

Democratic Presidential Candidates Compete For G/L Vote

ATLANTA, GA - With nine Democratic presidential candidates struggling to break out from the pack and capture the party's nomination, Gay and Lesbian Americans are being courted as never before.

"In a crowded race or a close race, an energized and mobilized constituency can make a real difference," Dave Noble of the National Stonewall Democrats told the Raleigh News and Observer. "Right now, we've got so many different candidates going after the community, and there's not one candidate the community has settled upon."

Bill Clinton was the first presidential candidate in history to reach out to Gay Americans and to address them, not as a problem to be dealt with, but as law abiding citizens who deserve better treatment from their government. In the face of AIDS, after more than a decade of murderous mistreatment under Ronald Reagan and George Bush, Clinton's embrace of Gay civil rights altered the political landscape.

Despite several awkward attempts by George W. Bush in 2000 to "reach out" to Gay voters, the Republican party risks alienating its conservative base if it does so in any meaningful or sustained way. Public controversies, such as the recent flap over comments made by Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania, makes any effort to present the party as "inclusive" even harder.

Polls from the 2000 presidential election showed that about 4 percent of

American voters self-identified as Gay or Lesbian and that close to three quarters of them voted for Al Gore. Democratic strategists say those kind of numbers, concentrated in the primary phase, can easily determine who comes out on top in 2004.

The jockeying for position was on display earlier this month in South Carolina when the nine candidates met for a debate in Columbia. Vermont Gov. Howard Dean boasted of signing the nation's only civil union law and questioned Sen. John Kerry's commitment to Gay civil rights.

In response, Kerry rattled off several pro-Gay positions he'd taken in recent years, including support for Gays serving in the military and sponsorship of hate-crimes legislation. "My position in fact is stronger than Governor Dean's," he said.

Over the weekend Sen. John Edwards voiced his support for adoptions by Gay parents during a keynote address to a black-tie dinner that drew 1,300 people to a downtown hotel in Atlanta. Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri said his Lesbian daughter, Chrissy, will be part of his campaign's Gay outreach efforts.

GOP strategists are fond of saying Democrats hurt themselves in the South by advocating on behalf of Gay civil rights. But other analysts downplay that potential. "It's overrated as a general election liability," said a Gephardt adviser. "In 1992, Clinton got people past the notion that if you're pro-Gay rights, it will kill you in the South."

G/L Marriage 'Inevitable'

OTTAWA, Canada - The Canadian federal government has little legal choice but to adopt same-sex marriage in light of a string of court rulings that "in all likelihood" would be upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada, according to an internal government document obtained by the Ottawa Citizen.

A research branch of the Liberal government dismisses other options under consideration by Justice Minister Martin Cauchon, including a national civil registry set apart from marriage that would grant legal recognition to Gay and Lesbian unions.

Registries are regulated on a provincial level and are not subject to federal oversight or control, the government document states. Federal involvement in marriage is confined to deciding who can wed, and with the law's current exclusion of Gay and Lesbian couples, Ottawa has concluded the law will be found unconstitutional. Gay marriage in Canada is all but inevitable.

The government has lost case after case in attempting to prohibit full Gay participation in what is essentially a legal compact between two consenting adults. Marriage is currently defined in Canada as "the voluntary union between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others."

The latest federal loss happened when the British Columbia Court of Appeal agreed with courts in Ontario and Quebec, which have ruled that the prohibition on Gay and Lesbian marriage violates the equality guarantees in the Charter of Rights.

The federal government has 60 days to decide whether it will ask the Supreme Court of Canada to review the B.C. decision.

"In all likelihood, the highest court in the country will agree that this definition based on heterosexuality is unconstitutional," says the Liberal research paper. "The legal recognition is a question of impartiality, equality, universality and justice, values which are espoused by our government."

SACRAMENTO, CA - Justices serving on the California Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case that seeks to declare null and void thousands of second-parent adoptions in which the same-sex partners of parents share legal custody of the family's children.

The case involves two women, identified in court as Sharon S. and Annette F., who began a long-term relationship in 1989. Over the course of the relationship, Sharon had two sons, in both cases becoming pregnant by artificial insemination from an anonymous donor. Annette adopted the first born Zachary, now 6, and was in the process of adopting the second child, Joshua, 4, when she and Sharon broke up.

Sharon gave her consent to the adoption of the 4-year-old, but now wants to withdraw it. Annette's co-adoption of the elder Zachary is final. A trial judge in San Diego ruled Sharon could not withdraw her consent because she had missed the legal deadline.

But a state appellate court disagreed, saying the second-parent adoption process had never been established by state law. The appeals court ruled the process had been arranged by administrative agencies which had no legal authority to approve such adoptions except in cases involving married couples.

That ruling terrified thousands of Gay parents because it threatened to invalidate their hold on their families. In 2002, a new state law on adoptions took effect which explicitly allows such

adoptions. But that law applies only to people who are in registered domestic partnerships.

If the high court sides with the appellate court and rules against second-parent adoptions, the ruling could render invalid adoptions finalized before 2002 and eliminate all future co-parent adoptions for couples who have not registered their partnerships.

Sharon's attorney, John Dodd, told the court that his client's consent to her younger son's adoption was invalid to begin with because there was no law allowing for second-parent adoptions. "It is not a consent authorized by the Legislature," Dodd said, adding such adoptions were illegally "invented" by the California Department of Social Services.

Judges in California, the first state to permit second-parent adoptions, began approving them in 1986. Justice Carlos Moreno wondered aloud about the consequences of Dodd's argument, noting some 10,000 such adoptions have been legalized in the state. "Wouldn't this have a severe impact on tens of thousands of adoptions?" he asked.

Justice Joyce Kennard noted that opponents of co-adoption in the current case backed co-adoption arrangements when they involved married couples. "In my view, [accepting] that distinction would be embracing a public policy by this court that we will be disfavoring adoption by unmarried persons generally [and] by Gays in particular," she said.

Gephardt's Lesbian Daughter Aids Campaign

ST. LOUIS, MO - Gunning for the Democratic spot in the 2004 presidential race, Rep. Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., will have a strong voice courting the Gay and Lesbian community: his openly Gay daughter.

Chrissy Gephardt recently announced she will actively campaign for her father's bid in the 2004 election. Gephardt's eldest daughter will be profiled in an upcoming issue of People magazine, talking about her role in the campaign. While the details of the article remain under wraps, Gay Democratic pundits see this as a welcome move, reports the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

"It shows it's not just that (Chrissy Gephardt's) speaking to the GLBT community, but that having a Lesbian family member speak to the general public is an encouraging sign," said Dave Noble, executive director of the National Stonewall Democrats. "I think the fact that (Vice President Dick Cheney (news - web sites)'s Gay daughter) Mary Cheney had a career as

a Gay and Lesbian liaison and didn't talk about the issues is a telling difference between the willingness of the Bush team to talk about these issues and Gephardt talking about these issues."

Gephardt, 30, lives in Washington with her partner, Amy, where both are social workers. She works with female survivors of trauma and abuse at a mental health agency, and will likely be a strong link between her father's campaign and the Gay community, according to Kim Molstre, a spokeswoman for the Gephardt 2004 campaign.

"Dick loves his daughter very much, and the Gephardts are a very close-knit family," Molstre told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network. "He hopes she'll take an active role in his campaign for president."

While Gephardt's daughter may be openly Gay, all of the Democratic nominees are showing their support for the Gay
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UPDATE

AIDS Candlelight Memorial May 18

TUCSON (ON) - The 20th annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial will take place Sunday, May 18, Himmel Park, 1000 N. Tucson Blvd., which is one block South of Speedway and West of the Himmel Park library.

This event, sponsored locally by the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network, Wingspan and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, is being held in conjunction with other Memorials in cities across the nation and the globe, in remembrance of family, friends, partners, and loved ones lost and a time of hope for the future.

Organizers said that Tucson's event will have an Interfaith Service will take place at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Candlelight Vigil at 7:00 p.m. ASL interpreter will be available. Limited seating will be provided; and organizers are requesting that persons bring their own seating (blankets or chairs). Candles will be provided.

Pride Parade Fund Raiser Launched

TUCSON - Raffle tickets are currently on sale through June 29, the day of Tucson's annual GLBT Pride Parade.

Tickets are \$10 each, available at EON, Wingspan and Antigone Books presently and the proceeds will go to help defray costs for the Pride Parade.

For more information, E-mail: tucsonpride@yahoo.com.

OUTLOUD! Has New Day And Time

TUCSON - Please tune in to 91.3 FM (KXCI) every Sunday, 7 to 8 p.m., to experience OUTLOUD!, Arizona's only Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) radio program.

News, views, music, human interest stories, information and interviews, local to global are part of this radio show. In addition, "Outright Radio" and "This Way Out," award winning programs are a part of OUTLOUD!

Show producers are also appealing to listeners to become a more important part of the show, as members of KXCI, community radio, which relies on membership dollars to stay on the air.

For more information, call OUTLOUD!, on Sundays at (520) 623-1000, and they would gladly tell you how to become a member while enjoying the program.

Position Open At Wingspan

TUCSON (ON) - Wingspan is looking for a qualified, capable individual for the following position with the organization:

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Send Resumes to Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Tucson, AZ 85705 or fax to (520) 624-0364 or E-mail to wingspan@wingspan.org No calls please, and the job closes on May 30. AA/EOE

Reveille's 'On With The Show!' Is On Its Way

By Renata Tebaldi

TUCSON - It's heating up out there, and Tucson will get hotter when Reveille hits town for its last concert of the season, "On With The show!"

Broadway classics and current favorites will be featured, along with an exciting mix of gospel, folk and pop as the boys take over the Temple of Music and Art on Friday and Saturday, May 30 and 31 at 8 p.m.

Dazzling solos by the likes of Reveille's Paul Robeson, Jose Iglesias, Judy Garland and Barbra Streisand will highlight the evening, and Reveille's artistic director, Linus Lerner, the Boy from Ipanema, will treat you to an Afro-Brazilian classic, 'Estrela e lua Nova'. The New Reveillettes will make a brief appearance singing Billy Joel's 'Lullaby (Goodnight My Angel)'. From 'Ol Man River' to 'Master of the House', this concert has it!

And, if that's not enough, an exquisite, handmade quilt will be raffled off at each performance. Raffle tickets are available from chorus members or at the door.

Tickets for "On With the Show!?" Buy them in advance at Antigone's, Wingspan, Desert Pride, from any Reveille member, or call (520) 617-3100. Tickets will also be available at the IBT's Beer Bust on Sunday, May 25. All advance tickets are \$18. Tickets at the door are \$20. Remember, all you who love music and/or Gay men, it's 'On With The Show!', May 30 and 31 at the Temple of Music and Art.



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Randolph "Randy" Cooper
April 23, 1956 - May 6, 2003

TUCSON - On May 6, this beautiful person was taken from us. Randy had always been a bright smile in many people's day. He always had such a great sense of humor and was rarely down. Randy enjoyed everything about life and is having a party right now.

Randy is survived by his mother, Dorothy Cooper, one brother, Stanley, two sisters, Judy and Maxine, and many, many friends.

A memorial service and party will be held Friday, May 16, 6 to 9 p.m., at 5601 S. Cassia Way (Cross Streets: Drexel and Campbell). For more information, call Tony (520) 741-1318.

'Falsettoland' Rehearsals Underway For Pride Week Showing

TUCSON - Rehearsals for the Tony Award winning musical "Falsettoland" are underway. The show will be presented June 26 - July 12 here in Tucson, at the Zuzi Little Theatre.

According to director Kevin Johnson "The cast is amazing. We have the best of Tucson talent, as well as talent from the Broadway stage - Marsha Bagwell will be playing Dr. Charlotte. She is known for her many Broadway roles including 'Mousetrap' from the original Broadway cast of the musical Chicago starring Chita Rivera and Gwen Verden - and directed by Bob Fosse. Mickey Nugent, who plays Mendel, is known for many Broadway tours including roles in Cats and Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat".

IBT's will host a fund raising evening this Sunday from 5 - 9:30. Come out and karaoke, have a grilled burger or chicken burger with sides, and five beer tickets for only five bucks. Then stay as Bunny Fu Fu hosts "Divalicious" - all tips and money collected from the hamburger/beer sale go towards production expenses of "Falsettoland".

Arizona Onstage Productions is working with ZUZU Move-It Dance Co on this production - a not for profit venue. All donations to this production are entitled to a receipt of gift for tax purposes. "It is going to be amazing" says Johnson, of the upcoming show. "I hope that we can start a new tradition of bringing real Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian and straight stories to the Tucson stage."



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Observing Tucson and
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Informing the Community
The Observer

New Help For Identity Theft Victims

NEW YORK, NY - Most of us are probably not overly fond of the three big credit-reporting agencies, as they seem to exude an undertone of Big Brother, watching our every financial move. Moreover, a ding in our credit report can spell disaster when it comes to applying for new credit, so we're apt to think of them as the wary gatekeeper to our new home, car or credit card.

Well, now we might have to rethink our prickly relationship with Experian, Equifax and TransUnion, as the agencies move into the light as champions of consumers who have been victimized by identity theft.

A group representing these credit-reporting firms, the Consumer Data Industry Association, or CDIA, reports they have enacted a plan to make it easier for victims to repair the damage that identity fraud can do to their credit reports.

In case you're still uncertain about what "identity theft" really means, this heinous act occurs when someone gets hold of your personal and financial information (bank and credit-card account numbers, Social Security number) and in your name applies for credit, empties your bank accounts, and in some cases, buys a house.

In the past, a victim of identity-theft had to report the fraud to each of the three agencies and then go through the headache of sending separate letters to every department store, bank or lender where the thief opened a fraudulent account in the victim's name.

Now, consumers can report the

fraud to just one of the credit bureaus, and that bureau will notify the other agencies. This means our paranoia that all these agencies are talking to each other about us behind our backs finally has an upside.

CDIA says with one phone call, victims will have contacted all the national credit-reporting companies, which represents some 400 consumer-data companies involved in credit reporting, check verification and tenant screening.

With some 161,819 complaints of identity fraud filed with the Federal Trade Commission last year - and over half a million reported in total over the last five years - cases of identity theft have moved from isolated incidences to the mainstream.

While national legislation is still being hammered out, some states, like California, have taken their own steps to help consumers stop identity theft.

Since January, California residents may "freeze" access to their credit reports; freezing an account would prevent financial institutions from accessing confidential financial information without a consumer's permission, gfn.com reported.

How does this help stop an identity thief? Identity thieves thrive on gaining quick access to credit before the victim realizes the theft has taken place; slow the process of granting new credit and you've made it tougher on the thieves to do their dirty work.

The cost of freezing and then "thawing" an account can cost anywhere between \$12 to \$59, depending on the agency.

GFN's Gay technology expert advises several ways to protect one's financial information from falling into the wrong hands.

"Identity thieves are very clever, yet usually very predictable in their scams," says Paul E. Eisman, IT consultant, whose clients are in New York and Southern California.

But there are simple, low-tech things we can do protect ourselves, offers Eisman.

Get a paper shredder. "For under \$25, a shredder will eliminate one of the simplest ways for an identity thief to gain information about you. Thieves do go through garbage cans where bank and credit card statements are right there for the taking, filled with personal financial information about you," Eisman says.

Don't offer your social security number. "Everyone seems to ask for our social security numbers and almost no one is legally entitled to it," says Eisman. Mortgage applications may require it, but there's no reason for your doctor's office or your gym to have it.

Check your credit reports regularly. "You can check your reports right online for little or no fee. If you see any suspicious activity, you'll be ahead of game by catching it early."

Only offer your credit card on "secured sites." Eisman describes secured transactions as ones that occur when you see the "http" replaced with "https" (note the "s" on the end). "Nothing is foolproof,

but when you see the "https" you can assume it's probably OK to use and transmit information like your credit card number."

File a police report if you're victimized. "You may think it's enough to just notify the credit bureau agencies, but it will bolster your claim about fraudulent use of your name and financial information when the police become involved."

Eisman advises including a police report if you're victimized when contacting the credit reporting agencies.

Edwards Addresses HRC Gala

ATLANTA, GA - In an address to the Human Rights Campaign in Atlanta on Saturday, May 10, Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards lent his support to sweeping Gay civil rights reforms, but stopped short of supporting Gay marriage or civil unions.

In his speech before some 1,300 people at the HRC's annual gala in Atlanta, the aspiring senator from North Carolina outlined an agenda that offered Gay and Lesbian Americans a more secure and equitable future than Republicans have ever been willing to entertain.

In an impassioned address, Edwards said he would fight to secure Gay adoption rights, hate crimes legislation, workplace discrimination laws and would redouble efforts to combat AIDS and assist those who have it in the United States.

Edwards said he fully supports
CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

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Hairspray Leads Tony Contenders With 13 Nominations

NEW YORK, NY - Hairspray, a campy musical remake of out director John Waters's 1988 film; a dance show based on Billy Joel's songs; and a Fellini-inspired musical starring Antonio Banderas—these three productions scooped up the most Tony award nominations on Monday. Hairspray won 13 nominations.

The rollicking, feel-good show about the dreams of disenfranchised teenagers in 1962 Baltimore faces plenty of competition in a 57th annual Tony Awards chase that offers several intriguing races. Other musicals include *Movin' Out*, the Joel songbook brought to the stage by Twyla Tharp, and *Nine the Musical*, inspired by Fellini's 1963 film, *8 1/2*. *Movin' Out* got 10 nominations, while *Nine* had eight.

The play that won the most nominations was *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, with seven, including one for each of the four main characters in the four-hour production—Vanessa Redgrave, Brian Dennehy, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Robert Sean Leonard. *Take Me Out*, about a baseball star revealing he is Gay, was nominated for best play along with *Enchanted April*, *Say Goodnight Gracie*, and *Vincent in Brixton*. Joining *Long Day's Journey* in the best revival category were *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*, *Dinner at Eight*, and *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*. Nominated for best musical along with *Hairspray* were *Movin' Out*, the

short-lived *Amour*, and the children-friendly *A Year With Frog and Toad*. The best revival of a musical was a glittery list that included *Nine*, *Gypsy*, *La Bohème*, and *Man of La Mancha*.

"You've got some really great races this year," said League of American Theaters and Producers chief Jed Bernstein. "Best actor in a musical has Antonio Banderas going against Harvey Fierstein [*Hairspray*]. Best actress has Bernadette Peters [*Gypsy*] and Marissa Jaret Winokur [*Hairspray*]. You have *Nine* versus *Gypsy* and *Hairspray* versus *Movin' Out*. Four great races."

La Bohème, Baz Luhrmann's rich staging of Puccini's opera, got six nominations and was already a winner with a special Tony Honor for Excellence in the Theater given the principal ensemble, which rotates 10 actors in the primary roles. David Richenthal, producer of *Long Day's Journey*, marveled at the response of audiences to Robert Falls's staging of the classic drama by Eugene O'Neill. "The response has been resounding, shockingly so," said Richenthal, who said the show sold \$1.5 million in tickets in six days after a flock of rave reviews and broke box office records with a \$4 million advance sale.

The Tonys will be handed out June 8 at Radio City Music Hall.



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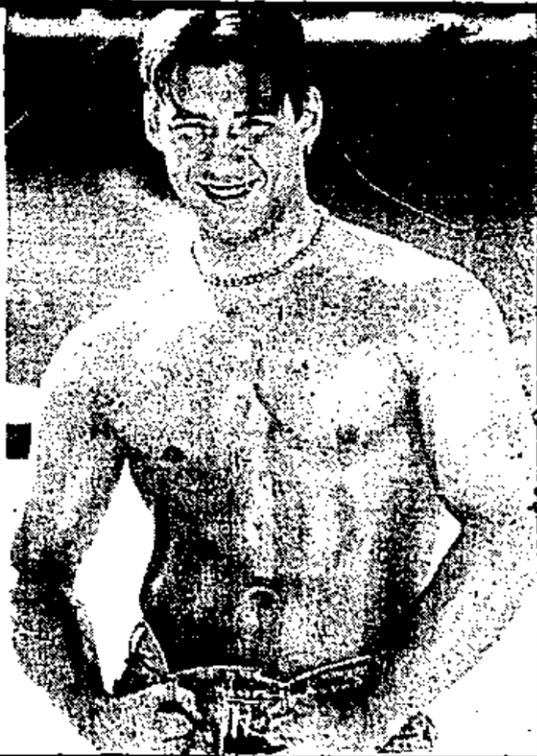
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AGRA Update

Chuck Browning, won the newly created "GOLD & SILVER" Awards in April at the Las Vegas Big Horn Rodeo and the LA Rodeo. The Gold & Silver award created by Las Vegas & LA, combined total points in each of the 4 Rodeo events categories and awarded the winner in each the Gold & Silver award. Chuck was the winner a some of the categories which are Rough Stock events, Roping events, Speed events and Camp events. Chuck also won the All-Around Cowboy at both Rodeo's.

Brian Stranghoner placed fourth in Chute Dogging and with his team partner Bill of CGRA placed seventh in Goat Dressing. Joey Hervey placed fifth in Barrel Racing, which was AGRA's highest placer in this event. "CJ" placed fifth in Flag Race and with his team partner Christy of GSGRA placed sixth in Goat Dressing. An excellent showing by AGRA contestants to place the team of Arizona in second place in Las Vegas for over all points.

The following weekend of April 12, 2003 GSGRA Greater Los Angeles Chapter held their Rodeo. This Rodeo found Chuck Browning winning All-Around Cowboy second weekend in a row. He accomplished this by finishing first in Bull Riding, Calf Roping on Foot, Team Roping with partner Brian Helander, second in Steer Riding, third in Chute Dogging, fourth in Flag Race, sixth with Team partner Brian Helander in Goat Dressing and seventh in Barrel Racing.

Brian Helander also buckled in Chute Dogging placing first in that event and placed second in Flag Race. Will Lann buckled in Wild Drag Race with team partner's John of CGRA and Renita of NMGRA by placing first. He also placed fifth in Flag Race and sixth in Barrel Race. All these placements gathered will enough points to place him third for All-Around Cowboy. "CJ" with his team partner Christy of GSGRA place third in Steer Decorating. Keenan Allen and his team partner's Zale & Steve of GSGRA placed third in Wild

Drag Race.

So AGRA contestants had another incredible weekend in LA all of whom helped place the team of Arizona in second place at the LA Rodeo for over all points. Only California placed higher at both Rodeos. Congratulations to all AGRA Contestants....

AGRA is sponsoring their annual poster contest for the 2004 RoadRunner Regional Rodeo. The Rodeo will take place in Phoenix on January 16-18, 2004.

Judging for the contest will be by vote of the members present at the monthly AGRA meeting on June 8, 2003. All entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. that day. Entries may be delivered in person or by mail to "RRRR Poster Contest" c/o Charlie's Phoenix, 727 W. Camelback Road, Phoenix, Arizona, 85013 by the 5:00 p.m., June 8, 2003 deadline.

Entries must be 17" x 22" finished size with the only lettering being "2004 RoadRunner Regional Rodeo". Exception to the size requirement will be made for computer generated artwork, with the original art being on a Macintosh-compatible CD or Zip disk. Entries must be received with the artist's name and phone number in upper right-hand corner of the back of the design. Entries received with the artist's name on the front of the design will be disqualified. The winning design and artwork become the property of AGRA. All other entries will be destroyed, unless arrangements are made to have them returned at the artist's expense. The artist of the winning entry will be awarded a \$200.00 prize.

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Celebrate Mile High Pride

PRESCOTT - Join us for a day, Saturday, May 17, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the Prescott Pride Center, 111 Josephine Street, of hometown fun as we celebrate our wonderfully diverse community.

Local and regional vendors and artisans will have their wares on display for you to browse and shop. We also have a great line-up of entertainers, including Dustin LaDale, a remarkable Lesbian singer and guitarist from Colorado who wowed us at last year's event. We'll also feature Becky Dalke and Susan Kelly who make up the popular local singing duo, Two Girls. Kathy Morris and The Silver Shadow Band will also be showcased. The list goes on, so come early and get a front row seat.

If you're not into music, two of the psychics who participated in our Mystic Fair will be on hand to provide insightful readings and angel drawings. We'll also have numerous raffles and great festival food. For those of you who are afraid you might get too much sun, we'll even have attractive volunteers available to apply sunscreen as needed. Pepper the Clown will provide face painting, balloon animals, and magic tricks for kids and Pride Wall tiles

will be available for painting, too.

The pride celebration will be held at the Prescott Pride Center. For those of you who've never been there, the Pride Center is located at 111 Josephine Street in Prescott. From Interstate 17, take the Highway 69 exit for Prescott. Stay on Highway 69 all the way to Prescott (you'll go through Mayer, Dewey, and Prescott Valley). Highway 69 turns into Gurley Street shortly after you pass the Frontier Village Shopping Center and the Prescott Resort. Continue on Gurley Street to the courthouse square. From the courthouse square, drive west on Gurley Street (toward Thumb Butte). One block past the traffic light at Gail Gardner Way, turn right onto Josephine Street. The Pride Center is the first building on the right side of the street, just past the vacant lot. You can't miss it. Just look for the line of cars!

Admission is \$5 per person and kids 12 and under get in free. This is a family event, so bring your children, relatives, and friends, but please leave your pets at home. For more information or to volunteer, please call the Pride Center at (928) 445-8800 or E-mail: contact@prescottpridecenter.com.

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SPORTS LINE

ToledoDeJaneiro Wins Desert Coyotes.... Finally!

TUCSON (ON) - Susan Lucci had finally won her Emmy faster than the winner's of this year's Tucson Desert Coyotes Bowling League.

ToledoDeJaneiro, named after the drag queen who was Carmen Miranda's stunt double during her stint at Republic Pictures, came in first for the roll-off and were crowned league champions for the 2002-03 season of Tucson's Wednesday night Gay, Lesbian and straight supportive bowling league at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W. Miracle Mile.

It was not an easy roll of the bowling ball by no means for the team, consisting of veteran bowlers Jack Stockslager, Observer reporter Mark Kerr and Paul Katona. After blowing a six-point lead during the second trimester of the league, it didn't look good for the team but a surge in the beginning of the third trimester of play vaulted ToledoDeJaneiro to the top of the standings and they held on, for dear life, to win it, qualifying for the roll-off, thanks to the strong bowling by Katona and Stockslager during this section of league play.

On Wednesday, April 30, the roll-off took place at Golden Pin Lanes between the three trimester winners, the others being One Is Two Ain't, and Sofa King Sleazy, the defending league champions, and the wildcard team, 2 Dicks No Peter, who had the best overall record without winning one of the three rounds. Consisting of three games of bowling, best score with handicap would crown the league champions for the format of the roll-off.

Again, thanks to the great bowling of Jack Stockslager and Paul Katona, ToledoDeJaneiro avoided falling too far behind after the first game of the roll-off. Mark Kerr recovered in the second game to keep the team in second after two games, trailing only by five pins and the team again, held on for dear life from a third-game charge from One Is Two Ain't, a former league champion, with JoAnn Schlott and Erick Jakel bowling without their third

bowler charged from third to nearly take the crown but thanks to a dramatic spare by Stockslager in the tenth frame of the third game, were the runner's-up. The wildcard team, 2 Dicks No Peter finished a close third and the defending league champions, Sofa King Sleazy, were fourth.

"I never thought I would see this but I am glad ToledoDeJaneiro held on," an exhausted Kerr said after the bowling. "Thanks to the great bowling by Paul Katona and Jack Stockslager, we finally won after eight long years!"

This was Stockslager's and Kerr's first league crown, since they had been bowling together in the league for eight years, the longest for anyone participating without a victory. Prior to this win, Katona had been victorious in the Summer league, with the infamous bowling team, "Helen", who were known for their legendart sassiness.

Bowling will resume on Wednesday, June 4, 7 p.m. initial meeting, 8 p.m. bowling at Golden Pin Lanes, with the Tucson Summer Coyotes, who will be bowling a no-tap version of the game (9 pins is a strike). For more information, call Patrick Fenimore, the new league Secretary/Treasurer, (520) 237-2436 or E-mail: desertcoyotes@cox.net.

Edwards Addresses HRC Gala

Continued from Page Three

allowing Gay men and Lesbians to adopt children and to expand partnership rights. "Families are at the core of who we are as human beings," Edwards said. "And committed families based on love and responsibility deserve to be respected. For me, those families include the families that are in this room tonight."

"I want to be very clear. I will listen to you. I will work with you and I will fight with you to protect your rights and to end discrimination against Gays and

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX

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Sin City Shows Its Pride

Hello readers! I have returned from Pride festivities in Las Vegas. I will admit that it was not anything like I was imagining on the drive up from Tucson. I will answer the obligatory question of my winnings right off the top; I did not gamble enough to win or lose. You can not get rich from a penny slot machine. Table games make me too nervous to enjoy it so I stay away from them. I find it easier to be upset at a machine than a person dealing cards. The annual trek to yet another desert town is always filled with fun and new experiences, but this time I focused on the Pride events.

Las Vegas has a way of negating its own set of standards when I visit, and this time was no exception.

For those of you not familiar, or those who live through the images my words portray (all 3 of you), let me attempt to paint a picture of the place known sometimes as Sin City. The drive from the Old Pueblo takes about 6 hours with a couple of gas and pit stops. Just 5 short years ago, that drive was a grueling 6 hours, but thanks to our interior department, getting to the gambling Mecca is easier than ever. If you choose to fly, Tucson to Las Vegas is just a 1 hour stint, barely enough time to drink enough to forget you are flying. My suggestion if taking the open road is to plan your trip in the evening hours. The hazards of mobile home convoys are less likely, and the skies on route will make you a believer in all that the X Files was created upon.

Prior to entering Nevada, (you can start an argument on the pronunciation of that name) you drive over one of our countries most famous landmarks. The Hoover Dam has been around since the time of FDR and is still one of the most spectacular sights you can view for free. With all the new heightened terrorist alerts going on, the dam is under extreme security. If you are going to marvel at the man made wonder, make sure you adhere to the authorities words and signs. They will not hesitate to give you an instant detour to their holding station if you do not comply. You can see the dam, take some photos, and be on your way in less than an hour, so it would not impede on your trip time that much.

Entering the state of Nevada, gamblers waste no time in feeding their frenzy. As soon as the border is behind you, there is a giant casino right on the road waiting to greet you. The entire state has legalized gambling, so any small town can be converted into a mini Monte Carlo with the addition of slots and tables. Everywhere you look, from Denny's to 7-11, there is no mistaking that you have access to gambling in all forms. A short drive in the state and you are finally in the brightest city in the world. There to greet you at its gates is the very sign seen in every movie and post card you have ever seen. Welcome to Las Vegas, We Welcome You it reads; it is truly one of the only signs of its kind that actually lives up to it.

When I arrived this time around, I was anticipating a flood of tourists that would make any GLBT community look small in comparison. The only other Pride events outside of Las Vegas this year were in Long Beach, California, so I figured this would be the place to be for a massive migration of an already packed city. I was surprised to find that it was not the case. The general population this weekend was as mixed as usual. I did not see many folks who were openly showing their pride colors

on the strip. The cities local paper, The Las Vegas Bugle, did not have many ads for events either. I was starting to think that Pride might be a bust in Las Vegas. I geared up for the events though, and pressed on to find a big party to be a part of.

I think the lack of marching crowds and events with that Mardi Gras feeling were for one simple reason. Las Vegas has that every night of the year. Pride events were held for naming of memorials, awards for city officials, and parties for major companies owned by GLBT community members. The parties that I am used to being a part of in the other cities I have attended were not as pronounced simply because that is the norm in Las Vegas. That of course adds to the thought that Pride there is probably more about pride that anywhere else I have seen. The fun, the parties and the craziness should not take center stage when celebrating diversity and love of one's self for who you are. The events held just for Pride were truly special in that they honored those that helped us have a Pride in the first place. The fun was just a footnote in the story of the GLBT community of Las Vegas.

I would be lying if I said that I did not have a blast. I always seem to do so when I visit Sin City. I got to run into Carmen Electra and her mate Dave Navarro at the Hard Rock Café. I got to visit some of the city establishments that ironically look just like some of our own. I ate and drank on about 10 dollars a day and was able to walk miles and miles each day without missing a beat. The Pride festivities were a mix of entertainment and information that was prepared and conducted nearly flawlessly. The city was a great host and its vendors and establishments although not rolling the red carpet, did invite us with a smile and good service.

Pride events are held throughout our nation and abroad all year long. If you are fortunate enough to attend one other than our own, take the time to enjoy the host city as well. It's a vacation within a vacation when planned correctly and can be a learning experience all the well. Feel free to write to me about your own Pride experiences at calabazamusic@yahoo.com. See you all out there in our own little town. Have a good week!

Edwards Addresses HRC Gala

Continued from Page Five
 Lesbians." He commended companies such as Coca-Cola and BellSouth for offering benefits for employees' same-sex partners.

Edwards, however, has not given his support to same-sex marriage or even civil union as his other Democratic opponents have done. He is on record as preferring to leave the contentious matter of Gay marriage and civil unions to the states and vaguely acknowledged this in Atlanta. "Not all of us agree on every single issue," he said. "But we all want the same freedoms."

Edwards did receive a perfect 100 from the Human Rights Campaign during the 2001-02 session of Congress. The score reflects his support of laws banning workplace discrimination against Gays and increasing the penalties for crimes found to be motivated by anti-Gay bias.

U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri, U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut and U.S. Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts have also received perfect voting record scores from the HRC.

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Rosie O'Donnell Writes Advocate Column

LOS ANGELES, CA - Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the newsstand, Rosie is back, reports the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

No, the former head of Rosie magazine and talk show host is not set to launch another publication, rather Rosie O'Donnell will pen a regular column for Gay news magazine The Advocate.

O'Donnell's first column, titled "The Yellow," premieres in the May 13 issue and discusses how the "yellow," her metaphor for energy and happiness, was sucked out of her through the pressures of fame and the entertainment business.

"It started to show on my face and body," O'Donnell wrote in the column, according to the Associated Press. "And as I became bigger and sadder -- starved for yellow ... I filled my craving with food -- getting madder still with my expanding girth and with my inability to make more yellow."

The column is O'Donnell's foray back into publishing since her self-titled magazine deal with publishers Gruner + Jahr USA imploded last year when she

announced she was leaving; both parties have since sued each other for huge sums.

Since then, Rosie was named the Advocate's "Person of the Year" for 2002 and more or less retracted her media-imposed title as the "Queen of Nice" with a series of outspoken comments on a variety of celebrities, including former President Bill Clinton, and the war in Iraq.

The former daytime talk show host and Emmy winner is working to bring her best-selling autobiography, "Find Me," to Broadway. The play, which will star Rosie and another as-yet-unnamed actress, will feature original music by Cyndi Lauper. And, this fall, Rosie will produce "Taboo," a Broadway musical about the life and hard times of singer Boy George.

Last month, Rosie was honored with the Vito Russo Award at the GLAAD Media Awards in New York. During her acceptance speech she said: "Everybody would tell me (coming out) would change my life. ? What I didn't realize is that it would change everything about my life. And for the first time I'm really, really, really happy."

Transcripts Confirm McCarthy Gay-Baiting

WASHINGTON, DC - Transcripts released of hearings held as part of Sen. Joseph McCarthy's probe 50 years ago into anti-American conspiracies have revealed a degree of homophobia and scare tactics that until now could only be surmised.

McCarthy and his closeted chief counsel, Roy Cohn, subpoenaed dozens of Gay men, mainly in the arts and entertainment, and badgered them to reveal the names of communist spies, threatening to out them if they didn't cooperate.

"The transcripts confirm what we've known for some time," said Susan Stryker, executive director of the GLBT Historical Society, "that Red-baiting and Gay-baiting went hand in hand with untold damage to civic life."

Stryker added that the climate of fear created by the McCarthy hearings kept a lot of talented Gay people out of public life, the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network reported.

Nearly 500 witnesses, from civil servants to artists, including writer Langston Hughes and composer Aaron Copland, were grilled by the committee during the 161 secret hearings from 1953 to 1954.

Among them was Eric Kohler, a prominent accountant, a member the board of trustees of Chicago's Roosevelt College and former controller of the federal government's Tennessee Valley Authority. According to a 1953 transcript, Cohn and McCarthy pressured Kohler into admitting he was Gay and then attempted to force him to reveal the names of homosexuals in the U.S. government.

COHN: "Do you know of any homosexuals who have been or now are employed by the United States government?"

KOHLER: "No, I don't know any that are or have been."

Cohn then showed Kohler a letter that Kohler admitted he had written.

COHN: "I would like to direct your attention to the front of the second

page. You describe a man by the name of Bill, with whom you had sexual relations. You then proceed to say about two-thirds of the way down that he became head of one of the units of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget. Is that correct?"

KOHLER: "That is right."

COHN: "What is Bill's name?"

KOHLER: "Must I say that, Mr. Chairman? I would like to protect him. He is a fine citizen, and has done a lot of good for his country."

SEN. McCARTHY: "I am inclined to think, Mr. Kohler, that in view of the fact that all of our intelligence agencies agree that men who are homosexuals ... are security risks, and in view of the fact that this man has held a very important job and may hold one again tomorrow, I think we have to require that you answer."

McCarthy and Cohn weren't alone in the belief that homosexuals were high security risks. Until the Clinton administration, being labeled Gay was the kiss of death for civilian government employees in the foreign service, defense and intelligence communities.

The phrase "pinko Commie fag" was also coined during the hearings.

McCarthy's communist witch hunt, which riveted the nation and destroyed the careers of many Americans, came to a halt in 1954 when he overreached and began attacking the U.S. Army. Public outrage, stoked by the senator's bullying tactics during televised hearings, forced the Senate to censure McCarthy, who died of alcoholism in 1957.

Cohn, whose homosexuality was unknown to McCarthy, was disbarred for unethical and unprofessional conduct and died of AIDS in 1986.

Historians believe that the released documents are just the tip of the iceberg, and as additional transcripts are unsealed the mistreatment of more Gays and Lesbians will be revealed.

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No religious person, in their right mind, would ever intone their congregation to "indulge in one sin to pay for another sin" but on the other hand, the Republican leadership in the Arizona Legislature, including the GOP Chairs of the respective Appropriations Committee's in both chambers, would have you indulge in more sin, to pay for another, if their convoluted, proposed state budget is approved.

Capital sources on Monday, May 12, after 4 p.m., the leadership introduced their third version of their guidelines for state spending, in guise of five bills despite

POLITICS 2003
by Mark F. Kay

'Paying For Abstinence By Paying For A Lottery Ticket'

the fact that the rules prevent new legislation from being introduced at this time but they were just following the example of D.C. Dubya, who has broken many rules, agreements, protocol, with history, naming just a few recent examples.

Bennett and the Republican Senate leadership tried on Monday to pass these Draconian measures, sight unseen in the upper chamber, and according to sources at the Capital, couldn't because they couldn't even muster a quorum, perhaps those Senators were out buying those state lottery tickets "like there was no tomorrow" since in the GOP budget proposal, they would have Arizonans pay for the state abstinence program buy purchasing lottery tickets.

"Just say no to sex by saying yes to gambling!" - a catchy slogan that could work on a bill board and is one of the classic blunders in the latest proposal that also require: state boards to pay their own way; overturn guidelines that voters passed in initiatives; ending many social and health care programs; allowing state agencies to hire their own legal counsel but require the Arizona Attorney General's office, which had their budget hacked even further, to do the work; passing the buck by making the counties raise taxes to pay for programs; increases the prison budgets, and mandates laws and procedures for the state government to follow that the leadership had previously stated their opposition for, the lottery being an example of which.

When it comes to funding for the state's AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), in this third incarnation, the GOP figure to fund this important and life-saving program is up to \$625,000, according to openly Gay state Representative, Wally Straughn, D-Phoenix. Straughn added that the first proposal had no ADAP funding and the second had a half million dollars.

Governor Janet Napolitano's sensible budget proposes \$1-million for ADAP, showing that the state is maintaining the effort to fight this dreaded disease, and that will in turn get \$6.8-million in federal funding for Arizona's program, something that is paramount to AIDS Service Organizations.

"It is really critical that ADAP is funded at the \$1-million since there has been a significant increase in the number of people needing the program and since people are living longer because of the medications provided," said Anne Maley, executive director of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

Meanwhile though, Bennett, Flake and the other GOP cronies went on the Phoenix Public Television station program "Horizon" to proclaim they had the votes for passage but on Tuesday, May 13, as of 5 p.m., were still holding GOP caucuses in both chambers trying to sell this "bill of goods" which they have never worked with the legislative Democrats or Governor

Napolitano in drafting a plan for Arizona's budget, something they said on the program, that they will present to the Governor by Friday, May 16 so that Napolitano can deal with their proposal while they hot-foot it out of town.

Sources though are saying otherwise and that a fourth proposed budget will be needed, something the leadership needs to hear from the people about. Instead of the ludicrous proposals of paying for a sin by indulging in another, people need to call the Arizona Legislature, (800) 352-8404 and leave messages with Senate President Bennett and Speaker Flake that enough is enough and to approve Governor Napolitano's budget proposal, that will fully fund ADAP and lead the state out of this mess that they had a hand in creating over the past dozen years.

ERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTER

EDITOR:

Frank and I would like to thank the many people who made our eighth promotion of the Reno Gannon Jello Wrestling Extravaganza a huge success.

A special thanks to the Bud Light Babes (Danny, Daniel, Pete, Jon, Richie, Barney), Eddie G., and Frank P., all of whom fought the wind to cover the volleyball court and lay the artificial turf.

To Mark and Manny for the heroic cleanup job on Monday.

To our fellow Jello committee members: Helga, David, Harry, Willie, Eddie, John and Natalie.

To the fabulous performers: Lucinda, Ajia, Bunny, Teri Akki, Veronica and Jancee.

To the La Cocina restaurant, Toltec Tlaculo and Scooters Cafe for the Jello.

To the volunteers of SAAF and to Cindy and Amy who assembled the cast of wrestlers and great auction items.

To the staff of IBT's and Woody's for their support and help with the event.

To GMHP, for their great effort with the cookout, done with very little stress to us.

Last but not least, to our friends and customers who patiently waited in line, while we complied with Fire regulations, and then opened their hearts and wallets to raise \$19,000. Finally to Claire, for her very generous gift by matching the funds raised.

Again thanks to everyone who helped and who attended.

Dave Huff
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Foggy Neptune usually takes us off on tangents but now our ability to get lost accelerates. The old sod now begins a five month retrograde. What we naively thought we could grab in our fist leaks out like jello. Prepare now for the squish later and wear vinyl.... or is it cellophane?

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

There is an unspoken understanding among compadres that no matter how bizarrely you behave, they will still love you. Proud Rams test the limits of friendship during retro Neptune. But do us a favor and try to rein in your more volatile antics, cousin. There is something about a wilde and woolly Ram unleashed and unhinged that could scare the pants off anyone. On second thought....

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Gay Bulls adeptly maneuver professional twists and turns meted out by retro Neptune. Their political acumen and sense of corporate survival is nothing short of amazing. But as Neptune bumps and grinds through the summer you find that your tired tap dancing hooves begin to ever so slightly scrape the sheen off your corporate profile. Is a getaway in order? So ordered!!

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Retro Neptune takes otherwise composed Gay Twins on a wilde goose chase. You may believe that you are planning a serene little getaway, but these beliefs are now made to be challenged. As Neptune continues its bizarre backwards dance through the next five months, vacations begin to take on a seamy underworld life of their own. Who knows? You may just enjoy it!

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

If pink Crabs were ever partial to a combination of whips, kung pow chicken and a hand vacuum, this is that time. Retrograde Neptune conjures up a variety of seductive maneuvers that can be generously applied to anyone, everyone and anything you crave. Hopefully, as Neptune continues with its hindsight so will you. Is three a crowd? Only in a closet!!

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Queer Lions ache for a relationship where they are understandably adored and revered. With retro Neptune however, you blithely and happily allow yourself to be despoiled and discarded. Wise up, cousin; as Neptune continues to retrograde, you will also find yourself picking up the wet towels and doing the laundry. Have treadmarks on your back become a fashion statement?

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

There's no one neater than pink Virgo so if your desk looks condemnable, blame it on retrograding Neptune and take the day off. Proud Virgins are best served pursuing the zeitgeist of their daily existence rather than hunkering down to work. As Neptune continues its back trek, your hungry zeitgeist may also require a few sessions with a personal trainer. Ahem.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Retro Neptune tempts you to commit greater and greater acts in the name of fun. It is difficult for Gay Libras to know when they've reached their Outer limit. This is usually no big deal but now you get into some pretty hairy situations. (no names please) As Neptune continues to regress, you may also require a few stiff drinks. Suggestion: avoid drinks and pursue other stiff things.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Past rifts with family may come to the fore during the Neptune retrograde. Gay Scorps may feel that one parent in particular does not give them the understanding they need. The temptation may be to lay it all out on the table and demand acceptance. Frankly though do you really need anyone's stamp of approval? Just be your proud self and stop caring about what others think.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Retro Neptune can either makes you sound like a guru or a goon. Judging from past experience with Sag foot in mouth, I bet on the latter. Proud Archers are best served by letting others do the talking for a change and keeping their more inflammatory opinions to themselves. Meanwhile, Neptune may also deliver a few great sparks of creative genius. Hmmm, or is that just gas?

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Rainbow Goats are not usually warm and fuzzy but now you're about to molt. Blame it on retrograding Neptune who makes you a pretty soft touch for dough and assorted cheap and not so cheap trinkets. (Anyone we know??) But before you spend with abandon on some Bill Goat Gruff, be sure that you do not wake up next to a troll. Unless, of course, that is your thing....

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Although you tend to have a clear idea of who you are, retro Neptune in your own sign now casts a few doubts. You wrestle with issues like "Am I reaching my potential?" Making matters worse, Neptune goads you to take fashion suggestions from just about anybody. This is dangerous.... Aquerians should never be seen in public wearing a peekaboo puce velveteen jumpsuit.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

The best use of retro Neptune energy is to open your closet and let all those nasty gremlins escape Out. Guppies should not let their fertile imaginations hold them back from achieving the affirmation they deserve. As Neptune continues its retrograde, re-examine your contributions to the community. There will be a reward at the end of the rainbow. No it is not a leprechaun.

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Water of Life
By Joy L. Childress

'On The Cycle Of Life'

When I was a child, I did not want to live. I felt at the time that dying was the only way I could escape the pain of abuse. As a child, I had no conception of the finality to living that death brings. Death is the curtain that separates the known from the unknown. Death is the final curtain; there are no encores. A child can not comprehend that there are no second chances. Even as adults, the fact of death becomes something that happens to others, but not to us. Death is supposed to come when we are old; and the concept of growing old is too abstract for us to think about seriously; that is, until we really do start growing old. Then a light begins to flicker in our minds that starts revealing that death and dying are a reality. My first taste of this reality came to me when my brother died six years ago. His death shook me up; I not only was grieving his absence from life, but I was also grieving the realization that final curtain would come down on me someday. That's when I started preparing for that final curtain. How does one prepare for the ultimate act that begins the end of life as we know it? I am convinced that God starts the preparation. I believe that my brother's death was the way that God started to prepare me. With my lover and companion of 25 years, there was a precise and well-defined moment in her life that started her on a preparation journey that propelled her toward death 4 weeks ago. God, in His mercy, gave a vision of an angel to her. About three years ago, she was in the hospital and almost died. However, instead of succumbing to death, she hung on to life and God comforted her by revealing an angel to her. I fully believe that she knew then that God was starting the process of taking her home to Him.

How does one prepare for that final act of life? I fully and totally believe that when we believe in God's Son, Jesus, and have asked Him to come into our lives, we become God's children and He gently educates us through the reading of His Word, the Bible, toward a spiritual and physical preparation for the end of life. This preparation starts molding us into God's image, so that when we die and God takes us into His realm, we will be like Him. What a wonderful thought—that we will be like Him! I have a friend whose brother died a number of years ago. My friend grieved over his death. But her other brother comforted her by telling her that energy never dies. It just changes form. We are energy, and when we die, we will be transformed into a likeness of the living God. As a child, I wanted to die to escape pain. As an adult, I understand, now, that death is not an escape from life, but that it is the beginning of an eternal life with God.

"For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." - John 3:16

"I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life." - John 6:47

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." - John 10:27,28

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." - John 20:31

GENDER WORLD BY JON K. ROSE

As a female impersonator in San Francisco during the 1960's he was billed as "Tommy Dee, the boy who looks like the girl next door." Even after he gave up drugs, stopped performing in drag shows, shaved his head, and became a serious Zen student, Tommy Dorsey looked and acted feminine. Given the Japanese name Issan, he became a teacher and founded the Hartford Street Zen Center and the Buddhist AIDS hospice project before he himself died of AIDS. As usual in Buddhism, Issan's homosexuality was a non-issue.

As Buddhism completed its westward journey in the twentieth century it quickly merged with feminism to create a new class of female teachers and students who insisted that, for the first time in Buddhist history, the gender equality implied by the teachings be put into practice. The impact of Gay liberation has been more subtle; but it's well known in Buddhist circles that a number of leading lay teachers are openly Gay or Lesbian.

There's no Leviticus in Buddhism: morality is based entirely on not causing harm to others. Regarding sex, unless one takes monastic vows, a Buddhist is encouraged only to be faithful to one's partner of either sex. Indeed, the image of a patriarchal deity who arbitrarily decides that certain otherwise harmless sex acts are offensive, and that those who engage in them are worthy of persecution, is foreign to Buddhism. I suspect the same is true in most any religion outside the Judeo-Christian-Islamic axis.

Transgenderism is more problematic, as groups like the Hijra of India are seldom afforded high social status

in Asian culture. Still, their existence is acknowledged. Again, there are no Buddhist scriptures that bigots can use to justify their hatred. One of the Buddhist teachers with whom I've studied in California, Catriona Reed, is a transsexual Lesbian. I personally have never encountered gender prejudice in any Buddhist community.

Buddhist monks and nuns both shave their heads or wear their hair very short, and are prohibited from growing facial hair or adorning their bodies. Monks and nuns wear identical robes and perform the same social roles. Effectively they're gender-neuter; and sometimes it's hard to tell the sexes apart. Laypeople of both sexes maintain family life; but while studying at monasteries some may also cut off their hair and leave off all adornment. It's not uncommon to see laymen as well as laywomen wearing long skirts.

Buddha Day, the celebration of the Buddha's enlightenment, falls around the middle of May this year. Most calendars say May 16.

A list of Pima County Buddhist sanghas, all of which are believed to be welcoming and affirming, has been compiled by Dhamma Kyaung Sangha, a community of GLBT Buddhists in Tucson; dhamma_kyaung_sangha@yahoo.com, or 246-2867. The Gay Buddhist meditation group meets every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at the Wingspan Annex, 739 North Fourth Avenue. And the Buddhist book discussion group meets at 2 p.m. every fourth Sunday of the month (May 25) at Antigone Books, 411 North Fourth Avenue (520) 792-3715.

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

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3. VENTURE-N: 1239 N. 8th Ave. 882-8224
4. NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL: 4001 N. Romero Road - 407-9622
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"YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?"
Ask Dr. X
"DR. X HAS ANSWERS."

Dear Dr. X,
 I have recently started sleeping with guys and actually realizing my sexuality. Unfortunately, the sex and everything is great but after I ejaculate I get the overwhelming rush of emotion to leave. I don't know if it is because I was raised in such a homophobic household or what, but it definitely ruins the mood.

Cum -n- Run

Dear Cum -n- Run,
 What you describe is very common in men. After he orgasms, a man's hominess quickly dies down. As far as the physical body is concerned, all of the sexual urgency you felt before orgasm has been fulfilled upon ejaculation. Add to that some possible feelings of sexual guilt that may enter your mind in the aftermath of sex.

Most of us grow up being taught by our stuck-up society that sex is somehow shameful. Once the thrill of sexual union has passed you might feel guilty about enjoying yourself so much, not to mention the possible homophobic stigma of having enjoyed yourself with another man. It is time for you to do some soul searching.

Start off by reminding yourself that there is no such thing as a homosexual or heterosexual "person." There are only homosexual or heterosexual 'acts.' Drop all the labels that society loves to impose on people. You are too complex a man to be so easily categorized. Okay, so you enjoy homosexual acts. You are attracted to and turned on by masculinity. There is nothing

unnatural about that. Such masculine attractions have been going on since the dawn of time, and they are occurring far more often and among far more people than anyone is willing to admit. So start working to dispel your inner shame and guilt. Enjoy your attractions and experiences with other men! Intimate bonds of brotherhood are incredibly powerful and valuable. And if you feel like rolling over and falling asleep after you cum, enjoy that as well.

But if you feel the need to run, look within yourself and get to the root of the psychological problem. You may need assistance with that inner work, and I recommend that you visit a therapist for that. It will be an investment in you. If all else fails take them to your house.

Dear Dr. X,
 After anal intercourse, I find I get swollen and even a little shaky back down there, and it is uncomfortable for almost two days. We use KY. Is there something I can rub on after sex to calm this discomfort and swelling? Any suggestions will be appreciated.

Mark

Dear Mark,
 It sounds as though your man is working your ass a little too hard! I'm not suggesting that rough is bad, but you should try taking things more slowly and easily until your ass can take a real beating. If you are experiencing swelling after anal sex, your ass is enduring too much trauma all at once.

After sex, I recommend rubbing coconut oil around and inside your anus for a remarkable soothing and cooling effect. Get a jar of pure coconut oil. The oil will be solid, and when it is at room temperature you'll be able to scoop some out with your fingertips like face cream. In that semi-solid, globby state, the coconut oil is easy to slide into your ass. However, if you continue to experience discomfort, you should definitely consult with a doctor. Don't be ashamed to discuss your symptoms with your doctor, because an enormous number of people, both Gay and straight, participate in anal intercourse.

[Send your questions to Dr. X at gmhp@saaf.org or mail them to SAAF/GMHP, 375 S. Euclid, Tucson, AZ 85719. You can also check out Dr. X online at www.gmhp.org.]

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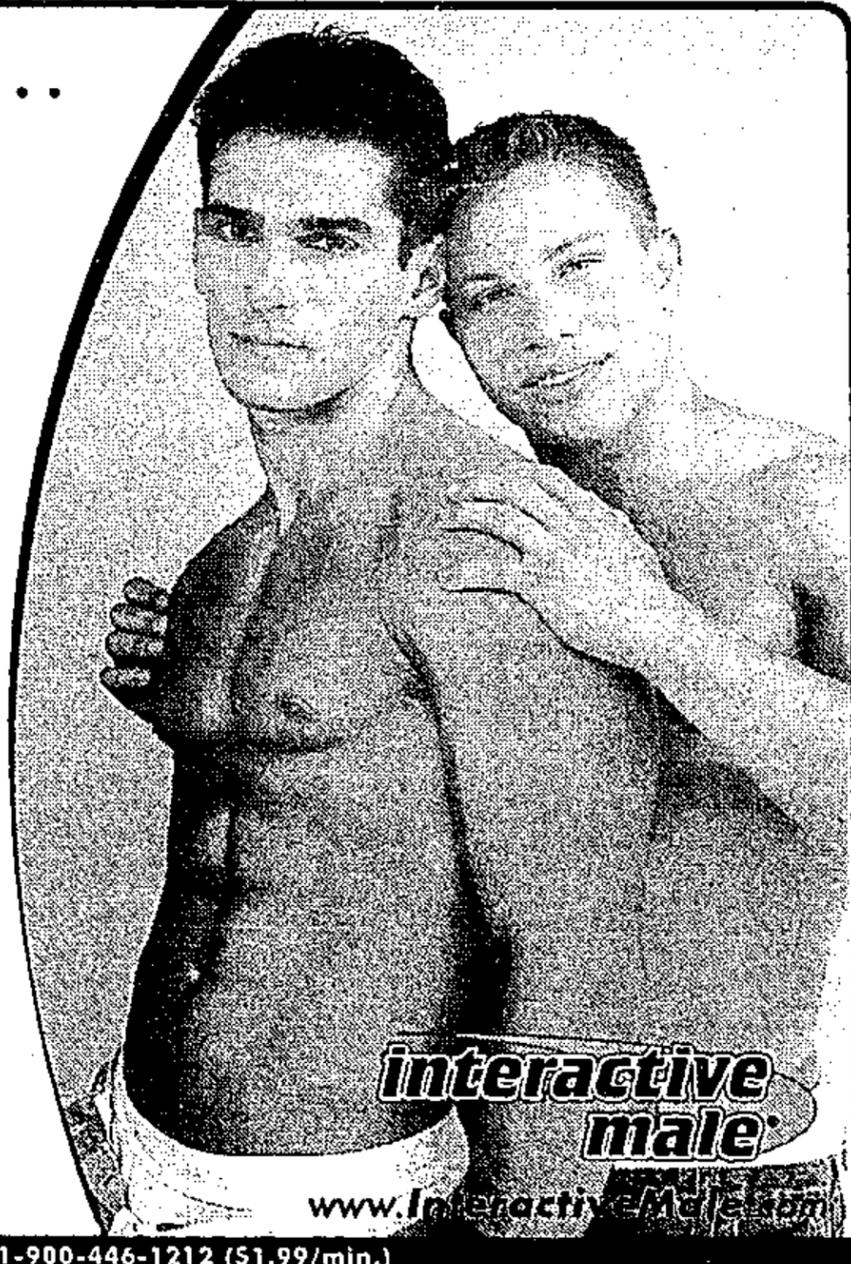


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NON-BAR CALENDAR

GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.,

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bruce for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

THURSDAY, MAY 15

7:00 to 10:00 p.m. The Men's Relationship Group meets. It includes a video on tantra. A great way to meet new men. Fee. Call Marc, 881-4582, to reserve a place at the Man-to-Man Club.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Marty as he hosts Pizza Night. For only \$5, you get pizza, salad, drinks and desserts. For reservations and directions, please call Marty at 722-8531.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Join Jack for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack at 881-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Karol will host Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Karol at 744-9017.

Native American Sweat Lodge Ceremony for womyn. Transwomen welcome. 3 PM. Contact Kufistan@hotmail.com.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch/Business Meeting - 12:00 Noon Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd.

Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.,

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. T. Jay invites you to join him for music under the stars as the Tucson Pops play a series of free summer concerts at Reid Park. For more information, please call T. Jay at 881-7919.

5:30 p.m. the Men's Group Massage gets together. A great way to meet new men and make friends. Be nude dude and have some clean fun. Fee. Call Marc at 881-4582 for information and to reserve a place. A Man to Man event.

MONDAY, MAY 19

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1650.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.,

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Chris for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For directions or more info, please call Chris at 304-5814.

Desert Boyz support group for transmen, potential transmen, and their admirers. 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 East Sixth Street. www.sagatucson.org, or 624-1779.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Karol for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

7:00 to 10:00 p.m. The Men's Relationship Group meets. It includes a video on tantra. A great way to meet new men. Fee. Call Marc, 881-4582, to reserve a place at the Man-to-Man Club.

FRIDAY, MAY 23

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us as we get out our monthly 10-page newsletter. It's simple, and you get a chance to meet new guys as we assemble the newsletter. The work goes quickly, and is usually done with 45 minutes. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Jerry & Les show the continuing series "Queer As Folk". For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv will host Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Marv at 745-0304.

Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m. Woody's 3710 N. Oracle Rd.,

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. the "DivaLicious Show" hosted by Lucinda Holiday and starring Miss Gay Phoenix America Saché and Miss Gay Tucson America Veronica Halliwell.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Latin Friday! \$1.50 Tequila shots, \$2.00 Tecate all night. Music starts at 9:00 p.m. and drink and shot specials every 1/2 hour. No cover.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

IBT'S - Graduation Party Weekend here. Today there will be drink specials all day for 20023 graduates each hour on the hour!

SUNDAY, MAY 18

IBT'S - Graduation Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This week's proceeds go to Queer Voice. 7:30 p.m. it's the Bud Light Team with prizes, give-aways and \$1.75 Bud/Bud Light. 8:00 p.m. it's a special Fund Raising Show for Arizona On Stage Productions starring Lady Ashley, Miss Saigon, Bunny FuFu, Veronica Halliwell, Heather Boa, Ten Akki and Janee Starr.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Latino Night Latino Men's Health Project Fiestas de Mayo presents Tardeada 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Food, dancing, door prizes, raffles. The November Girls Show at 9:00 p.m. starring Diana Flair, Mama Riena, Jasman Bourvier and Rebecca.

TUESDAY, MAY 20

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Budweiser and The Biz welcomes you to "Twister Tuesday". Lots of free prizes, great music and \$2.00 bottled bud products all night. No cover. Games start at 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m., The DivaLicious Show starring Bunny FuFu, Janee Starr and Tori Steele.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

VENTURE-N - Steak Nite here from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 23

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Hip Hop Nite with lots of drink specials and \$1.00 Hot Sex Shots all night! No cover. Music starts at 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

VENTURE-N - Memorial Day Weekend here continues with Drink Specials from Noon to 7:00 Beach Party 6:00 p.m. to closing includes a swimwear party and contest!

SUNDAY, MAY 25

IBT'S - First of the season, Wet Shorts Contest! More details later.

MONDAY, MAY 26 - MEMORIAL DAY

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - The Biz Annual Memorial Day Cook-In. Free Food - Free Pool from 4:00 p. until 6:00 p.. 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. No Cover.

IBT'S - 11:00 a.m. Monday Morning Madness. Tucson's most decadent show! More later.

VENTURE-N - 5:00 TO 7:00 P.M. Memorial Day Bar-B-Que.

SATURDAY, MAY 31

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Latino Night. Latino Men's Health Project Fiestas de Mayo presents Fiesta Primavera. Food, dancing, door prizes, raffles and variety shows.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

YARD DOG - 'Graduate Family Reunion'. Wear a Grad T-Shirt for or present a Grad Diploma for a drink special. Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) Beer Bust. Special drinks for non-drinkers. PLUS a Grad-style drag show at 9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 25

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. T. Jay invites you to join him for music under the stars as the Tucson Pops play a series of free summer concerts at Reid Park. For more information, please call T. Jay at 881-7919.

Tucson Prime Timers Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Chaffin's Family Restaurant, 902 E. Broadway, Just East of Euclid on B'way

MONDAY, MAY 26

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1650.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.,

TUESDAY, MAY 27

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Chris for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For directions or more info, please call Chris at 304-5814.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jim for Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, the guys are willing to teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Jim at 790-8735 or 885-5408

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers Bud or Bud Light. Latin Music with DJ Hill 9pm to close. Drink & Shot specials all night.

IBT's - 10am-6pm \$1.75 Bloody's, Screws or Mimosas. Sangria Party \$2.50 from 4-1 Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 5:30-8pm. Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 4:30-7:30. 8:30 shows or special events or Hi energy dancing w/DJ Dr. Who. (Call for details) All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Bar opens at noon. 10 oz Miller draft 75¢ all day. From 12-6 Bloody Marys \$1.50 or Domestic beers \$1.75. From 6-10 \$1 kamikazes and \$1.50 Jellios & Mimosas. 9pm Latino Dance with DJ Rafael.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Pato Beer bust 3-7. Burger Bar-B-Que 5-7. (Donation only).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. \$1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour: 11am-8pm \$2 well or domestic beer Pato Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Volleyball games 5-7. \$2.50 sirloin burger or chicken 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers \$1.75 from 10am - 1pm. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm-7pm. Dinner and live jazz 5-8pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Monday
AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestics and well 2-7pm. Free pool 8-10pm. 50¢ cups draft Bud & Bud Light 8pm to close.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Undie Mondie-HappyHour prices for those in their undies 9pm-close. Queer As Folk show beginning at 8pm. Hot Dancing follows with Johnny DJ. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open Noon. Happy Hour until 9:00 p.m. \$1.75 Domestic Beer or \$1.50 Bloody Marys. Free Pool 8pm to close. \$1.50 Jellios & Mimosas 6pm to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9pm to close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Tuesday
AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestic beer & well 2-7pm. Pool touney 7-30pm. \$3 entry, bar matches pot. Country music 9pm to close. \$2 bottled Bud products 8pm to close.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Tee's & Tattoo Nite, wear an IBT's T-shirt or IBT tattoo get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for \$5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi Nergy Dance 9pm to close w/DJ-Q

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Bar opens noon. Happy Hour noon to 9pm. \$1.75 domestic beers & \$2 all wells. Fried Chicken Dinner \$4.99 5-8pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic til 8pm. Tropical drink specials 8 to close. \$3 zombies, Jungle Juice, Mai Tai's.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Tequila until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Wednesday
AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-4-1 domestic beer and well from 2-7pm. 90's retro music 9pm - close. \$1.25 pitchers of Bud/Bud Light or \$1 Tequila shots 8pm to close.

Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon-1am Happy Hour noon to 6pm plus drink specials. Shrimp Fry Dinner 5-8pm \$5.99. Karaoke 8pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Pato 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Volleyball games start 7pm. Underwear- fetish- leather nite with Michael \$1 off your favorite drink. Chlidogs or bowls \$1.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Thursday
AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Karaoke 9-close, with \$2 Kamikazes and \$1 Hot Sex.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-8. HI NRG video dancing with Johnny DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open noon-8pm. Happy Hour noon-6pm. 10oz Sirloin Steak w/potato & salad 5:30-8pm, \$6.99. Hi NRG dance music with DJ Rayman 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Pool Tournament 7pm. 3 entry. (Special prices for players).

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Trivia Thursday 8pm-close plus 50¢ off all Big Ass drinks. Top scores on NTN game wins special prizes. Free Pool 8 to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Friday
AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Music with DJ Hill 9pm - close. Shot and drink specials all night. No cover.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Pato Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 10:30am-1am. Happy Hour noon-6pm. Fish or Shrimp Dinner \$5.99 11am-8pm. Country Western Dance with Libby 8pm-closing.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Happy Hour Buffet 5-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Martini Party - Well Martinis \$2.00 all day. Call Martinis \$3 from 4pm to close. Volleyball Court is Open. Pato Bar Open 7pm - midnight.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Gin until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Saturday
AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 6:30pm \$3 entry. Bar matches pot. \$2 pitchers for pool players. DJ Hill 9pm-close. Drink & Shot Specials all night.

IBT's - 10am-8pm \$2 domestic beer and well. Dance Party 9-1 w/DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon-1am. Margaritas \$3 6pm-close. Latino Nite. Drag Show 11:30-3rd Sal 10:30pm. Free HIV testing by SAAF.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Pato Bar open at 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Pato Beer Bust 3-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open 11am \$2 well or domestic beer. Til 8pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestics. Pato Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Filet Mignon or Swordfish BBQ with all the trimmings \$5.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, \$2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Kennel open 5pm

NOTICES

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, 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 299-6647.

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 791-7676.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabelli at 325-0892

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Jennifer at 838-3975.

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyan@theriver.com and request guidelines.

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Sunday from 7-8 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Desert Girls (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Desert Boys meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm, of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGAE-mail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sagaemal

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 738 N. 4th Ave. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'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 690-9565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith 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 of service. For information call Scott at 299-6647.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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 628-7223.

THE MEN'S MESSAGE 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 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info.

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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. 894-7063.

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

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 8:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 8:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

GUYS BOOK CLUB meets 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm, Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 8523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4805.

DESERT DOMINION, whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Visit our web site http://www.desertdominion.org or call (520)792-8424

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape Crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number).

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS: a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. 743-4800.

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at SS Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Fiedler in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6524.

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520) 745-0775 for current information.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)742-7895 or go to our web site http://www.tgssoftball.org

LUTHERANS CONCERNED - Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 8:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lutucson.org write: LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

RAINBOW SUPPORT GROUP. LGBT and supportive friends meet for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Support meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 42. The 3rd Thursdays of the month, the group will meet at 7:30pm at Rainbow Planet Coffeehouse (606 North 4th Ave.) as a social outing. For more information call the church at 299-9063 and ask for a contact person.

HIKE & BIKE DYKES. Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Call 327-7239 for info.

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpgcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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. TucsonSources@aol.com

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Admirers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, 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-G, Cortaro, AZ 85652.

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9020

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS: Confidential individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual or Trans men who are victims/survivors of domestic violence. For more information call 624-0348 (24-hour line)

REVELLE GAYMEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Have any history/experience singing? Join us!! Call 817-3100 for more info.

TGNetArizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-variant communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnetarizona.org - e-mail address: aigoodrum@uswest.net.org

"OUT ON THE TRAILS" - EQUESTRIAN FUN! Rider Club forming. Looking for women and men to ride together on the trails of Southern Arizona. Must have own horse, truck and trailer. For more info write: "Out On The Trails" P.O. Box 44045, Tucson, AZ 85733-4045

SOUTHERN ARIZONA STONEWALL DEMOCRATS meet 3rd Monday of each month 7pm at 4639 E. First Street. Call Jesse 743-4320 or Maurice 323-2293. All LGBT Democrats and supporters welcome. TucsonStonewall@aol.com

NOTICES

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-8:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4628.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saaaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easty. 882-7723 Facilitator.

P.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 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36284, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

TUCSON GLBT AL-ANON GROUP meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. Call 624-1779 for more information.

YOUNG AND GAY?

GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 4:30 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The **TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE** invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 690-4613, leave name and phone number.

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 am - 5 pm Mon - Fri.

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving all cars and trucks. New Southern Arizona Region now in Tucson. Call the Hotline at 888-5541

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, Elie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-6768.

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 Liz at 325-9486 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spiritually minded. Come meet the Family! For more information call Debbie 579-9827 or David 323-7943.

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.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Want to join? E-mail: www.desertvoices.org or call 791-9682.

Join the **LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT**. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3681 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719.

GLBT Buddhist meditation group meets Sundays from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. at the Wingspan annex space, 739 N. 4th Ave. Please be willing to sit for two twenty minute sessions in silence. All are welcome.

THE MAN-TO-MAN SOCIAL/EROTIC CLUB is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities, and safe sex & sex education. Improve your relationships. Marc 881-4582.

PERSONALS

TO APPROVED HOME LOVING 1 YR OLD DOBIE-MIX MALE DOG. Gets along with other dogs. Very active and playful. Cannot keep. Neutered and licensed. Comes with food bowls and toys. If interested call 745-3865 / 991-6750

HOME ALONE? Would you like an intimate friend? Call Marc 881-4582 for details. Join the Man-to-Man Club now! 983

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EAST SIDE IMMACULATE 1,056sqf CONDO. Secure, quiet. Detached laundry room/storage, carport. Washer/dryer, all appl. Water paid. \$725/mo. 1 year lease required. 1 month rent in advance + \$500 security deposit. 520-275-7438 981.

2 ROOMS/PLUS IN WONDERFUL CREATIVE COMPOUND. Centrally located. Share kitchen, bath. Utilities and cable included. Mature, responsible man sought. NA. \$375/mo. Call Richard: 740-1947. 982

EMPLOYMENT

SEEKING PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT. Can work weekday evenings 6-12. Can perform labor as well as administrative tasks. Please call Jerry Diaz @ 390-4825, or e mail at calabazamusic@yahoo.com

FOR SALE

MULTI "FAMILY" YARD SALE to raise money for our float in the Pride Parade. Saturday, May 17th - 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 1101 E. Grant Road. Northeast corner of Grant and Fremont. Bikes/furniture/accessories/ beaded gowns/books and clothing. 982

SERVICES

CASH FOR PORN! Buy-Sell-Trade: GAY MALE magazines, Videos & more. Complete discretion. By appointment only. Call John at 327-3135. 980

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COMPUTERS EXTRAORDINAIRE: Your old system giving you trouble? Upgrade it for a reasonable price, or allow us to tailor make a system just for you. For home or business, we come to you with friendly, quality installation, instruction and service. Call Carl today @ 977-2572 and get a free quote! 988

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ENJOY A NICE TOUCH. Attractive man offers a sensuous, relaxing massage. 10am - 8p.m. 745-0231 or 891-7859 987

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God Bless America United We Stand

NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

MFA at UA

One of Tucson's more interesting rites of spring is the Master of Fine Arts show at the University of Arizona's Museum of Art. The show is up now and will remain up through May 18.

This exhibit lets us see what these particular artists are up to on the eve of their dispersal to teach at other institutions of higher learning where they'll help create the MFAs of the future. It also lets us see what's on the collective mind of the academic art world at this moment in time.

These shows typically have a national flavor for the simple reason that young artists are generally loath to be labeled as "regionalists." Thus there's nothing in the show that gives any clue to where on earth these works might have been created.

The works of three of the artists suggest an overall theme for the show. One is a lengthy series of cartoon figures doing gross exaggerated cartoon stuff-- "adult" cartoon stuff. The second is a series of nine 2"x2" photos. The third is a series of gigantic vinyl-clad cushions.

The photos appear to be of an adult male wearing a Superman suit and posing in domestic scenes with his parents in their modestly middle-class home. The only remarkable thing about the series is the fact that the Superman suit is worn by an adult.

The giant cushions in vinyl look like they might have been designed for a monster SUV. The question they seem to be asking is, "How far are we going to go with this super-sizing mania?"

The theme that emerges from these three artists and from the show generally is that the artists are captives of popular culture. I'm sure the new MFAs would insist that they're merely using pop culture to make their statements, but it looks to me like pop culture may be using them and severely circumscribing their range in the process.

The artists might also say that their work simply reflects the culture in which they find themselves. That may be true enough, but artists need to do more than reflect; they need to transcend, inspire, and lead us to greater aesthetic awareness.

An enormous amount of space is given over to a wall full of windows with no views across from a wall full of movie projectors with no film. All this in semi-darkness. I found the clicking of the empty projectors strangely soothing, but the mildly amusing parallel of no views on one side and no film on the other didn't 'justify' the space and effort that the installation required.

The inevitable moving pictures of MFA shows were blessedly reduced to two: one of an unfunny comedian doing his routine with his face in a charitable shadow, the other of cows licking a salt block. As works of art these were even more boring to experience than they are to read about.

Best of show: Matt Johnson's "Initiation, 2002." A 5'x 5' oil and acrylic on canvas depicts a starry-eyed boy caressing a large automatic pistol against his nude torso while jet fighters fly above him. That boys are enthralled with weapons of all kinds is hardly news, but this work makes the familiar point with unfamiliar -- even eerie -- intensity.

Composition is another strong element of "Initiation, 2002," as it is in the Matt Johnson painting of the same size and in the same media that hangs next to it. "War Games, 2003."

In this second work childhood innocence in the form of a toy airplane is contrasted with adult evil in the form of a Satan shadow and two men in suits and weird colored faces. Here the shopworn theme is not saved by any special intensity, but the painting is helped greatly by competent composition.

Graphic artists get at least three swings at the ball--theme, color and composition. They can hit a homer with any one of them. After all the balls and strikes are counted for this show, it comes out at about a C minus.

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns, and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754.]

Lesbian Daughter

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community, according to Noble. Both Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., and Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., have recently touted their civil rights records from the last few decades. And former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean signed the civil union bill into law in 2000, granting Gay and Lesbian couples in that state many of the same rights that married heterosexual couples enjoy.

"I believe that every American ought to have the same rights as every other American," Dean told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network during an exclusive interview last year at San Francisco's GLBT community center. "(The civil union bill) wasn't a GLBT issue, it was a fundamental human rights issue. I don't believe you can discriminate against a minority whatever you think about that minority. America's not the country we could be if you do that."

And if ever there was a time that America was ready to embrace change in attitudes toward Gays and Lesbians, the time is now, Noble said.

"Middle America isn't afraid of Gay people anymore," Noble said. "Many

polls show that middle America wants Gay people to be treated fairly. It's not middle America that's afraid, but the Republican candidates. I don't think (Chrissy Gephardt campaigning) hurts one bit."

Gender World

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My favorite Buddhist group is Tara Dhatu, the international movement to honor Tara, the tantric Goddess of Compassion, through music and dance: www.taradhatu.org. The local Tara Dhatu dance group will meet on May 25, the fourth Sunday of the month. Contact Teresa, (520) 822-9550 if you're sincerely interested in exploring this form of tantric feminine spirituality.

If you're going to the National Conference on Gender this weekend (www.gpac.org/ngc), please write me as soon as you're back and tell me how it went: desertwordsmith@yahoo.com. The Desert Boyz FTM support group meets at 7 p.m. at Wingspan next Tuesday, the 20th. Some people may be back from Washington by then. It's also rumored there may be a visitor from Transgender Harmony in Phoenix. And what about Cade Collins, our homeboy who was on Oprah and is featured in the June issue of Teen People! Let's keep up the good work!

Salud Es Poder
 Latino Men's Health Project
 A collaborative project of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Pima County Health Department, COPE Behavioral Services, and Wingspan.

PRESENTS
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