disease in birds, but not in mammals. He said the virus will infect mammal cells, but is unable to reproduce and cause a full-blown infection.

To turn the canary pox virus into a vaccine, Weinhold said his group inserted into the pox some genes taken from HIV -- genes that HIV uses to make the outer coating of new virus particles after the virus has infected human cells.

When the manipulated canary virus was injected into the body, the immune system responded with killer T-cells

that attacked those cells that have been infected with the bird virus. The immune system also detected the HIV genes and made killer T-cells that attacked those genes too.

"We could detect (killer T-cells) in about half of the individuals tested," said Weinhold. The vaccine also caused the body to make antibodies, which are proteins the immune system uses to mark infected cells.

Other candidate HIV vaccines have made anti-bodies, but Weinhold said the canary virus vaccine is the first to elicit such a strong response by the killer T-cells.

In laboratory blood tests, he said, the killer T-cells prompted by the canary virus vaccine were found to attack six different strains, or clades, of the HIV virus.

Weinhold said, however, that all of the HIV clades tested are laboratory cultures and may be somewhat different from the "wild" HIV clades that infect people.

Though a strong killer T-cell response might be enough to protect against some viruses, researchers are still uncertain if it would be enough to protect against HIV, a virus that preys on the immune system itself.

"We still don't know that," said Weinhold.

Aids Candlelight Memorial Draws Hundreds

TUCSON - Tucson joined over 290 cities in over 40 nations and all 50 states in the U.S. observance of the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization.

Hundreds of people went to Armory Park for the vigil and joined the millions worldwide to remember those loved ones who've lost their battle with AIDS.

The event, which began in San Francisco in 1983, honors the memory of those who have died of AIDS, demonstrates support for people living with HIV and AIDS, and mobilizes community involvement in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The Memorial and Mobilization is the world's largest annual grassroots AIDS event.

The Tucson observance of the event was hosted jointly by Wingspan, Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) and Desert Voices. Participants lit candles, heard the stories of local people affected by HIV, and listened to music by Desert Voices chorus.

A candlelight procession and an

interfaith service of healing hope followed the Armory Park ceremony.

The theme of the 1997 event was "Illuminate the Truth: Honor every death, Value every life. Global Solidarity for access to health care, dignity and LIFE."

The theme referred to the ongoing international need for affordable and accessible health care, treatment and prevention tools and information. People with AIDS worldwide are still struggling for basic human rights and for access to shelter, food and medical care.

"There's a lot to be hopeful about these days and we need to encourage people to keep the momentum going," said David Hoover, program manager for the Pima County HIV/AIDS/STD program, in an interview. "The work isn't over until we have a cure."

In Pima County, about 750 have died of AIDS and 4,000 and 7,000 more have HIV.

UPDATE

Jello Wrestling Benefit May 18

TUCSON - The community is invited to attend the Tenth Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza/Raffle and Auction, Sunday, May 18, 4:00 P.M., at the Graduate, 23 West University.

Audience members will also have an opportunity to participate in a live auction for items, donated by local businesses, ranging from gift certificates to works of art and collectibles, to purchase raffle tickets for the chance to win two round-trip tickets from Tucson to San Francisco and to watch members of the community wrestle in a pool of Jell-O.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (a merger of the Shanti Foundation, the Tucson AIDS Project, and the People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson).

This event is being produced by Tucson's Community Bars - Ain't Nobody's Bizness, Boom-Booms, Hours, IBT's, the Graduate and the Venture-N. The Hostesses, once again, are Gilda Fatale and Lucinda Holliday. Auctioneers and fund raisers extraordinaire.

For more information, or to volunteer, or to receive your Wrestler Registration Packet, call 322-9191.

New General Manager For Desert Voices

TUCSON - Marylee Pangman, after leaving PACT for Life, has accepted the position of General Manager for Desert Voices, Tucson's Premier Gay and Lesbian Chorus.

Marylee feels that her twenty plus years of experience in working with not-for-profit agencies will help Desert Voices to build the foundation necessary to support the growing performing arts organization.

Marylee is very excited about working again with Keith Koster, Artistic Director for the chorus. Keith was the former Gay Mentor Project Coordinator which was located at PACT. As a singing member of the chorus and now as General Manager, she will be able to coordinate the needs of the members with the needs of both the Board of Directors and the artistic staff.

Desert Voices' next concert, "Fairy Tales" will be presented at the Temple of Music and Art, June 14, 8:00 P.M. A minimum of 70 men from the San Diego Men's Chorus will be joining Desert Voices in the premier of the work "And If." This work is by Houston composer Ruth Huber, with text by Tucson poet James Merrill. Performing with the San Diego Men's Chorus is a collaboration typical of the chorus. Marylee hopes to help build many other collaborations locally, nationally and internationally.

In the future, Desert Voices will continue to commission and premiere new works which support our southwest culture. The chorus strives for excellence in productions communicated both vocally and visually with theatrical elements as an integral part of the production.

The musical arrangements are carefully planned to demystify the lifestyles of Gays and Lesbians and to lessen the oppression that Gays and Lesbians face. Indeed a tall order. But, as Marylee states, "Desert Voices Rocks. When Tucsonans feel the ground shaking, they will know that Desert Voices is on the stage again!"

Local Theater Company To Produce Original Play About Barbie And Ken

TUCSON - Itch Productions, one of Tucson's newest theatre groups, will be performing an original work by local playwright Tom Stauson, "Ten Inches of Lifelike Plastic (Barbie and Ken Are Just Friends)."

"Ten Inches" is a hilarious and insightful play about coming out, falling in love and accepting your friends. What is Barbie to do when her beloved Ken not only comes out to her, but tells her that he and G.I. Joe are boyfriends? Not only that, her best friend Strawberry Shortcake has fallen in love with Cabbage Patch? How will Barbie survive this? And how will her hair look?

"Ten Inches of Lifelike Plastic" will be performed May 15-18, 21-24 at 8:00 P.M. with a matinee performance on May 17, 2:00 P.M. at the Temple of Music and Art Cabaret Theatre, 330 S. Scott Avenue in Tucson. Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$8 for students and senior citizens.

For more information call 795-7156 or 748-0291.

Public Access Producers To Picket TCI May 9

TUCSON - The newly formed Public Access Producers Alliance (PAPA) will begin picketing the TCI Media Services office, 655 North Alvernon, Friday, May 9, 4:00 to 7:00 P.M.

The alliance plans to continue a smaller-scale picket until the cable franchise contract renewal negotiations with the city are complete.

The group, which signed up 30 active public access producers at its charter meeting, is expecting over 100 picketers to show up on Friday. The focus of the picket will be to encourage TCI to ante up the public access funding they allege TCI has been charging its subscribers; a charge which, PAPA Interim Board President, Tony DeNinno is filing with Arizona Attorney General Grant Woods today.

Additionally, the group will center its attention to the Mayor and City Council to hold tough on the issue of continued and expanded public access funding until a contract is signed.

The reason TCI Media Services has been singled out for the picket instead of the main offices is to warn TCI advertisers to count their commercials, the contention being - TCI charges for public access funding, and doesn't deliver. Can TCI be trusted to run all the commercials.

The producers alliance is also kicking off a Call-in, and City Council speaking campaigns, claiming that TCI and its predecessors made their fortune off monopolization of city rights-of-way in Tucson, and now that they're hooked up to 95,000 homes in the valley, they don't care how they squeeze a buck out of their subscribers, or this community.

Further planning calls for a Support/Protect rally at City Hall by mid June. DeNinno says if the situation is not resolved, Gay and Lesbian television programs in Tucson could be a thing of the past.

Share Bears April Income

TUCSON - The following is the financial statement for April 1997 for the Share Bears:

Income	\$432.88
Carried Forward	\$124.10
Total Available	\$556.98
How Money Was Spent	
Gas Vouchers	\$ 60.00
Telephone Bills	\$ 50.00
Rent	\$262.00
Total Spent	\$372.00
Nine People Served	
Balance Carried Forward	\$184.98

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Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation Upcoming Fundraising Events

- **Classical Concert #1:** Acoustical guitar concert featuring Roberto Capocchi. Friday, April 18th at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 7:30 PM
- **Laff's Comedy Benefit:** Local professional comedians and ASO clients share the lighter side of living with HIV. Tuesday, April 29th. Laff's Comedy Cafe.
- **10th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza** A zany afternoon of slipping and sliding in America's favorite dessert. Sunday, May 18th at the Graduate
 For More Info Call PACT, TAP or Shanti

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Your Source for What's Hot & Happening in Tucson • Published Weekly in the Observer

SPECIAL RENO GANNON MEMORIAL JELLO WRESTLING KICK-OFF SHOW

Wednesday, May 14th, 9PM. Come meet and donate to the wrestler of your choice. Raffle Tickets on sale for S.F. Trip. Show features Gilda Fatale, Lucinda Holliday, Felice Renard, Ajia Simone and Special Guests.

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"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away"

Henry David Thoreau



"Strange? No, It's Tuesday!"

The Tucson community needs to act to help pass the first federal civil rights law ever to include Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Americans in basic protection from discrimination.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) would protect Americans from job discrimination based on sexual orientation, which remains legal in 41 states. Last year, it came within one vote of passing in the U.S. Senate. A state version of the bill was killed in the recent session of the Arizona Legislature.

The current prospects for ENDA look good. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have just held a historic White House meeting with key sponsors of the bill and civil rights leaders to map out a strategy for passing ENDA in the 105th Congress.

Also encouraging is a new bipartisan poll released by the Human Rights Campaign, showing that 68 percent of voters favor passage of ENDA. Federal legislation has been reintroduced in Congress, so now is the time to act.

Call the offices of Senator John McCain and Jon Kyl, and Representatives Ed Pastor and Jim Kolbe and urge them to support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. Locally their phone numbers are: Sen. John McCain, 670-6334; Jon Kyl, 575-8633; Ed Pastor, 624-9986; Jim Kolbe, 881-3588. . . .

The City of Tucson elections this year looked like they would be dull, really dull! No real challengers to the three incumbents. What a difference one week and one announcement can make!

Last week, Tucson Councilmember Molly McKasson, D-Ward 6, a friend to the Gay and Lesbian community, announced that she will not seek a third-term. McKasson, in a press release that she had accomplished everything she wanted to do during her tenure on the Council.

With that announcement, speculation is running rampant on who will run for the now-open seat. Some names mentioned are: former Tucson Mayor and Councilmember Tom Volgy; political consultant Carol Zimmerman; neighborhood activist Tres English, and; Democratic political activist Allison Hughes.

Molly McKasson was a strong friend to the community; voting in favor of domestic partners benefits extension and the Tucson Hate Crimes ordinance, just to name two recent votes by the Tucson Mayor and Council. . . .

This past Tuesday was the first open enrollment day for Pima County employees to sign up for health/dental benefits for themselves and their spouses and their children.

Some Pima County employees could not sign their "domestic partners" up for benefits. Why?

As previously reported first in the Observer (3/27), the Pima County Board of Supervisors had approved a measure, 3-2, to extend health and dental benefits to the "domestic partners" of Gay, Lesbian and unmarried heterosexual county employees.

The Board of Supervisors directed the county administrator, Chuck Huckleberry to have a plan in place, (documents, affidavits, policy, etc.), by this past Tuesday May 6, the first day of open enrollment. As of press time, the county "domestic partner" affidavits, (rewritten) policy, etc., are not in place, even ready to present to the Board.

The Board's of Supervisors attorney, David Dingleline, was to have given his opinion if the proposal was legal. Dingleline was supposed to issue a written opinion by mid-April! As of press time, no legal opinion has even been written. Is this gathering dust?

[Phone calls to county administra-

tor Chuck Huckleberry and Board attorney, David Dingleline by this reporter were not returned.]

When the Board gives explicit direction to county staff, it's supposed to be followed to the letter! Well, we're waiting! . . .

Mark your calendars for some upcoming events:

The severely indicted Arizona Governor, J. Fife Whitewash III trial finally commences on May 13.

Pima County will be holding a bond election on May 20 where voters will decide if they will shell out more money on worthwhile projects or government pork or bondoggles! . . .

Next week this column will cover the upcoming election and the bond questions on the ballot. Complimentary coffee will not be served! . . .

So it goes for now kids! . . .

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The Tucson-based Ruby Moon Productions, who is in pre-production for it's upcoming documentary "Silver Linings: Paths of Gay and Lesbian Elders", has been overwhelmed by the response and support from the community. They have completed over 25 pre-interviews in Tucson and will start this process in Phoenix come mid-May.

According to Director/Producer, Joe Saracco, "The people who have come forth to be interviewed, tell their histories with such warm humor, stories that tug at your heart strings". Their views of the current Gay Agenda, Same Sex Marriage, Adoption, Gay youth and prolonged life

Shine On Ruby Moon

through AIDS research is interesting and most candid. "The real value of this project is not so much of where these people came from but what they are doing now with their lives... what they give back to our Gay community and the local community at large is amazing. People don't realize their commitment and dedication", says Saracco.

The stories and adventures that led them to where they are today gives a fresh outlook to the Gay Golden years, full of life, love and promise, challenging the stereotype of the "sad, lonely old Fag or Dyke".

Ruby Moon is starting to take on the task of Fund Raising and applying for Grants. This area is being spearheaded by Associate Producer, Sam Muchmore. People interested in making a donation or helping in this area should give Sam a call at (520)388-9628.

Ruby Moon says there is still plenty of time for more elders to respond for pre-interviews in Tucson, especially Senior Lesbians and people of color.

The next phase will be the video

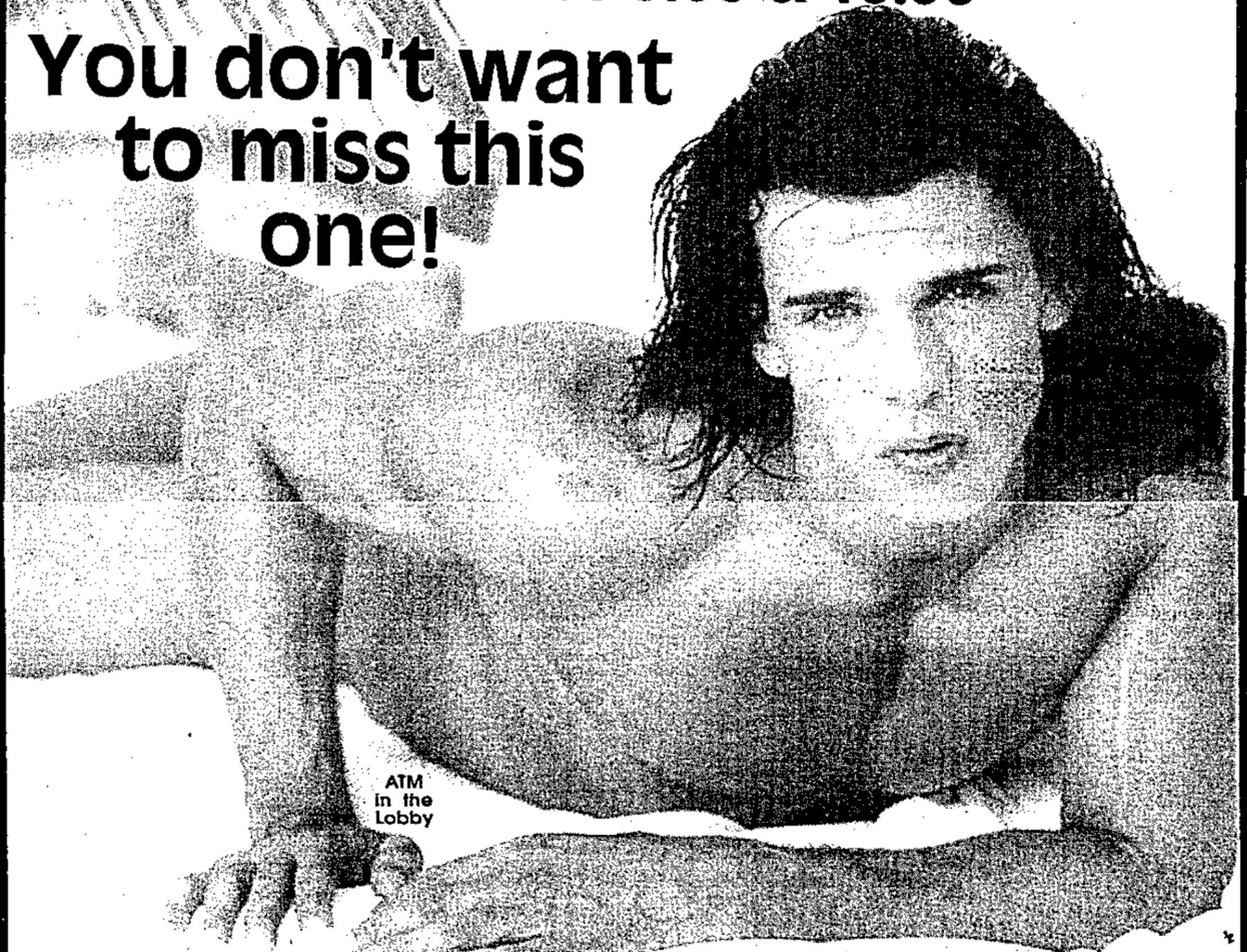
interviews starting in Tucson come mid-June. The final filming is scheduled to start in July. Saracco states, "people or businesses who have a heart and interest in this project should give us a holler... we really would like this to be a community supported project".

He who has a thing to sell and goes and whispers in a well, is not so apt to get the dollars as he who climbs a tree and hollers.

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Columna Abierta.

by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

Saludandoles con el mismo ánimo de siempre, y esta vez con más ánimo, ya que se aproximan mis vacaciones; pero los artículos de esta Columna Abierta ya están listos para que continúen como hasta hoy; cada semana, y seguimos esperando sus sugerencias y comentarios...

En esta ocasión comentaremos de: "ese secreto". Es verdad. A veces hay que hablar y a veces hay que callar. ¿Sabe usted cuándo hacer lo uno o lo otro? Un experto terapeuta sexual advierte que ciertos silencios pueden ser dañinos para la relación.

¿Usted puede guardar un secreto? Claro que puede, especialmente si es uno propio. Los hombres, cuando se trata de revelar lo que nos da vueltas la cabeza, somos en extremo cuidadosos. Podemos hablar por horas sobre la velocidad de nuestra computadora personal, pero que no vengan a pedimos que contemos algo "realmente" personal. Guardar cosas para nosotros mismos no es necesariamente malo. Todos necesitamos defender un rincón de espacio privado. Pero el terapeuta sexual Marty Klein, autor de "Sus secretos sexuales: cuándo guardarlos, cómo compartirlos", sostiene que algunos secretos especialmente los sexuales, pueden dañar una relación. "Vivimos en un mundo que fomenta los secretos sexuales" dice Klein. "Estos secretos no siempre nos protegen ni hacen mejores nuestras vidas. Muy por lo contrario, pueden estancar el desarrollo de una relación y distorsionar nuestras vidas sexuales".

Guardar secretos no es sólo mentir. Es también retener información o hacer que nuestra pareja o los demás tengan una impresión errada sobre algo.

¿Cuál es el secreto más común que guardan los hombres? Es muy común el que los hombres se masturben. Entre los terapeutas sexuales, se bromea con que el 90 % de los hombres se masturban y el otro 10 % miente sobre ese punto. Muchos creen que es deshonesto o infantil, y no se lo revelan a su pareja. Lo que sucede es que se sienten culpables por eso, o quizá tienen miedo de que los sorprendan, y tienen que hacerlo a escondidas. Este es un problema de verdad y, claro, crea distancia; no la masturbación en sí, sino el tener que ocultarlo. Yo no digo que todos los hombres deban correr a confesarle a sus

parejas que se masturban, pero en no pocos casos, si lo hicieran, se librarían de muchísima presión. Insisto, no creo que todo el mundo necesite revelar sus fantasías. Pero el sólo hecho de hacerle conocer a su pareja lo que uno piensa de otra gente en el aspecto sexual puede ser realmente un alivio. Muchos, cuando hacemos algo en secreto, actuamos como si con ello hubiera dejado de existir. Es como negar una parte de nosotros mismos. Suponga que uno se siente atraído por otra persona y decide no contarle a su pareja regular. Eso está bien si uno es consciente que hace esto para hacerle la vida más fácil a la pareja no a usted. Lo malo es querer engañarse a sí mismo, diciéndose que no se siente realmente atraído hacia esa persona.

¿Qué tan malo puede ser el callar? Muchos hombres llegan a creer que tener un gusto especial por cierta modalidad sexual no está bien; que "normalmente" no se hace, y entonces callan sus deseos. Así, sus parejas no tienen la oportunidad de hacerlos gozar plenamente. Se olvidan que si una persona nos ama, desea hacernos felices y quiere saber cómo lograrlo. También hay que reconocer que hay secretos no "contables" a la pareja; si lo que lo llevó a ello ya se lo ha explicado a uno mismo y no gana nada revelando el secreto, lo mejor es guardarlo. Lo mismo pasaría si entra en muchos detalles sobre cómo se compara su actual pareja con otras que usted ha tenido anteriormente. Cuando revelar un secreto no es por el bien de una relación o un objetivo personal, lo mejor es no revelarlo.

Por hoy es todo, le espero la próxima semana, D. M.

Ernie Perez. Sslud es Poder/TAP
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Theresa Mendez. HIV/AIDS Education
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BRANSON, MO (NP) - Back when OJ was orange juice, the former Miss America runner-up was Queen of the Anti-Queers - but now karma has its day!

Anita Bryant, whose anti-Gay crusade twenty years ago is believed by some to have done more than the Stone-wall uprising to put the Gay and Lesbian movement on the U.S. map, has filed for bankruptcy with her current husband, Charles Dry. The couple declared total indebtedness in the range of \$1 million - 10 million dollars and total assets in the range of \$100,000 - \$500,000.

Anita Bryant Files For Bankruptcy

In 1977, Bryant succeeded in repealing a civil rights ordinance against discrimination based on sexual orientation in Dade County, Florida - where ironically a new civil rights measure has just recently been introduced. Her campaign of religion-based arguments and child protection concerns won major national attention and soon sparked a number of similar efforts elsewhere.

runner-up in the 1959 Miss America beauty pageant and then as a singer of something less than stardom. Her visibility was renewed when she became a pitchperson for the Florida Citrus Commission in the 1970's. When she undertook her anti-Gay campaign, Gays and Lesbians and their supporters retaliated with a boycott of Florida orange juice that ultimately lost Bryant her \$100,000 contract.

from her husband and manager Bob Green, who she perceives as having been the prime mover behind her venture into the political arena. More recently, she's been singing in her own Anita Bryant Theater in Branson, Missouri.

While understandably she has since tried to avoid discussing Gay and Lesbian issues, she told the reporter a year ago that, "What I did, I feel today was still right."

Bryant first won attention as a

She was also divorced soon after

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VENTURE-N



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The Rise And Fall Of Gay Culture

In **THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE** (Hyperion; May 30, 1997; \$24.95) prize-winning essayist and critic Daniel Harris argues that the assimilation of Gay culture into mainstream society is rapidly undermining Gay men's sense of themselves as a distinct minority. Harris, whose work has been anthologized in *Best American Essays of 1993* and who is a regular contributor to *Harper's Salmagundi*, and *Newsday*, shows how a once vibrant sensibility, which was originally created in response to oppression, is now being eroded by social acceptance and rampant commercialization. Furthermore, Harris raises crucial questions, not only about the decline of homosexual sensibility, but about the death of racial and cultural diversity in society at large.

With wit, audacity, and penetrating insight, Harris charts the historical development and meaning of the icons and institutions of Gay culture in order to assess what is gained and what is lost when the very

factors that gave rise to that culture are eliminated. What, Harris asks, lies behind the deification of Gay cult figures such as Judy Garland and Bette Davis? Why has black leather become integral to Gay fashion? When did Gay men begin imitating the appearance of workingclass straight men? What role have homosexuals played in society's recent fascination with men's underwear? Why was AIDS — the first disease with its own gift shop — turned into kitsch?

Over time, Harris contends, essential elements of Gay culture have not only changed, but have changed into their opposites, what were once vehicles of political protest have now become sanitized commodities. The veneration of actresses has become the ridicule of actresses. Butch, tattooed bodies have become effeminate, "decorated" ones. Exotic, playful drag queens have become mean, militarized gender benders. Sadistic leather men have become macrobiotic neopagans.

Conservative, assimilationist propagandists have become anti-mainstream radicals. Harris reveals how changes have occurred not only in the most conspicuous aspects of Gay culture, but in the least visible and, at first sight, insignificant ones — from the facial expressions of crossdressers and the way actors kiss in porn films to the coverage of opera in Gay newspapers and the urban homosexual's attitudes toward chest hair and tan lines; from the language Gay men use to describe their preferences in bed and the words they use to identify their lovers to the literary circumlocutions pornographers have created for body parts and sex acts.

Harris writes, "The force behind these changes is the accelerating pace of our assimilation into mainstream society. What is happening to Gay culture parallels what has been happening to popular culture on a much larger scale ever since the invention of a metaphor central to our understanding of the historical mission of America: the melting pot...."

THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE traces the circuitous route of assimilation, following the long trail of debris jettisoned by a decaying civilization as it levels the features of the various tribes

it comprises in order to create out of a racially pluralistic society a single monolithic culture. By focusing as a test case on the changes that have occurred in the Gay community, I describe the gradual dissolution of the ethnic diversity of a country that demands from its minorities nothing less than a voluntary act of subcultural suicide performed to avoid both social ostracism and economic disenfranchisement."

Can Gay culture maintain a separate identity as its major institutions lose their vitality and become both comfortable and familiar? And, what's more, would the demise of Gay culture really be as devastating a tragedy as many believe? Only a nostalgic fool, Harris asserts, would want to prevent it from happening, since the flourishing of traditional forms of Gay culture depends on the persistence of oppression.

At the very moment when many observers maintain that Gay culture is reaching its most "mature" and self-aware form, **THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE** claims that it is actually on the verge of extinction. A confrontational and brilliantly inventive work of cultural criticism comparable to Wayne Koestenbaum's *The Queen's Throat* and Camille Paglia's *Sexual Personae*, it is certain to stimulate heated debate on the issue of assimilation, both inside and outside the Gay community.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Daniel Harris writes regularly for *Harper's Salmagundi*, *the Antiach Review*, and *Newsday*. His work has also appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *The Nation*, and *The Washington Post*. In addition, his work has been reprinted in *Best American Essays of 1993* and *The Anchor Essay Annual 1997*. In 1993, Harris won *The Southwest Review* award for best essay of that year. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

SOME SELECTIONS FROM *THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE*

ON GAY BITCHINESS:

The fantasy of the vicious, backstabbing vagina dentata, always quick on her feet, always ready to demolish her opponent with a stunning rejoinder, is the fantasy of a

powerless minority that asserts itself through language, not physical violence. Straight men express aggression through fist fights and sports; Gay men through quick-witted repartee and caustic remarks. Straight men punch; Gay men quip. Straight men are barroom brawlers; Gay men, bitches.

Given the centrality to the subculture of the image of the arch queen, it is not an exaggeration to say that Gay politics grew out of Gay witiness. Witiness was the first very tentative step towards Gay liberation, a vitriolic expression of discontent, of our disdain for American prudery, which we reviled through verbal protest, a compulsion to denigrate, to engage in cutthroat bickering, which eventually reached critical mass and led to concrete political action. Bitching, in other words, was a form of proto-politics.

ON CAMP:

Camp is rooted in the Gay man's profound disillusionment with celebrity culture. It expresses betrayal. It is the gleeful sadism of the fan who has been tricked, who discovers he has been complicit in an elaborate swindle, a monstrous lie, who realizes that his youthful cinematic fantasies are false. Out of this loss of innocence, homosexuals have created a macabre form of ethnic humor in which they dance upon their former role models' graves, reliving again and again the hilarious realization that the diva was not a goddess, that she was flesh and blood, that she got fat just like they did, that she got wrinkled just like they did, that she had a miserable life and horrid children and crippling diseases.

Gay diva worship is a cult that requires the blind faith of credulous fans who are content to kowtow and genuflect and never to even think of peeking behind the curtain. Camp is what happens when the curtain is lifted.

ON THE ORGASM IN PORNOGRAPHY:

The moment that reveals most clearly that the real subject of modern pornography is not sex but a prurient examination of the sculptural perfection of spectacular physiques is the eccentric way in which orgasm is represented. Astonishingly, what industry insiders call the "money shot" seldom occurs during intercourse, from friction with another body, but is relegated to separate scenes in which the actors suddenly stop having sex altogether so that one man can bring himself to orgasm through masturbation as the other simply sits back and watches, offering feeble words of halfhearted support and encouragement, like a midwife presiding over a difficult birth. Instead of having simultaneous orgasms, the actors politely take turns.

Thus, paradoxically, at the very moment when the two lovers should be conjoined, merging in mutual satisfaction, they are most alone, withdrawn, and independent. The cum shot provides a metaphor for the pathology of modern pornography, which is highly solipsistic and resistant to the whole idea of merging. Contemporary pornography is at war with its very subject, sex, an act that involves a type of communion anathema to films more preoccupied with the appearance of lovely specimens than with the quality of their interaction with each other.

ON THE ANUS IN LITERARY PORNOGRAPHY:

Even the violated and deflowered rectum became macho after Stonewall. In the late 1960s, it was typically described as a delicate, quivering flower, a passive, plundered aperture that timidly accepted the assaults of the active partner. The new militarized, Gay liberation asshole, by contrast, doesn't just simply lie down and take it

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVENTEEN

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The Amazon Trail

By Lee Lynch

Ellen Backlash

Not an hour passed after Lover and I watched the 20/20 interview of Ellen DeGeneres, when the answering machine for my straight job recorded a nasty anti-Gay threat.

I thought Ellen was impressively articulate, composed and clear as she responded to questions. It was both a degrading and ennobling interview. Degrading that any of us needs to share details of her/his life that are nobody's business. Ennobling because this honest, open engaging woman had the courage and personal strength to do so.

In the next days, as I lived my own version of a common Lesbian life — earning money, working on a short story, snuggling with Lover, preparing our home for sale, labeling, cleaning, pricing and stuffing my car with donations for a wildlife fund-raiser — I wrote dozens of thank you notes to Ellen in my head. I worried about her safety. I rejoiced in her decision. I hooped a host of celebrities would follow suit.

At this point I have to confess that my interest in Ellen is not as a viewer, but as another Gay woman. I hear that Ellen's show is wonderfully entertaining and funny. Television just isn't part of my life. I'm not being a snob, I'd simply rather read a book — Anne Tyler or even Tom Clancy.

Still, when messages came over the net to call Ellen's advertisers, I dutifully dialed General Motors (313-556-5000), Johnson and Johnson (1-800-526-3967) Disney (818-560-1000) and Chrysler (1-800-992-1997) I politely thanked them for sponsoring the show. I also called Chrysler back to complain when I learned that they'd slunk out of their commitment.

Bad business, carboys. Don't they understand that all over the world Gay women and men and our families and friends are having Ellen Parties, gathering in homes and community centers and local watering holes to watch Ellen struggle and triumph? That's a lot of sales. But then, as Alix Dobkin has joked, if there's a slow car in front of you, isn't it always an old man in a hat driving a Chrysler product?

The whole phenomenon reminds me of the Princess Di parties

heterosexuals held for the wedding of the century, American women and men, dressed as if attending the royal wedding, gathered in front of TVS to drink champagne and shed a sentimental tear. I'll bet there was no corporate slinking away from that event.

Lover set up the VCR (yes, this is a femme job in our household) so I can tape the show and the next interview. We'll watch together when she gets home. Then, I'll pass the tape on to my pal Mean Norma Jean who doesn't stay up that late. A couple of other friends who raise emus and horses so far out in the sticks they can't get Ellen's channel, will go over to Norma's for a belated Ellen viewing.

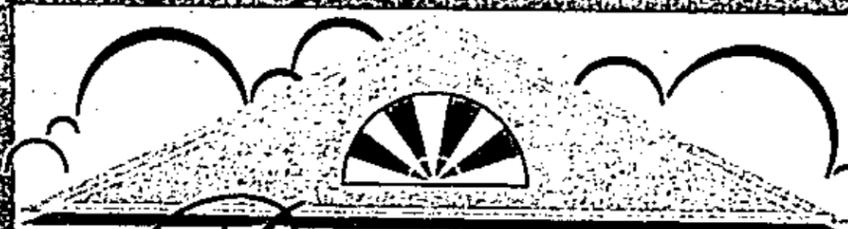
All this hoopla over Ellen DeGeneres and k.d. lang and Melissa Etheridge has encouraged me to think we Gays really may be gaining acceptance. I know the other end of the seesaw is weighted down by the Gay marriage and domestic partnership furors and the uphill battle for non-discrimination bills. But prime-time TV, for better or worse, has a lot of power in this country, and Ellen is grabbing some for us. It's great. She's great. Thank you, Ellen.

When I picked up the messages on my machine there was one from the typist who hadn't gotten the reports I'd posted her. And then there was that slimy, raspy voice, threatening, calling me Lesbian, ending with a sinister laugh.

I'm trying to move, to get away from this county which I can confidently predict will boost Chrysler sales this year, which will certainly not tune in to Ellen and which will, if at all possible, get the TV station to drop the coming out episode and — worse still! — the series.

Remember when the cartoon "All in the Family" depicted a Gay kid coming out to his best friend? Our newspaper rant it on the editorial page to protect local children. Someone had to tape "Tales of the City" for us because the local public TV station didn't have Ellen's courage.

It's been a long time since we've had graffiti in our driveway or hostile incidents on the street. Was my phone call an expression of Ellen backlash? Did Ellen's humor and pride rattle some poor sick androgynous-



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voiced person so much s/he needed to reach out and attack someone?

* Apparently, as Ellen pointed out, "It comes from fear." Can you imagine that gentle comedian scaring anyone? Why, she looks just like anyone else. She even looks a little like Princess Di.



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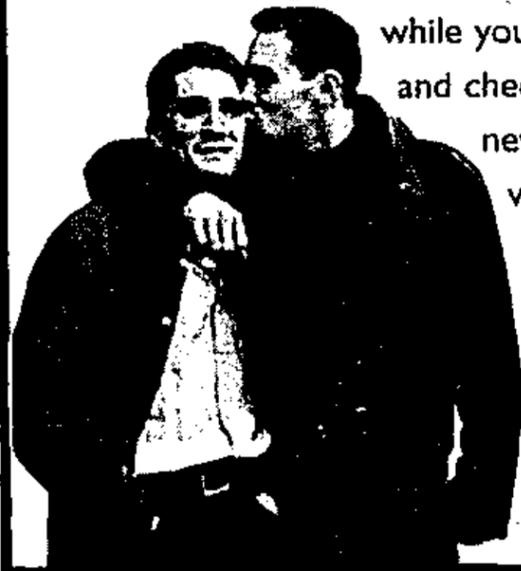
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TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

TGSA Reps To The Gay World Series Set

A very warm day made a bit more bearable by high clouds and intermittent breezes provided the setting for TGSA's season ending double elimination tournament in front of about 100-150 spectators at Freedom Park.

The first game began at 9:00 A.M. and the last game ended at 10:30 P.M. It was a successful event that determined the three Tucson representatives to the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) in San Diego, California, August 12-16.

The GSWS brings together about 80 teams in five divisions from 29 member cities throughout the U.S. and Canada. The five divisions are open (both men and women) "A," open "B," and open "C," with "A" being the strongest, and Women's Competitive and Recreational. However, the competitive level is high throughout as each league is required to host a double elimination tournament to select its representative(s).

WOMEN'S RECREATIONAL CHAMPIONS - HILL FOOT GEMS

The Hill Foot Gems defeated Girls Night Out 4-1 in the title game behind Susie's perfect three-for-three at the plate, Ginger hit a timely triple and Terri provided steady pitching to lead the way. The Gems are led by L.A., whose coaching solidified the team. The other team in this division was the Lavender Lace's, a first year team that contained to improve throughout the season and gave Girl's Night Out a scare before falling, 11-7.

OPEN DIVISION CHAMPIONS - ARIZONA ACES

The Arizona Aces used a blistering hitting attack and Joe S' great pitching to completely dominate the IBT's Tucson Twisters, 28-6. The offense was paced by Joe S' two home runs. Greg F. also provided a home in the game. The Aces finished the regular season and tournament undefeated, congratulations Aces.

In the Aces first game, Best Choice Realty showed no fear in taking a 4-0 lead in the first inning, the Aces took control of the game with 10 runs in its half of the first.

Greg F. and Beto C., Aces coach-

es would like to thank the team, their fans, and especially the team's sponsors, the Graduate, for a great season and look forward to next season.

The other two teams in the division, Venture-N and Best Choice Realty finished third and fourth respectively in the tournament.

A special thanks goes to the Best Choice Realty Team, an all women's team who chose the play this season in the Open Division, thereby allowing the Open Division to meet the four team minimum as required per NAGAAA for sending a team to San Diego. Thank you, Best Choice Realty and Coach Elsa M., you are truly great sports.

WOMEN'S COMPETITIVE - AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS

In the most evenly matched and anticipated series of the day, The Biz spotted Team Tucson a one game lead in the best 2-out-of-3 series, losing the first game, 7-2.

The Biz staved off elimination in the second game by holding on for a 7-4 victory. In the rubber game, Team Tucson roared to a 7-1 lead, much to the delight of its large fan following. The Biz then came to life with an 11 run fourth inning to take the lead, then used great defense to hold off Team Tucson, 13-7.

Team Tucson Coach Bertie L. would like to let her team know that she is really proud of its effort. Biz Coach Mona would like to thank her team, especially pitcher Jeannette, who pitched three games and kept her cool under all that pressure.

THANK YOU'S

Many thanks to all those who contributed to making this season a big success - team members, fans, umpires, league officers and most of all, the team sponsors, whose generosity is very much appreciated.

THE FUTURE

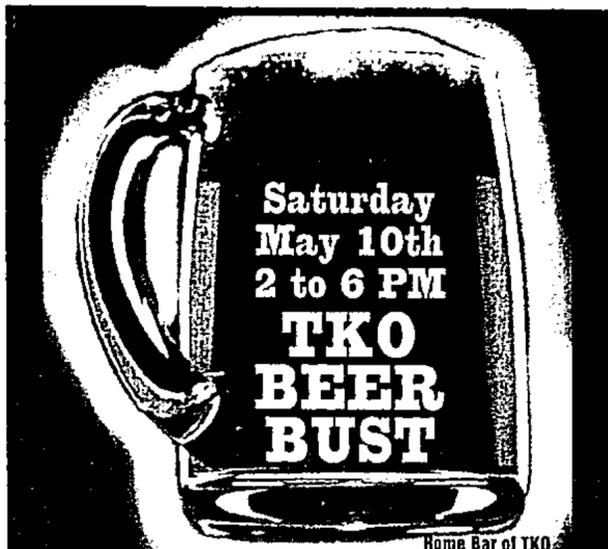
During the coming months, the league will be holding various fund raisers to raise funds to send the three teams to San Diego. The events will be advertised in The Observer and other community friendly locations. Please go out and support the league and its teams by participating in these events. If you would like to sponsor or help out with a fund raiser, please contact TGSA Commissioner, Mary O., 770-9979 for more information.

Also, if you would like to follow the teams in San Diego, please contact Mary O. for the host hotel's phone number and information on the Gay Softball World Series. If you are planning to go, please follow through ASAP - hotels and rental cars will be booked quickly.

WINTERBALL

The league will be planning its Winter League in the July-August time frame. Winterball is designed for those people who have never played or who haven't played in a while. It is also a way for current league members to keep in shape through the fall and winter. Winterball is strictly recreational, no standings.

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHTEEN



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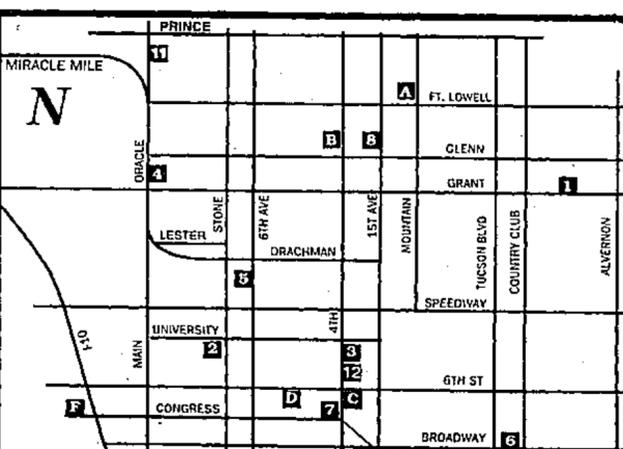
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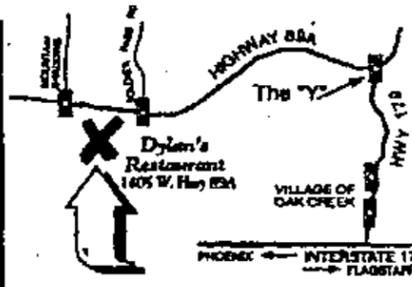
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ELEVEN

music wasn't finished, my dresser wasn't anywhere to be found, and to top it all off, my Batman had no head! I could have died.

By Sunday morning, thank God, my music was completed, I found an angel to dress me, and my Batman was masked. Maybe it was an omen of things to come.

On the night of Sunday, April 20, in the Holiday Inn City Center's Empire Ballroom, at about 10:30 P.M., I became Miss Gay Tucson America 1997. Because of the help of some wonderful people and your constant support of me, my dream has come true and I hold my head high with pride.

I would like to congratulate all of this year's contestants: Chrystal, Truly and Shaundria for a job well done. We all put 110% of our hearts, minds and souls into this year's competition, and we all deserve to be commended for our efforts. I love all of you and hope to see you all at this year's Miss Gay Arizona America Pageant in June.

I would also like to commend Mr. Larry Moore, a.k.a. Lucinda Holliday, for continuing to present the pageant with the respect and dignity it deserves, and never forgetting the first rule of the art of female impersonation, "always have fun." For those of you who were unable to attend the pageant, you missed a lot of fun and fantastic evening of entertainment. This year's pageant was, in my opinion, one of the best that Tucson every witnessed. Larry, keep up the good work.

To Mr. Eric Taylor, a.k.a. Felice Reynard, I can not express how proud I am of you and what an exceptional job you have done with the title. I feel very honored to have been the one chosen for you to pass the crown and title on to. I hope I can fill the position as well as you did.

There is one person I need to thank before I thank anyone else, that's my Mom. She has done so much to encourage me to be the very best female impersonator I can be. How many people can say that? She has made costumes and put me into gowns, she's even helped me with my nylons! She has watched me grow not only as an entertainer but also as a person. I am very lucky to have the support from her that I do. On April 20 I needed it, and as usual she was there to save the day. Batman thanks you and I thank you. I love you Mom.

There was so many people that helped me through out my campaign and I would like to take this time to say how lucky I am to have so many wonderful friends. Lucy, Sabella, Carmen and Maria, Dom, all of the entertainers who donated their time and money during my benefit show, all of the individuals who participated in the events during and before the show, Sandy, my boss Penny, Chip and Larry, and all of you who came out to support me at my shows wherever they were. I love you all very much.

To my dear friends Mark and Bob, thank you for being you and never letting me forget who I am. To Brad and Bill, (Bill flew in from Saudi Arabia just to see the pageant), you guys are great. Thank you for believing in me.

Richard and Kreg, what can I tell

you that you don't already know? At the last minute you were there with your friend Dom and paint brushes in hand. I can not say thank you enough, nor can I express enough what a joy it was to work with you. You know what ever you need, you got it.

To my dancers and my friends, Ken (Riddler), Jason (Joker), Art (Penguin), I love you very much. I am so proud of you for sticking by me and what you all accomplished together as a team. Even when I wasn't sure it was going to come together, you all did double duty to make sure that it did. Ken, as one of my choreographers I would like to thank you personally for the time and effort you put into the final production. I hope I did you proud. You will always be my friend, and I love you. All of you are winners and I thank you for letting me work with you. And guys, I think we'll keep this one so don't forget where those costumes are.

To Jeff and the staff and management of the Stonewall/Eagle: I love you guys. You have all been so very supportive and understanding of me over the years, and I hope our friendships continue to grow. I think we'll have a great year together.

Mr. Brian Fox, a.k.a. Alotta Whoremones, you are a God! Without you I don't know what I would have done. You accomplished so much in such a short amount of time, and it was perfect. Thank you for offering your services at the very last minute. And congratulations on your award. You deserve it.

To David my dresser: you're my angel. Miss Thing you came in on Saturday afternoon and you were wonderful. You worked your butt off and I kept my promise to you. I hope you can work together again, and I want you to know if you ever need me for anything I'm here for you.

To my dear friend Scott Sayer: I love you. You are a true friend and I will never forget everything you have done for me. Your skills as a dancer are superb and I can only hope to be as accomplished as you are with it someday. Catwoman flew high and your talents helped make it happen. As one of my choreographers, I hope you are as proud of the final production as I am. It was my honor to work with you. You will always be one of Tucson's "symbols of excellence." I will always be here for you. Never forget it.

It was also an honor to have the help and support of two other former Miss Gay Tucson's. To Aviva Diamond and to Candi Plastique, I thank you for all of your support, your guidance and your generosity. If I can ever be of service to you please do not hesitate to call upon me.

To Parker and Patrick, thank you for your generosity as well. I will cherish your gift and wear it always. I hope that we can become closer as friends and work together with Lucinda to make the entertainment scene in Tucson the very best that it can be. I have confidence that this can happen. Once again, thank you.

Let's see, have I forgotten anyone? I don't think so. Hmmm, let me see, I thanked him and I thanked her. I said something about . . . Oh my! How could I forget him? I have to say some-

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY FOUR.

HOME ON THE RANGE WITH AGRA-TUCSON
by Anida Cowboy

Well, what a week! I have a feeling that Summer is fast approaching. I am sure that many of you were glued to the TV on Wednesday night watch the "Coming Out" episode of Ellen. I feel that the program will get the same support that it did prior to the episode. It is such a great feeling in coming out to the public, for the past six months I have written this article under Anida Cowboy, a PR alias that I developed for fun and entertainment. Well, in my own "coming out" I feel for those of you who don't know who I really am, it's about time you do. I have been "Anida Cowboy" otherwise known as Scott Weidamoyer . . . Your 1998 Public Relations Director. I am doing this as part of the new Board's goal (as discussed last week) of having no strangers in this organization. I hope you enjoy reading the article as much as I do writing it! If there is anything you have that you would like printed, please feel free to contact me (520-792-5653).

We will be having our General Membership Meeting on May 18 and would really like to see you all there. It is a run-off election for two positions and the guidelines for runoffs is that only those who voted in the initial elections (either by absentee or at the meeting) can vote this month. You need to be present

at the meeting to cast your vote and there is no absentee ballots. It should be a great meeting at the Stonewall/Eagle at 5:00 P.M., so why not come out and see what we have going on for you this year!

There will be an event this year during the "official" Pride Week . . . Old Tucson Studios presents "Gay West." This event will be held June 28 at Old Tucson Studios and is a fund raiser for the non-profit organizations that serve the LGBT community. AGRA will be selling advance tickets for the event beginning May 18. We will receive a portion of the ticket price for each ticket that we sell so if you plan on attending the event, purchase them from an AGRA Board Member! Old Tucson will be closing the park to the public early and our festivities will from 6:00 P.M. to midnight. Stay tuned for details over the next few weeks!

Hope you have a great week! As always, remember to keep your pride and play safe in the saddle!

Note: Next general membership meeting is May 18 at The Stonewall/Eagle.

[AGRA-Tucson, POB 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717-0894. Phone: (520) 323-0805.]

A View From The Rock
A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

One month from today I am leaving Tucson to visit some of my family back East. Because it is so far, about 2000 miles, I always fly. I know there are other ways to get there, by bus or by train or even driving, but I always choose to fly. It is so much quicker and gives me more time to spend with my family.

Choosing my means of transportation was just one of the decisions I had to make in preparation for my visit. Since I work, I had to ensure that I could get the time off. This year, someone else at work is taking some vacation time at the same time I am, but fortunately, our boss agreed to allow us both to be gone at the same time.

I also had to make sure that the time I had chosen was convenient for the people I wanted to visit. My son is taking a class at summer school, so I had to make sure that he could come get me at the airport after school. I am also visiting my brother who is on kidney dialysis, so I had to make sure that he could come get me at the airport after school. I am also visiting my brother who is on kidney dialysis, so I have to make sure that I did not arrive on a day when he had dialysis, when it would be impossible for him to pick me up.

Of course I also inventoried my clothes, making sure I had enough of the "essentials," since I probably will not be able to do any washing while I am gone. This required me to make a few purchases, some of which are still to come.

One of the important components for any vacation is money. Before I even began really planning, I had to make sure that there was enough available, not just to purchase my plane tickets, but also so that I would have a little "mad money" while I was gone.

As the time of my departure draws closer, I will have to begin one of the most important elements of any vaca-

tion, packing my suitcases! Like almost everyone I know, I will undoubtedly forget something essential - like my toothbrush or shampoo! Fortunately, my family does not live so far out in the "boonies" that I will be unable to purchase what I have forgotten!

What a lot of preparation goes into any trip! Whether the trip is just a weekend, or as long as a month or more, we spend lots of time and energy making sure that everything is prepared just right!

Why is it that for the biggest trip any of us will ever take, so many of us make no preparation whatever? I am referring, of course, to the trip each one of us will make at the end of our lives, the trip into eternity. As we look around us it is very apparent that not one of us is going to make it out of this life alive!

Several reasons come to my mind for this lack of preparation. While we all agree that we will leave this earth sometime in the future, few of us believe our departure is imminent! Another reason for lack of preparation is what I call the "head-in-the-sand" theory, which states "If I ignore death, it won't happen to me!" And some people may be ignorant of the fact that any planning is possible. These people seem to think that if they "do the best that I can here on earth" somehow they will arrive at their desired destination.

Unfortunately, lack of preparation for eternity will cause eternal pain and separation from God. Jesus said, "I am the way . . ." (John 14:6) Make your plans now to join me for the greatest journey imaginable by accepting Jesus as your savior today.



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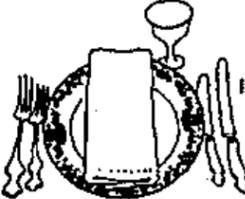
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The Rise And Fall Of Gay Culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE EIGHT

but actually fucks back, sloughing off the fancy floral similes invented by the roctal poets of the 1960s to become an active agent, a "hungry, greedy" meat eater that devours its prey.

ON THE QUILT:

Despite the hushed tones of reverence with which we are supposed to discuss this unassailable artifact, the Quilt represents the very pinnacle of AIDS kitsch. It evokes the archaic innocence of nostalgic folk traditions straight out of a pastoral world of buggies and butter churns. Those in charge of marketing the disease have attempted to place its primary commemorative monument within the context of a wholesome tradition of American history, to turn it into a kind of faux antique, an artifact from a phantasmal Arcadia.

In this mythic, prelapsarian America, AIDS is stripped of its stigma as the scourge of depraved homosexuals and endowed instead with the integrity of a bucolic community in which good-natured rustics of unspoiled simplicity produced their handicrafts in a utopic atmosphere of democracy and cooperation. The Quilt exudes a spurious aura of artsy-craftsiness, of kindly old grannies in bifocals and bonnets stitching up a storm, plying a trade that harks back to the naive primitivism of the era of American Gothic.

ON THE GAY MAN'S VS. THE STRAIGHT MAN'S BODY:

In contrast to the Gay body, the straight man's body has an extremely short period of perfection, coming to fruition for a few brief years in his teens and early twenties and then quickly sliding into a state of irreversible decline in which he gains weight, loses muscle tone, and then, within months, spreads and sags into premature old age. The speed with which the heterosexual's body goes to seed testifies to his lack of vanity and self-preoccupation, the girlish narcissism that leads the homosexual to mummify himself in the quack cures of consumerism.

In contrast to the careless blue-collar slob, Gay men are timeless vampires, Dorian Greys who flaunt their perennial good looks even as their once youthful portraits, locked away in their attics, shrivel and turn to dust. Having become the slave of consumerism, which fed his fears of getting old, the Gay man launches a restless, lifelong effort to rid himself of his guilty sense of fakeness, of artificiality, and to recover his "naturalness," which he restores through a series of elaborately costumed impersonations.

ON THE ORIGINS OF GAY LIBERATION:

Long before homosexuals were accepted by mainstream society, we had become so financially useful to the business world that our integration as respectable Americans was inevitable, for how could any ethnic group that contributed as heavily as we did to the nation's economy be ostracized forever? Gay men achieved economic viability years before they achieved political viability.

Indeed, the question arises whether Gay liberation would even have occurred had society not first recognized our potential as a source of revenue and therefore realized that, because we were less profitable as second-class citizens, it had a vested interest in our assimilation. Liberation happened, not only because drag queens hurled Molotov cocktails, set trash cans ablaze, and uprooted parking meters at Stonewall, but also because we had become too valuable to corporate America to be ignored, relegated to the exclusive fiefdoms that the Mafia had established in every major city.... We are inclined to look at Gay liberation as the sole factor leading to our acceptance into society, as if

we had achieved the progress we have made in Gay rights exclusively by locking horns with our enemies and putting up stiff resistance in the face of brutality, when in fact the preconditions for the strides we have made are far more complex. It is not an accident that we were accepted by mainstream America first as consumers and only second as morally respectable citizens. The one did not simply precede the other, it made it possible.

ON NOSTALGIA FOR THE GAY SENSIBILITY:

As the Gay sensibility begins to collapse, a tremendous amount of nostalgia is generated among certain homosexual purists who want to protect their ethnic heritage from cooptation, from the pillaging of grave robbers. They cling sentimentally to relics of their history like curators and archaeologists bent on salvaging indigenous subcultural rituals from their destruction at the hands of careless tourists.

Sentimentalization is a symptom of the subculture's decline. It represents the wistful longings of a group witnessing the sunset of a sensibility, seeking to intervene in its preservation long after the irreversible process of its absorption by straight society has been set in motion. Our exasperated cries of protest are a requiem for Gay culture, an elegy composed by a community in mourning for itself, lamenting its own passing, beating its breast and tearing its hair as stately pallbearers carry the casket into the mausoleum.

SPORTS

Desert Coyotes Bowling League Spring Standings

	Won	Lost
Rubber Queens Return	18	6
Straight Shooters	17	7
Smokin Bears	17	7
Garfield & Girls	16	8
Triple T & Me	15	9
Two	12	12
Thirteen	12	12
Hung Hoes	11	13
Three's Company	11	13
Stoned Rollers	11	13
Tres Amigos	9	15
Erratica	8	16
R.E.D.	7	17

Lambda Lizards Bowling League Spring Standings

	Won	Lost
Tastee Buns	16	8
Rubber Queens	15	9
Faerie Tails	12	12
Pink Flamingos	12	12
Lesberados	11	13
Desert Divas	6	18

Shootin' Around Town

by Wayne Steele

TUCSON - Here are the most recent results from pool tournaments held in the Old Pueblo:

Ain't Nobody's Biz. First Place - Debbie M., \$39. Second Place - Monica, \$17. Third Place - Wayne, \$10.

Hours. (Wednesday) First Place - Roxanne, \$32. Second Place - Mickey, \$14. Third Place - Dee, \$8. (Sunday) First Place - Meegan, \$29. Second Place - Louie, \$12. Third Place - Dee, \$7.





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ARIZONA

LOVABLE AND HUGGABLE I'm 23 a years old lovable, huggable, Gay White male, 5'9", 145lb, Brown hair, hazel eyes, mustache, good tee, spiritual inclined, like cats, cartoons, comic, surfing, reading, camping. Looking for a cute hairy man between 25 and 40 with brown hair. If you are fun free and like to cuddle, let's get together. (Bullhead City) #22095

COWBOYS AND COUNTRY I'm a 43 year old, Gay, White male, into country music and cowboys. I'm moving to Phoenix as soon as I can. (Flagstaff) #32503

ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN I wanna have fun with in shape guys, under 40. I'm a healthy, attractive, and enthusiastic, 23 year old male. Let's be friends and kick up our heels together. Long term relationship possible. (Flagstaff) #26815

RICH AND GOOD LOOKING My name is Rich. I'm a good looking, 26 year old, Gay White male, new to the Flagstaff area. I have Dark hair and Blue eyes. I'm interested in making friends here, with the possibility of dating and more. If you're sharp and interested, let's get together. (Flagstaff) #3618

BURNING YEARNING I'm looking for other masculine, Bi men, Married or not, to test my curiosity on. I'm a rugged, good looking, professional, Bi, White male, 40, 5'10, 190lb. Discretion assured. (Graham County) #32286

LET'S HAVE A PARTY This 22 year old Gay, White male, is looking for another guy in his mid to late twenties. I'm 6'2, 170lb, with Brown hair, Brown eyes, and a smooth body. You should like the outdoors, drinking beer and partying. Let's hook up and pour out some cool ones. (Grand Canyon) #26466

CYNTH LAUPER SAID SO Hispanic boys just want to have fun. I'm 20, 5'7, 175. I get along with everyone, and just want to have some good times. Call for details. (Kearny) #23119

THE RIGHT STUFF If you like very hot, Latin men, you'll love me. I'm uncut and extremely well endowed. I'm 19, 5'9, 165lb, and full of energy. I want to hook up with sexy, well built, White males who need to get off. (Phoenix) #33551

ACTING PARTNER If you have something sexual on your mind, I want to hear about it. I love all sex. Let's act out your fantasy. (Phoenix) #33709

I'M USED TO IT This insatiable bottom seeks hard, well endowed, men, of any race and age, who want to use me. I love French and Greek action and get off on pleasing you. (Phoenix) #33543

HOP ON BOARD I'm a fat, Bi, White bottom. I need tops, as many as possible. (Phoenix) #33139

TRIM AND DISCREET This very good looking, 35 year old, White male, seeks other guys for fun. I'm 5'11, tan, trim, and versatile. If you, too, enjoy the outdoors, and are trim and discreet, let's talk. (Phoenix) #33464

SEEKS FEM BOY FUN I am looking for a young, feminine boy, in the Phoenix area. If that's you, and you like to have fun, give me a call. (Phoenix) #24328

FIRST TIME EXPERIENCE I've never done it before. I'm looking for my first time experience. My name is Rich. I'm in Prescott. Give me a call please. (Prescott) #24569

SMOOTH OPERATOR I'm a White male, 5'11, 165lb, well endowed, and very good looking. I'm looking for a bottom latino male under the age of 25. Smooth young bodies are a plus! (Scottsdale) #45874

BOTTOM BOY I'm a 26 year old Gay White male, 5'8, 145lb, bottom. I have my own place. Give me a call. I'm looking to meet new people. (Tucson) #19267

TEMPE TEMPTATION I'm new in town and want to hook up with other guys with healthy lifestyles and good attitudes. I'm a good looking, well groomed, White male, 5'9, 160lb, with dark hair and eyes, and a pretty hairy body. I'm muscular from frequent workouts. I enjoy the good things in life like walking my dog and playing in the park. Call if you think you'd fit in. (Tempe) #33466

BLACK JACK This well endowed, Black male, is looking, only, for other well endowed, Black men. I'm 6'4, 185lb, and in very good shape. #26662

HAIR ALL OVER I'm looking for well endowed, top men, with hair every where. I guess I want a teddy bear. #25737

IT'S BLACK JOCK O'CLOCK Seeking a Black, athletic supporter. I'm a 22 year old, Bi, White male, 5'11, 160lb, with Brown hair, and Blue eyes. I'm not interested in the bars. I want to hang out with a Black male, into basketball, football, hockey, and working out. Let's have some fun. #24644

LET'S DO IT I'm a 35 year old Gay White male, 6'2, 195lb. I'm looking for similar men to get together with and do whatever comes natural. #21696

MEET YOUR MATCH I'm a 21 year old Gay trans dresser, 6'2, 198lb, 7'. Bland hair, Aquo eyes. I'm looking to meet other gay males, bottoms or tops, to get on. I will do anything you want, no questions asked. #19808

CAN YOU SPARE THE TIME? I'm a Gay White man, 5'10, 190lb. I'm looking for other White men to spend time with. Please respond. #19281



SMOOTH RIDE I'm a good looking, 33 year old, White male, 6'1, 160lb, with a smooth body. I'm clean and healthy. I want to meet a top man, in his forties, who is well built, and well endowed, for hot times. (Tucson) #33368

HOT SUMMER TIMES I'm looking for young, hot guys, 18 to 25, to have great times with. I'm a good looking, White male, 5'9, 190lb. (Tucson) #33167

RAINBOW CONNECTION This 32 year old hippy wants to make a love connection. I'm a stocky, bearded, handsome, guy, 5'7, with Brown hair and eyes. (Tucson) #32056

FIRST THINGS FIRST I'm looking for a sincere, honest friendship which might turn into something more. I'm a good looking, shy and quiet, 28 year old, Gay, White male, 5'7, 145lb, with short Brown hair and Hazel eyes. I'm a one on one kind of guy. My partner should be under 5'10, and between 18 and 30. I'm not interested in guys with long hair or people who inhabit the bars. (Tucson) #31516

MY TIME IS YOUR TIME I'm a 31 year old, Hispanic man, looking for an older guy to spend time with. I'm 5'5, 145lb, and attractive. You should be an honest, nice guy, older than me, and in good shape. All races are encouraged to call. (Tucson) #27137

THIRD HOTTEST MASTER You are a reflection of me, so you have to be the best. I want a slave who will make me feel proud when I am among other masters. I will train you well, and if you are truly submissive, you will be in heaven. I'm 6'1, 180lb, very dominant, and ready to go. (Tucson) #27079

PROTECTIVE LAYER OF FUR Do you like a bottom guy who is pretty hairy? Call me. I'm a Gay, Hispanic male, looking for tops, to get down with. (Tucson) #26495

ALL TOPS: MOUNT HERE My body is aching for a sizzling good time. I'm a hot, 25 year old, Bi male. I want to meet an older, aggressive top, or couple, wanting to get together for some sweaty action. (Tucson) #25253

EXPERIENCED WITH REFERENCES I like young guys. I'm a Gay male, 6'2, looking for young friends in the area. Sometimes, experience can come in handy. (Tucson) #25067

IRON MIKE I'm 34 years old, 5'10, and weigh 155lb. I love all kinds of outdoor activities, particularly swimming, and hiking. I desire to meet someone my age, or younger. Looking forward to hearing from you. (Tucson) #24330

MILD TO WILD Handsome, well-endowed, 36 year old, man, is new to the Yuma area. I'm 5'10, 135lb, moderately hairy, with dark hair and eyes. Although most often a top, I am versatile. I like it mild, to wild, and have been called insatiable. I desire to be with other White, masculine, in-shape guys. If you look good, feel good, and have the energy to express it, age is unimportant. I will travel. (Yuma) #24276

LAI D BACK AND LUSTY I'm a good looking, Bi, White male, 27. I love to party with other hot dudes and see what happens. I'm pretty laid back and open minded. #32471



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A TWINGE IN TUCSON I'm having a good time here in Tucson but it'd be better if I could meet another womyn to have a physical encounter with. Let's have some fun. (Tucson) #31352

LUXURIOUS FACE This mature, business oriented, 20 year old, female enjoys dancing, being wined and dined, and massage, both giving and receiving. I seek a friend I can call my very own. I'm willing to take it very slow. #33375

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Venturing Out by Sasha Alyson

Men and Women - Together or Separate

"I want to vacation with both Gay men and Lesbians," my friend Joan asked me not long ago. "What's out there?"

Not a lot. Most of our community's opportunities fall into one of three categories: Trips of all men; trips of all women; or "Gay and Lesbian" trips that are 80 to 90% men.

Not everyone considers that a problem, of course. Single-sex groups are popular, and for just the reasons you'd expect. Woody Allen once quipped that Bisexuality doubles your chances for a date on Saturday night. If you're Gay or Lesbian, it's a same-sex trip that doubles your chances of meeting Mr. Right or Ms. Right now.

Some travelers have other reasons for preferring a same-sex group. "I can't stand the PC nonsense that you always get from Lesbians," a man told me. "Men always want to be in control," said a Lesbian. Dan Ware reports that his company, TotoTours (800-565-1241), finds that older Gay men often prefer an all-male environment, while Generation X'ers usually enjoy a mixed group. Ware is committed to having both men and women on his trips, though when staying at clothing-optional facilities, he will sometimes target only men.

Price has a big influence on gender ratios. RSVP, originally famous for its cruises, has branched out into a "Club RSVP" resort package. Paul Figlmiller, the company's marketing director, says that cruises get about 10% women, while the resorts, often priced lower, get 25%. (RSVP - 800-328-RSVP).

Different activities draw different mixes. Whitewater rafting seems particularly popular with Lesbians. Mariah Wilderness Expeditions (800-462-7424), a Lesbian-owned company offering rafting to the general public, has women-only trips that are about 80% Lesbian, reports co-owner Donna Hunter. Their designated Lesbian and Gay trips get about 30-50% women, and they often run charters for Gay and Lesbian groups. "Many women still want women-only trips, but we're seeing more women who want to mix with men. There's not as strong a need anymore to make such political statements," says Hunter. The 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam also seem likely to draw a mixed group, according to Kevin Kailey of Above and Beyond (415-284-1666), which will run a 1998 tour there.

This fall, my own company will try a new approach: For a bike trip in France, we've reserved half the spots for Gay men, half of Lesbians. If this proves popular, I hope other companies will try it. (Alyson Adventures, 800-825-9766).

What should you do if you want a particular mix? Ask clear questions of the tour operator. They should be eager to steer you to the trip that best fits your interests.

On several occasions, I have heartily recommended the lively and practical Gay travel newsletter, Out & About. This month, I'm proud to welcome Out & About's guiding lights, Billy Kolber-Smith and David Alport, who will contribute to this column each month.

Summer lovin' gets better and better as Gay events offer fun in the sun from coast-to-coast. While most circuit

parties happen in New York, L.A., Miami and San Francisco, these events bring hundreds and thousands of Gay people into some interesting, less-traveled destinations. If you've never been to Austin or Atlanta, Pensacola or Albuquerque, this summer provides a unique opportunity to combine your exploration with a little recreation.

For men, May brings the Sixth Annual Wild & Wet Weekend in Montreal (514-875-7026), organized around a party at Canada's largest dance club. Pensacola has become a major Gay destination for Memorial Day weekend, and Jeffrey Sanker's Beach Maneuvers Party (888-777-8886) is one highlight. July Fourth weekend, Sanker takes over Laguna Beach, California with the Laguna Surf II party. Hotlanta (404-874-3976), one of the oldest Gay events, will turn the river into the world's biggest Gay raft party and water fight August 7-11.

For women, Wiminfest (800-499-5688) takes place in Albuquerque, May 23-25. The Women's Music Fest (317-927-9355) will follow in Bloomington, Indiana for the weekend of May 29. The Michigan Womyn's Music Festival (616-757-4766) is the Grandmammy of them all, August 12-17 near Hart, MI. For those who can't say goodbye to summer, Key West's Womenfest '97 (305-296-4328) offers a chance to hold on a few more days, from September 3-9.

Gay women and men both flock to the Gay Days in Orlando (www.gay-day.com), June 5-8, for the unofficial "Gay day at Walt Disney World," and associated events. The last weekend in August is Austin's Last Splash (512-476-3611), a lake-side and lake-top party closing the summer (Splash Days also start the summer the first weekend in May).

[Send questions or comments about Gay travel to Sasha Alyson, Alyson Adventures, POB 180179, Boston, MA 02118.]

T.G.S.A. Tucson Greater Softball Association

CONTINUED FROM PAGE TEN

no trophies, just lots of fun playing ball. Winterball runs for 10-12 weeks, ending a week or two before Thanksgiving. It is a great way to get in shape for the more competitive Spring League.

If you or a friend would like to participate in Winterball, please contact assistant Commissioner Bertie L., 318-3415 for more information.

SPRING LEAGUE

TGSA is always looking for new members. The open division will be actively recruiting to field at least one, hopefully more teams for the 1998 season. The Best Choice Realty Team will be moving to the Women's Division next season (best of luck) and more teams will be needed to meet the minimum of four teams as set forth by NAGAAA. Please contact Bertie L., 318-3415, for more information.

For information on the Tucson Greater Softball Association, please contact League Commissioner, Mary O., 770-9979.

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IT'S NEWS TO ME . . . BY STEVE RISLEY

can provide you with the dates, times and locations of upcoming games.

And then it was now.....



Surprise, Surprise: You could have knocked me down with a feather box when the news came that Gov. Symington, contrary to his loud and longstanding vow to do otherwise, signed the "hate crimes" bill recently passed by the Arizona legislature. As much as I'd like to believe he signed it out of some reasonable and enlightened concern for the protection and welfare of the groups identified in the measure I suspect he only did it only for reasons of political expediency in the face of his mounting personal legal problems.

nized that repairs were going to be more complicated than anything I could handle with my emergency repair kit of kite string, super glue, an old sweat sock and a half box of Milk Duds of indeterminate vintage.

A repairman was summoned, and since hope springs eternal I prayed he'd be Mr. Leather International 1997. Instead, I got the third runner-up from the Handyman's International Pancake Eating Contest of 1958 - and an obvious throwback to an era preceding the wide acceptance of genetic counseling. But he was able to make repairs and when he left I immediately dragged out the new blender, rummaged through the bottom of the fridge for strawberries and curled up on the couch with last month's copy of Drummer.

But who cares; what's important to Gay and Lesbian residents is that Arizona has at long last joined the vast majority of other states in recognizing the necessity for specific protective legislation. Amen.

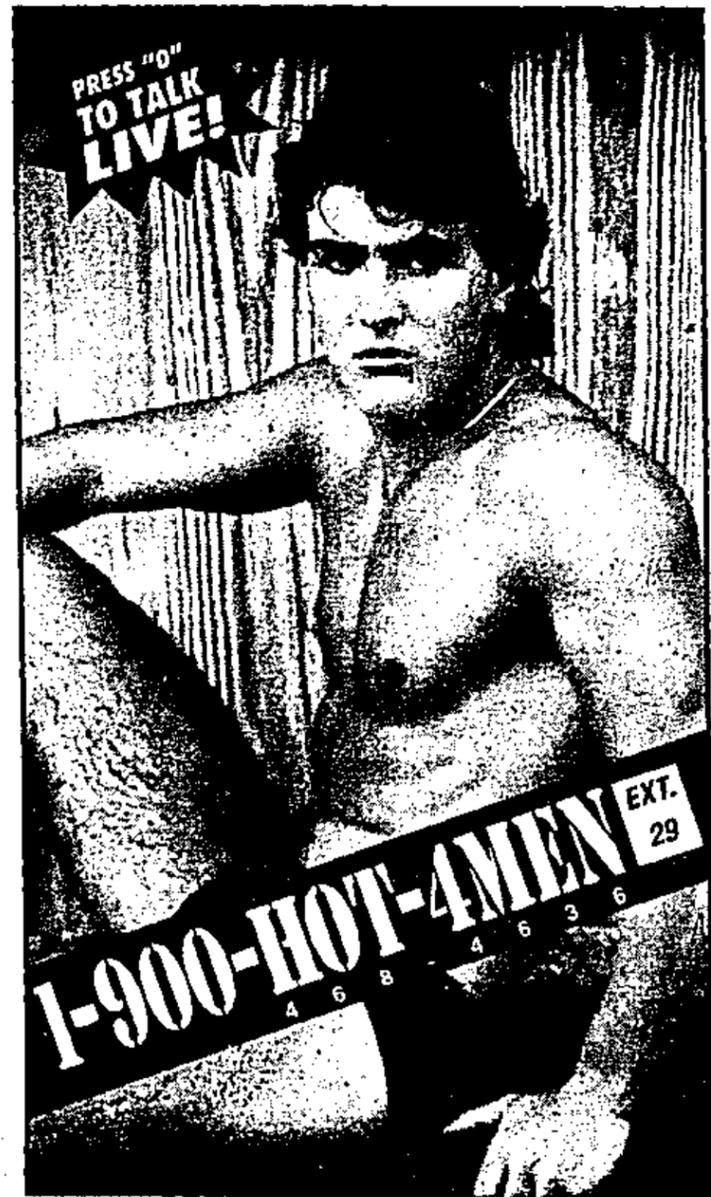
Cheap Thrills: Last weekend I went to watch a friend of mine who plays on one of Tucson's Gay softball teams. The emphasis certainly is on playing to win which provides a good measure of old fashioned excitement, but the fun quotient is very high also. Consequently spectators are occasionally treated to a, shall we say unusual and amusing, play.

Water, Water, Everywhere: My three worst fears in life, in ascending order, are: 1) being forced to attend a week-long Jerry Falwell revival meeting in a "dry" county, 2) discovering that wombats wielding croquet mallets have colonized my underwear drawer, and 3) that I have a plumbing problem. The worst has happened.

During one game my friend learned that when you slide into third base feet first and flat on your back your shirts rapidly, and very efficiently, fill up with dirt. There's no graceful way to deal with the matter of emptying your Fruit of the Looms of foam. It's a two step process. First you have to roll a hysterical third baseman off your chest and then you must stand and do the Dance of the Crazy Kangaroo. The games really are entertaining, a lot of fun, and they're free. Most of the clubs in town sponsor teams and

I used to be reasonably self-sufficient but at some point over the years I must have offended the Do-It-Yourself Gods: probably around the time I had a party and someone suggested I could make strawberry daiquiris twice as fast if I plugged the blender into a 220 volt socket instead of the one marked 110 volts. The blender blew up, it knocked out power to the house, and we had to lick the daiquiris off the kitchen walls.

Anyway, something went ka-phloopy in the plumbing and flooded a bathroom last week. I immediately recog-



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HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Wayward Mercury continues to create havoc over our most carefully enunciated intentions but don't despair kids; the retrograde monster is changing course later this week. The check may still be "in the mail" but at least it won't get lost. Hey, don't they say that patience is a virtue?

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Retrograde Mercury tosses your dollars to the free wind so avoid any major monetary decisions while the old sod is off course. Proud Rams are well advised to lock up and loose funds in a nice safe bank before it's squandered on foolish or uncertain schemes. Of course, marshy Florida swampland is yours for the asking during this time.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Proud Bulls may wish to avoid the lime-light while Mercury travels retrograde. First impressions may not come off as smoothly as you would like and the gaffe potential is high. It would be horrifying to ascend to the center stage only to find that your hot pink pantaloons are showing. On the other hand, you may become the pinnacle of fashion in certain circles.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

It is not the best time to rely on your intuition. Retrograde Mercury will cause static on the psychic line and your best prognostications can be used to wrap yesterday's fish. Even your most carefully guarded secrets will spill out at the most inopportune time. Some secrets, however, were meant to be aired Out. Who cares about the timing - liberate yourself!

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Pink Crabs should give pals an extra inch during the Mercury retrograde. (And some people like it that way.) Expect communications to go awry; it's even possible that platonic relationships can become stressed and strained. Thankfully, the randy marauding planet goes direct by the end of the week and everyone becomes best buds once again.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Retrograde Mercury can place even the most corporately successful Gay Lions in the doghouse when their stray comments hit the boss between the eyes. This is fine if you are planning an early retirement, but not so good if you plan on becoming part of the royal executive family. Buck up and take it this week; you don't have enough money to retire just yet.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

This may not be the best time to plan or take a vacation. Retro Mercury may send proud Virgins on the wild goose chase of the year (or maybe it will only be your luggage. . .). Perhaps you would be better off planning a little quiet time at home where you can rest and recharge. There will be plenty of time to travel next week.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Even ship-shape queer Libras may scuttle to love-boat when Mercury is retrograde. Try not to become too frustrated if your best laid sexual plans become a big goose egg. Remember that this planetary phase shall soon pass and you'll be back in the saddle again before you know it. In the meantime, may I suggest curling in bed with . . . a good book?

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

If partners have been a little critical, try not to initiate a discussion about it this week. The retrograde Mercury will not leave well enough alone and Gay Scorps may be tempted to say that one more thing that will put the skids on any mediation. They say that you can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar so spread that sugar around, friend.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

If your day to day job seems a bit more annoying than usual, chalk it up to the retrograde Mercury. Gay Archers are advised to take a break from any detailed laden project if they possible can until Mercury goes direct next week. In the meantime, expect some delays, detours, dead ends or wasted efforts due to misdirection. Had enough? Take a break.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Gay Goats find that fun is far more trouble than it's worth during the Mercury retrograde. Any excuse to avoid a rollicking good time is probably an action well taken because you may not know when enough is enough. Conservative by nature, queer Caps can best use this wayward energy to recharge their creative juices and allow their Gay muse to run wild.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Avoid any home improvements or repairs this week during the Mercury retrograde. Aqueerians will find that their careful directions are either not followed or misunderstood. It is also not the greatest time to engage relatives in any serious or passionate discussions. They are not listening to you and, truthfully, you are not listening to them. Wait a week and try again.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

I wouldn't advise making any major speeches right now. The rascally retrograde Mercury could impact almost any aspect of your debut from a mix up in a date, to a scratchy microphone to losing your notes. Had enough? Give your oratory persona a rest for another week while you allow your actions to speak louder and prouder than your words.

For entertainment purposes only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free ascendant calculation, send birth date, time, place, name of this publication and s.a.s.e. to: Lichtenstein, POB 1726, Old Chelsea Station, NY 10011.



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Go In Good Health

by Rev. Andrew Brooks

The first herb up this week is Gravel Root, which is used for mucosal irritations (inflammation and/or irritation of the mucous membranes) and helps the urinary tract, bladder and prostate, and flushes sediment from kidneys. (Kidney stones can build up from various things in the kidneys, and also gravel can build up there as well, causing irritation.) It is also known as Stone root, and is sold under this name as well, and according to The Herb Book (by John Lust) it is a good diuretic and for excess fluid retention.

The herb Hawthorn is a strong heart tonic, and is said to strengthen the heart muscle and improves coronary blood flow, and to lower blood pressure. It is best when used in the freeze-dried form.

Hops, an ingredient in beer, is used for gastric spasms due to nerves, and is both a sedative for anxiety and a strong muscle relaxant. It aids sleep (I suggest combining it with catnip and chamomile, this combination is a strong, soothing sedative. Mix these herbs into a tea and take just before bedtime.)

Horehound is an herb that acts as expectorant, and is good for lung congestion, and coughs due to mucus buildup. Whereas standard medications tend to "dry up" mucus (which means it's still in your body) herbal expectorants cause you to expel it from your body.

Horsetail is a good herb for the kidneys, yet another diuretic (such as Cornsilk), it helps with gravel and kidney troubles. This herb has a high mineral content, and is a source of both silica and calcium. Anyone with kidney trouble should have horsetail, cornsilk, and dandelion on hand, and cranberry capsules also. (These will aid your recovery.)

Huckleberry is an herb that is said to help with vision, improving circulation, and is used for metabolism problems. It is said to help with diarrhea and hemorrhoids.

Hyssop is a diuretic, and a mild respiratory sedative, it is good for indigestion and gas, and is another expectorant.

Juniper Berry (whose action is similar to Cedar berry) is an herb used for both bladder and kidney conditions, and it is very helpful when you have chronic bladder infections.

Licorice (yes, it's an herb, not just a candy!) is used for coughs and congestion, it is a stimulant, and promotes the production of estrogen in the body. It is said to improve adrenal function, and I have read that some AIDS patients have used it. (When the adrenals are depleted, exhaustion occurs.)

Lobelia is a strong bronchial dilator, and in larger doses, and antispasmodic, it is said to help one to stop smoking. Lobelia is used in ear infections, and is said to help with hiccoughs and any type of lung congestion, including asthma.

Lomatium (often combined with Osha) is a strong antibacterial and immune system stimulant, I have used this herb to fight chronic fatigue syndrome (Epstein-Barr virus) and have found it to be invaluable. It is good for colds, flu, viral sore throats, chronic viral disease (AIDS patients, take note!) respiratory infections, it is also good as an anti-fungal and anti-parasitic. When combined with Osha, it's

action is intensified.

Marshmallow (yes, this one is an herb too, not just the fluffy sugary things you put in your hot chocolate!) is an excellent herb to soothe the mucous membranes in gastrointestinal, respiratory, and urinary tract disease. It is also good for laryngitis, and lung congestions. This is a soothing herb.

Milk Thistle (also known as Silymarin) is the most powerful liver tonic around, it aids liver regeneration after toxic exposure, and helps to cleanse the liver. Did you know that all toxins, alcohol, and medicines are metabolized by your liver? This one helps your liver to function, and if you drink alcohol (I have mentioned this before) you should take this herb to help ward off any future trouble.

Motherwort, as the herb's name suggests, is a good female tonic. It improves blood flow to the female organs, and is said to help with nervous complaints and hysterical conditions (which are simply a severe nervous overreaction).

Mullein is a good herb that helps with irritations of the lungs and bowels, and is also an expectorant. Mullein oil is used for ear problems. (A few drops are applied into the ear, warmed up, and then use a cotton swab to keep it in place.)

Myrrh, a powerful herb long associated with Christmas, is a healing herb. I have used it to clear up gum infections, and it soothes mucous membrane irritations (your gums are a mucous

membrane) it is good as an immune stimulant, and antifungal. It is sold combined with Goldenseal, and I have seen it as an ingredient in natural toothpastes, to help cure dental problems.

Nettles is a good herb to help with headaches (a friend of mine swears by it), it also acts as a diuretic, and is said to decrease mucous secretions. It is said to help with excessive menstrual flow, the herbal tincture is best.

The last herb up this week is Oat, which is good for the entire nerve system, it helps to restore energy and vital force to a weakened body, it is also said to be useful in breaking addictions. More herbs next time. Till then, Go in Good Health!

[Andrew Brooks is an herbalist and holistic counselor. He can be reached at 326-0841.]

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CALENDAR of upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

"Girls Night Out", Boom Boom's "Babes" strip show for women only. 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. 2for1 well and \$1.00 pucks. With Nancy Nunez as your bartender and MC Pam Kelso.

IBT'S 9:00 p.m. Murder Mystery Wednesday. "The Case of the Missing Bartender" or "If There's No Looney, Is There a Looney Land?" Guess the suspect and win a Minolta 35mm camera.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Benefit Fashion Show and Auction for Reveille Gay Men's Chorus.

THURSDAY, MAY 8

IBT'S - "End of Finals Party" starts with Underwear Thursday 9:00 p.m. to closing with drink specials for those in their underwear. Hot dance music and party all weekend.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Sistah Blue, the best all-women jazz and blues band in Arizona will be performing here from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Limited tickets available now for \$5.00.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

GRADUATE - Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) Beer Bust 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Pool Tourney starts at 2:00.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

BOOM BOOMS - Mother's Day Party. Bring in your Mom or come dressed as your mom and receive special drink prices after 8:00 p.m. Special Mother's Day Musical Salute by Nancy Nunez at 9:00 p.m. In the "Other Room" the National Capitol Cities Pageants and Boom Booms proudly presents Jalisa Aundrea Michael, official Miss Desert Diva N.C.C. Preliminary Pageant beginning at 7:00 p.m. Mistress of Ceremonies will be Christina De Alexis with a special guest appearance by Miss Queen City '97 Karina Montenegro. \$5.00 cover for the pre-pageant in the "Other Room" only.

IBT'S - Sunday Beer Bust / Bar-B-Que for Jello Wrestling 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Mothers Day Specials and flowers.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. Special Reno Gannon Memorial Jello Wrestling kick-off show. Come meet and donate to the wrestler of your choice. Raffle tickets on sale for a trip to San Francisco. The show will feature your Jello hosts Gilda Fatale, Lucinda Holliday with Felice Renard and Aja Simone with special guests.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Five count 'em 5, hot male strippers. Showtimes 9:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. You don't want to miss these boys!!

SATURDAY, MAY 17

BOOM BOOMS - A.G.R.A. night in the "Other Room". Happy Hour Prices for A.G.R.A. members wearing their badges. 50/50 drawing to benefit A.G.R.A.

GRADUATE - Pre-Jello Wrestling Show 9:00 p.m. with Christina De Alexis and Mr. Kenneth Blake (Miss Gay Tucson 1997) and special guests.

SUNDAY, MAY 18

GRADUATE - 10th Annual Reno Gannon Jello Wrestling Fundraiser for SAAF. 4:00 p.m. Mark your calendars for this wonderful fun event. Sign up for wrestling and join in on the fun.

SUNDAY, MAY 25

BOOM BOOMS - "Thank God I Can Wear White Again!" party. Wear white and register for a special Memorial Day give-away prize. Special drink prices for everyone in white after 8:00 p.m.

IBT'S - Bachelor Auction 9:00 to 10:30 p.m. 10 bachelors to be auctioned to the highest bidder for a date to Reveille Gay Men's Chorus Spring Concert and dinner for two. Check this one out.

Non-Bar CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Tucson Prime Timers invites Gay men over 30 to their monthly dinner at Old Timers Cafe, 1485 W. Prince Road (near Flowing Wells on the south side of West Prince Road) at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Community Forum sponsored by Abbott Labs in conjunction with PACT, Shanti and TAP. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. "Women and HIV: New Hopes, New Challenges". Dr. Cindy Carmichael M.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of Miami will review the current state of HIV management and advances focusing on women's issues. Dr. Kevin Carmichael M.D. of El Rio Special Immunology Assoc. will give a brief update on new treatments for HIV. Sandra Trisdade El Rio Immunology Assoc. will discuss some of the psychological and emotional issues that affect women living with HIV. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1825 N. Alvarnon 'Family Life Center'. Child care available at no charge. For assistance with transportation call 628-8287 at least two days prior to the forum.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. Join MSN for a fun night of roller skating on "Adult Night." The cost will be \$5 for rental of traditional skates, or \$8 for in-line skates. Call C. W. at 326-5439 or Donn at 325-4257 for details and directions.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing Buddies, by Ethan Morden. Even if you don't read the book, we encourage all book lovers to attend. For reservations and directions, call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Cronies Social Club monthly meeting 7:00 p.m. at MCCChurch, 3269 N. Mountain. Program is a slide presentation of a University trip to China. All are welcome.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:30 p.m. A night out at the ball game. MSN members and friends (and everyone else) is invited to join us for a fun night with the boys of summer. For reservations and details, please call Steve at 388-4849.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. Call Tom at 318-1650 for reservations and directions.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for the Mother's Day movie: "The Women." This funny, biting movie stars Norma Shearer and Joan Crawford. For reservations and directions, call Les at 690-9565.

MONDAY, MAY 12

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who may want to refresh their bridge skills; table talk playing. Call Perry at 321-4387.

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:00 p.m. Tonight begins a six week class for MSN members interested in designing and making their own stained glass. For reservations, details, and directions, please call Jack at 745-8844.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Have lunch with guys, as John hosts a Lunch Out at Chez Chef Shawn's. Please call John at 615-1366 so he can tell the restaurant how many to expect for lunch.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a Topic of Discussion on Spirituality. Can you be gay and spiritual? For reservations and directions, please call Bob at 623-1732.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Tucson Arts District Partnership 'Downlawn Saturday Night'. Tucson's community cultural event is held the first and third Saturday of each month.

Cronies Social Club Picnic in Madera Canyon. Call 888-7264 for more details after the May 10th meeting.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. MSN goes on a special Dinner Out tonight at Karen's in Sencita. Bill, who's handling this event, will also coordinate cat pooling for those who are interested. The food is terrific, the men are great - what a great Saturday night dinner. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 615-0979 by 5/14/97.

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Tucson Prime Timers (Gay and Bisexual men over 30) will have their regular monthly meeting 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave. Following the meeting the group adjourns to Caruso's for a social dinner. Members of At-Ease-Again and Cronies Social Club are welcome as are all mature Gay men. Become a part of Prime Timers, the largest Gay social club in the world.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 9:30 a.m. A hike is scheduled to take place in the Santa Rita's, near Madera Canyon. The Kent Springs/Bog Springs Loop Trail will be our hiking expedition. For reservations, directions and details, please call Larry at 795-9125.

MONDAY, MAY 19

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Mah Jong is the name of the game, and Martin is the name of the man to contact for a fun evening of playing (and/or learning) this ancient game. For reservations and directions, please call Martin at 823-1732.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes. Call Les at 690-9565 for directions.

Tucson CALENDAR

Sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers. Salsa Sunday! Great music, better dancing and it all begins at 8pm.
BOOM-BOOMS - Open at Noon. Happy Hour 4-8pm. \$1.25 small pitchers of draft. Sunday Dinner starts at 4pm. Karaoke 6-10pm. Dance party 10-1.
GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.25 Draft 75¢ Schnapps 75¢
HOURS - Bloody Marys and Screwes \$1.25 w/ 7 pm. Pool Tournament 3pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.
IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Benefit 8-9 and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon-7pm. Pool tournament 2pm. Steak Fry! Beer Bust 2-5pm \$4.75. Stonewall opens at 4pm with Latin music until 9pm followed by High Energy Dance Music.
VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. Backside Beer Bust 3-8pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee. Bert Burgers 5-7, Tuff Stuff Tool 4-11pm.

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Trash Disco with Michael 9pm to close. \$1.75 white well 8pm to close.
BOOM-BOOMS - Closed Mondays. See you out at the other bars.
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50 Draft \$1.75 Domestic.
HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50¢ Draft Beer 7 to close.
IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, \$1.50 / 32oz pitchers. Rabe 80s Dance 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour noon to 7pm, Party with Stephan. Free pool 7 to close.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am - 8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am - 8pm.

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic long necks. Free pool 2-4. Pool Tournament 7 pm. Pot matched. \$1 domestic long necks 9pm to close.
BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8 daily. Dart Tourney 8:30. Special prices for all tourney players. \$1.50 domestic bottle beer 9-close.
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50, Domestic \$1.75
HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Schnapps 75¢ 7pm to close. Karaoke 9pm.
IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. 9pm to close 2for1 well! Miller Lite. High Energy Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 7pm. Stonewall opens at 9pm with Latin Music Party.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am - 8pm. Happy Hour prices 6am - 8pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. \$1.25 pitchers from 8 to midnight. Hot dance music all request. 9pm to close.
BOOM-BOOMS - Boot Scootin' Country/Western Dance 9pm. Boom Booms Babes at 9:30 (1st & 3rd Wednesdays). 2-4-1 Well 9-close.
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50; Domestic \$1.75. 9 Ball Single Elimination Pool Tourney. 7pm, Pot matched.
HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50¢ off all call drinks 7 to close. Feb. 19 New Pool Tournament Begins 6pm
IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour Noon to 8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. Mystery Night. \$1.75 Bud Product Special 9pm to close. Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 7pm. College Logo Nite w/Darren 9pm. Karaoke 9pm. Stonewall opens 9pm. Corona & Cuevo Gold \$1.75
VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Cuevo Gold \$2 all day/night. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool open 8:30pm.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 8pm to close.
BOOM-BOOMS - 2 for 1 well 9pm to close. Top Pop Dance Party 9-close.
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all Well \$1.50, Domestic \$1.75. 301 Dart Tournament 7:30pm. Double Elimination. Pot Matched
HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Corona \$2.00 8pm to 1am. Country/Western dancing 8 to 1.
IBT's - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8 pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Underwear Nite. \$1.50 Well and \$1.75 Domestic Beer to those in their underwear. Hi energy dancing 9-close with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour noon-7pm. Party with Peter in the Eagle. Stonewall opens 9pm with hot male strippers from Phoenix.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Pool Tournament 7pm \$3 entry fee. Happy Hour prices for Men in Leather 8pm to close. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool open 8:30pm

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Complimentary Hors d'Oeuvres. Michael spins hi energy dance music 8:30 to close. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.
BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8 Country/Western in the "Other Room". at 9pm. Dance Party with Raymond in the main bar at 9. Watch for the random "Reverse Happy Hour" after 10.
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.50/ domestic \$1.75.
HOURS - Happy Hour 12-7pm well or domestic beer \$1.25. Country Western Music 8-1am.
IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. ... Patio Bar with Looney 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour noon-7pm; Hot Hors d'Oeuvres 6pm. Stonewall opens 9pm. Wear Stonewall T-Shirt and get happy hour prices all evening. Hot Go-Go Boys 10pm to midnight.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool opens at 8:30 pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Pot matched, 1st: 70%, 2nd: 20%, 3rd: 10%. Michael spins hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.
BOOM-BOOMS - Dance to the latest club mixes in the main bar at 9. Boot Scootin' Country/Western dance in the "Other Room". Random "Reverse Happy Hour" after 10pm
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well drinks \$1.50/domestic \$1.75. 8 Ball Pool Tournament 2pm, Double Elimination, pot matched.
HOURS - Open Noon. Strawberry & Banana Daiquiris, Pita Coladas \$3. Country/Western Music 8-1.
IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Patio Bar with Looney 9-1. Dance 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 7pm Free pool all day. Stonewall opens 9pm with High Energy Dance Music. Hot Go-Go Boys 10pm to Midnight.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Sitches & Bagels w/1 Bloody Marys 6am-noon. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool Opens at 8:30pm.

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NOTICES

BEARS OF THE OLD PUBBLIC - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men... TUCSON ROOM DATE LOCATOR SERVICE Men and women welcome... LAMBER CAR CLUB, A social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving collectible vehicles... LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Drie 581-8250 or Ronn 508-2384... CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 893, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102... CROMIES SOCIAL GROUP. A social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Merle at 888-7264... T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Jeff or Art (520)762-8135... LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 848-7268... MAKE ME! Long-haired Gay male penpal network. Photo, 3 IRC's to join. Box 231, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4... GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7243 for more information... 'AT EASE AGAIN', a men's discussion group meets at Wingspan at 7 p.m. every Tuesday. 422 N. 4th Ave... LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS: Workshop at 7:00 p.m. third Wednesday of every month. Read and critique current projects. Network and support. For info call 325-4737... DESIRE YOUR DREAMS Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings at 7 pm at UofA School of Music Rm 8187. For information call 781-8662... Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719... AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome... MEK'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 890-8565 for information and a newsletter. 558... SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact: Mary 770-9979 or Bettie 318-3415... CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Uterlah HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be service. For information call Soan at 298-8063... ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call the Tucson AIDS Project at 322-8228... 'EVOLVING' a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.D.'s, T.G.'s & T.S.'s. Dedicated to all our brothers and sisters. Offering our help and support in every way we can. Meetings held on 4th Saturday of each month at 7 p.m. Call 884-0541... SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 291-8602... BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan. 320-1318... GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. B6 or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 5:00 p.m. Check it out!... THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4882 for more information or sign up... THE JOHN HANSEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1946 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-8015 or Jane Punt at 328-8577... COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA). Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call Greg Hollman 577-8333 for more info... TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets every third Thursday at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Avenue at 7pm... LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 894-7083... FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himmel Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mimi at 328-3555... People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (FACT ForLife), 801 W. Congress. Office hours MWTF 9am to 5pm, Tu-Sun-7pm. Th. Noon - 8pm. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Call 770-1710 for more information... SHANTI FOUNDATION OF TUCSON Help us help others in giving emotional support to persons with HIV and AIDS and their families, friends. Contact us Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 300 E. 9th Street, 822-7107. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME... F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8860 or write P.O. Box 30264, Tucson, AZ 85740-9264. All replies confidential... ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Al-Anon 881-1794 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians... 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... The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men over 30 years old to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men who are or wish to be involved in Gay community activities, issues and organizations. Call 887-7483 and leave yo or name and phone number. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave... TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 252 (The Broadmoor Center Bldg). Direct services for persons with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Prevention education programs. Business hours, M-F, 8-8. 322-8228. AIDS Hotline: 328-AIDS... TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri... AIDS HOTLINE - 325-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 call to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist/facilitator. Call 745-8077 in Tucson for more information. 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), 6:00 p.m. info: 624-1779... SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN IN SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS who have ever been physically, verbally or sexually abused, is now forming. Call Randy Oberhol, Ph.D. at 570-0027 for more

NOTICES

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Footcitta Church, Swan and River Road, Room 32. Call the church at 290-9083 for information... LICHEN NURSING CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of 7th. Hike with other women. Listings in Rubyfruit Journal available at Airport Books, 411 N. 4th Ave... 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... L.D.S., EX-L.D.S., GAY LESBIAN, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays. 7pm. 320-1318 for information... RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Sunday at 1:00 pm at St. Francis in The Footcitts for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Davey 889-1208 for more info... ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-0805 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717... 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. Advertisers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 8543, Santa Fe, NM 87504... ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all - Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-6, Cotaroo, AZ 85652... DUKER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9020... COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (902)432-3591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events... TITHAN, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate response to the HIV crisis, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer care teams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-8647... THIRTIETHING Society - an exclusive society for single Gay and Bi men in or near their thirties. A social society that offers monthly activities including a monthly outing away from Tucson. Call 797-3116 for more information and a membership bio... LESBIAN/GAY/BIBI OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm in UMC Dining Room "F", 325-8678 or 870-1954... ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING IS available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 781-7878... CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1800 N. Camino Pio Decimo in the Kino Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2003 or Anna Marie at the Parish office 885-3573... COCAINE ANONYMOUS "The Fruits of Sobriety" particularly for Gays and Lesbians (but everyone is welcome) meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. at the MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Hotline: (520)326-2211... NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Odina's Catholic Church, 7570 N. Paseo Del Norte in the Parish Hall Conference Room (Bldg. North of the Church) at 7:30 p.m. For more info call Mary 297-8602 or Sr. Joan 742-8900... GAY COUPLES WORKSHOP for Gay couples interested in building, nurturing and preserving an intimate and balanced relationship, April 25-27 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Call Spirit Journeys, 1-800-400-3884... 664

PERSONALS

MAN TO MAN an introduction service for mature men and those who appreciate them. 322-8889 666... HUNG TOPS & HOT BOTTOMS. Record & listen to ads FREE. 520-822-1100, 18+ Code 3014... CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.mover.com 670... ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a entender y apoyar los programas para los Latinos, llámanos para una entrevista estrictamente confidencial al 322-8228 y programa por Ernesto. 870... If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us to support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 322-8228 and ask for Ernie. 870

HOUSING/FOR RENT

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$325 - \$485. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 733-0008 670

ROOMMATES

PROFESSIONAL ROOMMATE WANTED. 1st and last deposit. 3BR. 2 BA. All utilities included. Call 388-8643 payphone call. 668... SEEKING EMPLOYED, RESPONSIBLE MALE ROOMMATE to share a nice 4-bedroom home. Willard/Golf Links area. No pets. \$290/mo total. Call 790-6362. 668... GM TO SHARE LARGE 4 BEDROOM HOUSE with private pool, gas grill, big screen TV and more. \$295/mo. Includes utilities. 888-7875 or 820-1770. 669... Need A Good Roommate Fast? Call Arizona's oldest and largest roommate company. ROOMMATE FINDERS (602)966-4126. 668

Employment

HIV PROGRAM COORDINATOR. Full or part-time. Administer RyanWhite Program, support Tucson HIV Consortium. Requirements: Bachelor's degree & four years experience in program me testing & reporting, working with nonprofits & group process facilitation. Commitment to HIV issues, knowledge of Tucson social services, excellent communication & coalition building skills required. PHAS encouraged to apply. EEOC. Send resume and cover letter by May 19, to HIV Program Coordinator, 8801 E. Grant Road, Suite 111, Tucson, AZ 85715... BUSINESS MANAGER - HALF-TIME. Position for non-profit organization. Salary \$7,200. Inquire Desert Voices office 781-8062. 668... IMMEDIATE OPENING Health Care Giver. Apply to person 1015 N. Stone. Ask for Robert. 668... NEED EXPERIENCED DAY SHIFT BARTENDER. Please apply IN HOURS, 3455 E. Grant Road with photo. 668... HOUSEKEEPING MAIDS WANTED. Apply in person to Robert, Best Western Royals Sun, 1015 N. Stone. 668... DJ NEEDED. Apply at Alo's Nobody's Business, 2900 E. Broadway. Back-up bartender also needed. Apply Thursday afternoons. 866... DJ NEEDED. Apply at Stonewall/Eagle, 2821 N. Stone Moon to 5:00 p.m... NIGHT AUDITOR. Hotel experience preferred. Apply in person at the desk. See Peter of Joyce, Best Western Royal Sun, 1015 N. Stone. 868

EMPLOYMENT

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Bum wrap



By Fu Chun Wai, New Evening Post via AP

What's Worn under kilts? Nothing, as evidenced in Hong Kong as the wind whips up around the British army's Black Watch regiment. (USA Today)

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thing. But what? How about . . . "If I had a . . ." just teasing you big lug.

He is my rock. He is my confidant. He is my friend. He has always been true of his actions and reactions of me. I will never forget that. He has been my shoulder to cry on, and I've been his. I love him very much. He will always tell you the truth, even when you don't want to hear it, and he is always the first one to tell you what your full of. He has defended me and set the record straight when he felt he needed to, and he has always been there for me. When I saw him lost and alone, I invited him into my world, when no one else had. I had no idea I was going to gain the friend I did.

If you don't know him, you should. If you don't know if you love him, you will. If he ever leaves me I'll die, but he knows he will always be in my thoughts. I feel very honored to be able to say that Marque Dahl is my friend. In this life, I love you most.

Who knows what this year will bring? We can only wait and see. What I do know is that I will be the very best I can be for you as Miss Gay Tucson America. Together we will grow, and together we will learn. I think this is going to be one hell of a year for us all.

Respectfully yours,
Kenneth Blake
Miss Gay Tucson America 1997

NEWS FROM P.A.C.T.

by Frank E.G. Calvo

[Part two of a message from the Board of Directors.]

At our regular Board meeting on April 3, 1997, the reorganization committee gave its report, including the remarks given by Craig Snow and Anne Maley, Executive Directors of TAP and Shanti, respectively, and the opinion of an outside consultant that we should consider several options, including a merger. At that meeting, it was brought to our attention that the Shanti and TAP Boards were proposing a merger of the three ASO's, so an emergency Board Session was called for April 9 for PACT to discuss the matter.

Craig and Anne gave a presentation prior to the closed session and, after stating the reasons for their agencies to consider and approve a merger, proposed that they act as Co-Executive Directors of PACT in the event of Marylee's departure as ED prior to June 30, 1997, and continuing until such time as PACT, Shanti and TAP have been dissolved as a part of the merger. The PACT Board agreed to that, again, unanimously.

The Board further agreed, as have the Boards of Shanti and TAP, that Craig and Anne will be named co-ED's of the newly formed SAAF. However, with an eye to reducing SAAF administrative costs, the Board of PACT included a provision suggesting that this co-arrangement would be for a limited time.

The Board also unanimously approved exercising our 30 day option to terminate Marylee Pangman's contract as Executive Director. (Marylee resigned her position as Executive Director, effective immediately. Cicely d'Autremont, PACT's Director of Client Services, will be acting ED until May 15, unless otherwise directed by The Board of Directors at their regular meeting on May 1, 1997).

To further reduce payroll costs, the Board voted unanimously to eliminate the position of Director of Development and Marketing, with responsibilities of that office transferred to Tim Janes, TAP's DDM.

I leave you with this in mind, "The leadership instinct you are born with is the backbone. You develop the funny bone and the wishbone that go with it." - Elaine Agather

Florida Undertaker

Continued from Page One

charge, and plans to appeal. His sentencing was postponed at his attorney's request, but the penalty for the second-degree misdemeanor cannot exceed 60 days in jail and \$500. By contrast, should Calvert be found guilty of charges that, in his handling of the records, he used his status as a public official for his own benefit, he could be sentenced to up to a year in prison.

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