Observing Tucson And The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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G/B University of Arizona Students Push For Fraternity

TUCSON - Daniel Churgin recalls days of frustration after pledging a UA fraternity last year while at the same time he was defining his sexual orientation, the Tucson Citizen reported.

His fraternity brothers didn't threaten him, Churgin said, but their stereotypes and ignorance of Gay issues were discomforting.

Churgin dropped the fraternity, and chance led him to Christopher Newman, another student.

Together, they gathered a group of seven and are now trying to introduce a UA Delta Lambda Phi chapter. If approved by the fraternity's national council, it will be the UA's first fraternity geared toward Gays, Bisexuals and those with liberal viewpoints.

"People don't think Gay men fit in the same social spaces as heterosexual men," said Churgin, 20, a microbiology and Spanish double major. "The Gay fraternity would give us the opportunity to break down stereotypes."

The nation's Gay and Lesbian students feel the same way and, since the 1990s, have introduced Greek-letter organizations apart from the conservative and traditional groups in greater numbers.

With recent national discussions on Gay and Lesbian issues and televised programs drawing attention to homosexuality such as Showtime's "Queer as Folk" and "The L Word," some say students have an easier time gaining support.

The University of Minnesota, Kent State University and the University of South Alabama have Gay fraternities. About two years ago, Arizona State University introduced a Lesbian sorority alongside its Gay fraternity.

In the future, UA should join them, said Newman, 21.

"We haven't had any restrictions and everything has been positive from the administration down to the staff," the secondary education senior said. "We know we're going to have opposition, but we're going through with this."

But the group isn't only about Gay issues, said Mike Martin, 19.

Issues concerning racial minorities and cancer victims are among the group's interests, Martin said. Also, the men are working toward relationships with Habitat for Humanity and halfway homes for youths, said Martin, a history major.

"We are trying to endear ourselves to everyone," Martin said, "but there are no issues you can help out in without affecting the GLBT community."

Ed Gilhool, the group's advisor, has confidence that the fraternity will succeed despite it being the third time UA men have tried to introduce a chapter.

The others failed for a lack of leadership, not resistance, he said.

"They want to fulfill this goal that has been lingering on campus for so long. They want this to be part of their campus and the Tucson community," said Gilhool, who is also UA's residence hall director.

Gary Ballinger, UA's Greek Life coordinator, said UA's 50 Greek-letter organizations have become increasingly diverse with recognition of racially focused groups.

A Gay fraternity would speak further to "the changing campus environment," he said.

The change on the nation's college campuses is happening now because more high school students began coming out in the 1990s, said Shane L. Windmeyer, founder and coordinator of the national Lambda 10 Project.

In Tucson, nearly 20 high schools have Gay and straight student alliances, said Casey Condit, health education coordinator for the Eon Lounge Youth Program, a multi-agency collaboration that offers resources and activities for Gay youth.

When high school graduates began arriving on those college campuses, some were met with hostility and so began introducing their own student groups and Greek-letter organizations, said Windmeyer, whose organization is a resource for the nation's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual fraternities and sororities.

"The struggle is also in being taken seriously," he said. "The stereotype is that the groups are seen as dating organizations."

Many say such groups are essential because hate crimes directed toward Gays and Lesbians persist.

In 1998, Matthew Shepard, a University of Wyoming student, was beaten, chained to fence and left to die on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyo.

Locally, Philip A. Walsted was beaten to death with a baseball bat June 12, 2002. Last month, David Augustine Higdon received life in prison with no parole for the killing.

Two years earlier, a Gay UA student was stabbed in front of a Fourth Avenue coffee shop that caters to Gays and Lesbians. Also, in January 2004, Mark Fontes was found beaten and lying unconscious near It's 'Bout Time, a Gay bar.

Dan Churgin said the presence

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Investigation Shows Bush Admin Warned About Hiring Anti-GLBT Columnists

WASHINGTON, D.C. - An investigation by Education Department's inspector general has castigated the department for hiring conservative commentator Armstrong Williams to promote No Child Left Behind, 365Gay.com reported.

The inspector general said Senior Bush administration officials showed poor judgment and wasted money in hiring Williams and noted that two Education Department officials had warned the White House last summer over concerns about the Williams contract.

Williams was paid nearly a quarter million dollars by the White House to promote the President's agenda in his columns and nationally syndicated talk show.

Williams is a former aide to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, and has a long history of using his columns to attack Gays.

In a column following the November 2 election Williams linked Gay rights advocates with organized crime.

"Despite the rhetoric that you hear from the homosexual Cosa Nostra, the lack of support for the Gay marriage amendment has nothing to do with prejudice," he wrote.

"It's not about trying to dictate to adults what they should do in the privacy of their own homes. Let's be clear about that. Opposition to the Gay marriage amendment isn't about disallowing homosexuals the same basic rights we extend to everyone else. It is about recognizing that marriage between man and woman is the bedrock of our society. It is about the citizens of this country saying, en masse, that they are unwilling to deconstruct certain basic and essential norms in our culture and society."

Following the exposure of Williams as a shill for the Bush Administration another instance where a conservative columnist was paid came to light.

Maggie Gallagher who testified before the Senate in support of a constitutional ban on Gay marriage was paid more than $40,000 from the White House and from the Department of Health and Human Services to help promote the president's program promoting heterosexual marriage as a means of strengthening families.

She neglected to mention she was on the Administration's payroll when she testified in 2003 before the Senate subcommittee on the Constitution.

Two days later a third case of payola was exposed.

Michael McManus, whose syndicated column, "Ethics & Religion," appears in 50 newspapers, was hired as a subcontractor by the Department of Health and Human Services to promote the administrations marriage initiative. He was paid approximately $10,000 for his work.

The questionable use of the media further grew in February when a man accredited by the White House as a journalist turned out to be a former hustler with no journalistic experience.

The man who had called himself Jeff Gannon and worked for the conservative Web publication Talon News and GOPUSA turned out be J.D. Guckert.

During news conferences he was regularly called on for questions by President Bush. But, invariably Gannon's questions would show an extreme right-wing and often anti-Gay agenda. On one occasion he asked Bush how he could work with Senate Democratic leaders "who seem to have divorced themselves from reality."

J.D. Guckert also ran Web sites where he offered himself for sex.

Joint Chiefs Head Backs Military G/L Ban

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Friday said he opposes any move in Congress to repeal "don't ask, don't tell", the policy that bars Gays to serve openly in the military, 365Gay.com reported.

The policy has led to the discharge of 9,500 Gay members of the armed forces since 1993.

Legislation to dump "don't ask" was introduced in Congress last month. The bill was filed by Rep. Marty Meehan (D-MA) and has more than 50 Congressional co-sponsors. Rep. Meehan is also a member of the House Armed Services Committee, as are 7 co-sponsors of the legislation.

Speaking at a conference of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Myers said the policy isn't perfect but it is necessary.

"We try to implement the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy as best we can," Myers said.

He also said that the Pentagon was "continuing education" in regards to the policy. Studies have shown that many base commanders do not fully understand the policy which bars them from probing into the private lives of people serving in the military.

But, despite Myers support for the ban opposition to it is growing. The bill before Congress came after the

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UPDATE

Senior Pride Picnic Saturday, April 23

TUCSON - Wingspan is pleased to announce their new program, Senior Pride!

Senior Pride offers social events for LGBT people ages 55 and over and their friends and family. Senior Pride volunteers invite you to join us for food and games at the first ever Wingspan Senior Pride Picnic, Saturday, April 23, from 1 – 4 p.m. at Ft. Lowell Park, Ramada #6.

Wingspan recognizes the importance of building intergenerational relationships in order to make our community stronger - folks under 55 are certainly welcome, too!

Come out and enjoy the spring sunshine while meeting new people. Senior Pride is an effort to bring the community together, and to just enjoy each other's company. For more information, please call Kendall Tankersley, Wingspan volunteer coordinator, at (520) 624-1779 ext. 15, or send an email to ktankersley@wingspan.org.

Position Open On GLBT Commission

TUCSON - A seat has opened up on the City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues, due to the resignation of a Commission member, who represented Ward 5.

Tucson Ward 5 Councilmember Steve Leal is seeking an individual to appoint to fill the Ward 5 vacancy on the Commission, which meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Members appointed shall be residents of the metropolitan Tucson area. All members shall be knowledgeable about issues and concerns of importance to the GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered) community.

Interested persons should submit a resume listing their community service and background to: Ward 5 Councilmember Steve Leal, 4300 S. Park, Tucson, Arizona, 85714. For more information, call (520) 791-4231.

Glenn Baker April 24

TUCSON - All are invited to Cornerstone Fellowship on April 24, for the Sunday morning worship service with featured guest Glenn Baker.

Glenn has felt the call of God on his life since an early age. He began performing gospel music at the age of 13. Glenn has performed in cabaret clubs in the Los Angeles area for several years, singing jazz, and show-tunes in such famous clubs as the Gardenia Room in Hollywood, The Playboy Club, and The Horn. During this time Glenn had a strong desire to return to ministry. Beginning in 1990, Glenn released three recorded projects, Give Me A Clean Heart, Love's Callin', and most recently, Waiting On You. This year, Glenn plans to release Here I Am and two additional projects.

Please join them for the worship, Sunday, April 24, 10:30 a.m. Cornerstone Fellowship is located at 2902 N. Geronimo. For more information, call (520) 622-4626.

Go-Go Boy Car Wash Benefit

TUCSON - Reveille Gay Men's Chorus is proud to announce a new and exciting event held at Woody's every other Saturday! Several hot boys from the U, some personal trainers, and local Go-Go boys are ganging up to raise scholarship moneys for Reviellie's 10-day tour to Brazil this summer.

The boys will provide a complete exterior car wash, tire shine, and "hand-job" with shammy's, spot-free. Woody's is also sponsoring a Burger and Beer Bust during the car wash hours, so show up hungry in a dirty car and be prepared to tip fine young men doing what men do best to community autos. Fabulous!

That's not all... Every hour, there will be an auction held to oil up (and down) the individual boys with plentitude of sunscreen to protect their youth and taught skin from the harsh Arizona sun. Sounds fun, doesn't it?

So, come on out, bring a friend and your friends car, buy a burger, drink a cold beer on a warm day, and check out hot boys in scantily clad bizness. Don't Miss It!!

Go-Go Boy Car Wash, Suggested donation of $10+, 12:00 -5:00 p.m. Saturday, April 23 at Woody's 3710 N. Oracle

Keep an eye on the Woody's site in the Observer for future details, or check out Woody's for posted information.

Rainbow Build Benefit April 23

TUCSON - A sock hop and ice cream social will be held Saturday, April 23, 6 to 9 p.m., at St. Francis in the Foothills (corner of River Road and Swan).

Proceeds from this event will go to the Rainbow Build project for Habitat for Humanity, in which the GLBT community of Tucson is currently working to build a house for a family in need.

Live music will be performed by "Agave Slave," performing hits from the 1950's through the 1990's.

Donations are $5 for adults, $3 for children or $15 for families. For more information, call (520) 780-3608.

Study: New Mexico Gay Men Not Getting HIV Tests

SANTA FE, N.M. - A state Health Department study has found Gay men in New Mexico are not getting regular tests for HIV, meaning many are finding out they have the virus when they become very ill, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Sixty-three percent of New Mexicans diagnosed with AIDS last year were unaware they had HIV, the virus that destroys cells in the immune system and leads to AIDS, according to the department's February study.

Two men with AIDS were already so sick that they died in emergency rooms.

Lily Foster, the department's HIV/AIDS surveillance coordinator and epidemiologist, said the avoidance of tests seems to be a trend.

"It's a shock," she said.

AIDS takes years to develop, and the earlier it is diagnosed, the longer the person's life expectancy.

Some 1,965 New Mexicans are living with HIV/AIDS, considered a low prevalence of the disease.

Nationwide, intravenous drug users make up the largest group of men infected, but the Health Department said that in New Mexico, AIDS hits homosexual men most.

Complacency about the disease and its stigma keep people from getting tested, Health Department officials have speculated.

Access to HIV testing doesn't seem to be the issue, Foster said. Everyone in New Mexico can get free, anonymous screening through public health offices.

Since 1998, more Hispanic Gay men than Anglo Gay men have been diagnosed with HIV and AIDS simultaneously, but the Health Department didn't recognize that as a trend until 2003.

"Hispanics are rising in the proportion of cases they contribute to the state," Foster said. "Not only are there more cases, but they're coming in sicker."

The problem is worst among Hispanic Gay men between the ages of 30 and 49 who live in Bernalillo County and southern New Mexico.

Now the Health Department is looking at a different approach toward prevention.

"Sometimes the blanket approach of targeting the general population isn't the most effective approach," said Dr. Joan Baumbach, a medical epidemiologist at the department.

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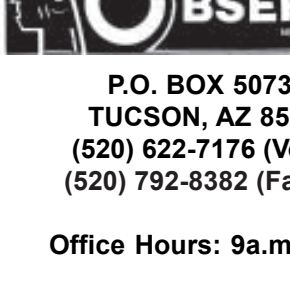
♥ Want to do something positive with your leisure time?
♥ Interested in helping people while learning about HIV/AIDS ?



If so, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation wants you to consider becoming a volunteer!

Volunteer orientations are open to all those interested and are held once a month at our main office, located at 375 South Euclid Avenue.

Sign up today!

Contact Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 or wascione@SAAf.org

SAAF

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Polls Shows Improving Views On Gay/Lesbian Athletes

NEW YORK - Americans have increasingly favorable views of Gay athletes, but their acceptance comes with some reservations, according to a new poll appearing in Wednesday's (April 13) issue of Sports Illustrated, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Of the 979 people interviewed, 86 percent said it's okay for openly Gay men to play sports, but nearly 24 percent think an openly Gay athlete would hurt the team.

In another sign of ambivalence in the poll, 79 percent of respondents said Americans are more accepting of Gays in sports today than they were 20 years ago, while 62 percent said the reason there is so little coverage of Gays in sports is that America is not ready to accept Gay athletes. Penn, Schoen & Berland Associates conducted interviews among the general population from March 18-21. The margin of error is 3 percent.

The results are not surprising to Helen Carroll, who directs the Homophobia in Sports Project for the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

"We've made a huge amount of progress in the last 10 years because people have seen more news and coverage of LGBT people," Carroll said. And the majority recognizes that there are LGBT athletes, and whether a good player is Gay or Lesbian or straight doesn't matter as much as it once did."

Carroll, who mediates between coaches and LGBT athletes from junior high to pro, added that a big area for improvement is the disconnect between society's attitudes and the attitudes of coaches and athletes themselves.

"Many coaches are from an older generation, and haven't been raised on positive media images of LGBT people," she said. "They may say they don't have a problem with Gay players, but why then do so many athletes fear coming out to the coaches? It's up to the coaches and leaders to create an atmosphere that makes it safe for players to decide whether or not to come out, and it's important that they feel safe, because athletes can't reach their highest potential until they can be comfortable around others."

David Kopay knows all about this discomfort. The first NFL player to publicly declare his homosexuality, Kopay said he created a "kamikaze tough-guy image" to counteract rumors that he was Gay. However, he agrees that professional sports has come a long way from what he calls "the dark ages" of the 1970s, but insists that it has a long way to go.

"There has been much, much less progress in sports than in society at large, regarding LGBT issues. Too many male athletes still equate manhood with toughness and the idea is if you're Gay you can't be tough," he said.

Kopay, 62, played in the NFL from 1964 to 1972, as a running back and special teams ace with San Francisco, New Orleans, Washington, Detroit and Green Bay throughout his career. His 1977 coming out autobiography, "The David Kopay Story," was a New York Times bestseller.

Although he's been an outspoken advocate for LGBT rights since retiring, Kopay is not sure he would come out while still playing pro football, even today.

"If I had it to do over, I would definitely play pro football again. But I wouldn't come out as a player, even now. I was not the star; I spent 10 years just making the team. Maybe it would be easier to come out if I were the star, but they could have used [my sexuality] as an excuse to get rid of me."

O. Mac Chinsomboon, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Athletics Foundation, suggests Kopay's dilemma is not uncommon, given the double standard in the world of professional athletics.

"In general, if we're talking about an Olympic gold medalist, a star quarterback, a starting pitcher with a great average, then the 'skill card' trumps the 'sexuality card' any day," he said. "The issue though is that there are a lot more professional athletes that are not the stars of the team, even though any of these athletes are already the cream of the crop compared to the general population. So the problem is why would an athlete who's still working on his or her game want to add in an additional hurdle to have to overcome, as if squeezing out a faster mile wasn't enough to worry about."

Chinsomboon says that the lack of specifically stated policies to protect athletes against harassment and unfair treatment is a key reason more don't come out.

"If there were such policies in place, they would be difficult to enforce and structure, though not impossible and — with the right message from upper management — could be the thing needed to get jump started."

Policies or no, the biggest improvement in attitudes toward LGBT athletes is coming from those who support the youngest players.

"I'm seeing a lot of younger athletes, 12- and 13-year-olds, coming out and their parents are supporting them strongly," Carroll said. I think in the next five years many more high school athletes will be out, and they can go on to college and go pro, already out. Because once you're out, you're not likely to go back in."

Study: New Mexico Gay Men Not Getting HIV Tests

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An estimated 4 percent of adult males — 34,000 in New Mexico — have sex with men.

New Mexico has emphasized all high-risk groups in its efforts to reduce HIV/AIDS. But the Health Department and New Mexico Community Planning and Action Group — made up of people living with HIV/AIDS, prevention workers and affected communities — plan to try a more targeted approach focusing on Hispanic Gay men.

Health Department workers first must hold study sessions in communities to understand what's going on and why some Hispanic men who have Gay sex aren't being tested. That will give prevention workers a better idea how to reach the group.

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SAAF UPDATE
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

Reno Gannon And The Jell-O Extravaganza: His Legacy

by Anne Maley

We have often heard it said that one person can make a difference. Well, that is the case with Reno Gannon. In 1987, Reno Gannon, a bartender at "Rumor Hazzit," brought the idea of jell-o wrestling to Tucson. The owners and management of "Rumor Hazzit" liked the idea and organized the first jell-o competition. Next, Reno approached The Shanti Foundation about making the event a fundraiser. Staged at the bar, jell-o wrestling was born that same year. Unfortunately, at age 23, Reno Gannon died but the event continued in his name.

Many of the present jell-o committee members have been involved since the very beginning. They kept perpetuating this event as a memorial and as a fundraiser for Shanti's programs for people living with HIV/AIDS. In 1997, Shanti, and two other AIDS service organizations, People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT) and Tucson AIDS Project (TAP) merged into one agency, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). The Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza continued as a fundraiser for the newly merged SAAF. The event would continue as a legacy of hope and dedication to raising public awareness and funds for programs and services that assist people living with HIV/AIDS.

The event has grown throughout the years to include a benefit auction with a full spectrum of items that range from the zany to the fabulous interspersed between the wrestling matches. Artwork, oriental rugs, gift baskets, and many more items are auctioned off by the divas who mc the event. Returning this year as the head mistress of ceremonies is Gilda Fatale. Lucinda Holiday and Ajia Simone join her as co-hosts. Seeing these special ladies do their thing is worth coming to the event if for no other reason. But other reasons, there are!

There are the wrestlers. Just to name a few wrestler teams for this year, there will be Little Red Riding Hood versus the Big Bad Wolf, Army versus Navy, Wonder Woman versus Catwoman, Prince Charles versus Camilla, Daphne versus Velma, Pimp versus Ho, and others. We are fortunate to have two local favorites as jell-o wrestlers also: jazz vocalist and musician Susan Artemis and Woody's bartender Frank Etoile (no they are not wrestling each other; they have other wrestling partners). Come see these two with a gelatin glaze. For two minutes, each wrestling team will slosh back and forth knee-high in a pit full of 300 gallons of chilled to perfection Jell-O trying to pin each other. (Doesn't the thought of that make you shudder with excitement or just plain shudder?).

The jell-o committee members responsible for this event are: Julie Buguiere, Chris Davis, Eddie Gallego, Willie Gradillas, Sally Anne Hayes, Dave Huff, Harry Lewis, Dave Locke, Heather Miller, Natalie Perry, Gary Rhine, Lee Rosenberg, Frank Schepis, Peter Sitig, and Helga Wocherl. Jointly working with SAAF staff, the committee puts on this event annually the first Sunday of May.

So remember, on May 1, from 4-7 p.m. at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle. The drawing for the two, round trip tickets to anywhere Southwest flies will also occur during this extravaganza. To purchase raffle tickets or admission tickets, contact Ethan at SAAF, (520) 628-7223.

The Gay community's commitment to support AIDS services and people living with HIV/AIDS is amazing. For more than 20 years, you have been at the front lines of this illness and continue to have a huge impact on the delivery of AIDS services to people in southern Arizona. This event comes from Reno's legacy and your participation makes that legacy continue and grow. One person's energy can make a difference especially when others keep it alive. Thank you for all you do for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Dean Energizes GLBT Democrats

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean, who has accused congressional Republicans of "grandstanding" in the Terri Schiavo case, said his party will use it against the GOP in coming elections, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

"This is going to be an issue in 2006, and its going to be an issue in 2008 because we're going to have an ad with a picture of (House Majority Leader) Tom DeLay saying, 'Do you want this guy to decide whether you die or not? Or is that going to be up to your loved ones?"' Dean said in West Hollywood, Calif.

Dean, answering questions at an Access Now for Gay and Lesbian Equality event on Friday, went on to say: "The issue is: Are we going to live in a theocracy where the highest powers tell us what to do? Or are we going to be allowed to consult our own high powers when we make very difficult decisions?"'

Schiavo, 41, died March 31 at a Florida hospice, almost two weeks after her feeding tube was removed by court order - ending a bitter legal battle between her husband, Michael, and her parents, Bob and Mary Schindler.

As Schiavo faded, congressional leaders called lawmakers back from Easter recess to pass a bill that would allow federal courts to review the decisions of state judges who turned down her parents' efforts to resume her feeding. Federal judges all the way to the Supreme Court held up those decisions.

Republican National Committee spokeswoman Tracey Schmitt said Dean, a physician who practiced internal medicine, was the one politicizing the issue.

"It's disturbing that Howard Dean would plot to use the life of Terri Schiavo for political gain," Schmitt said Saturday. "This demonstrates a troubling lack of sensitivity and one would hope that Democrat leaders in Congress would reject such a strategy.

"The American people expect their leaders to provide solutions and principled leadership rather than overt partisan politicking."

Karen Finney, Democratic National Committee spokeswoman, defended Dean's comments, saying they were not a reflection of him trying to politicize the issue, but rather he was speaking to "Republican intrusiveness into people's lives."

"This is another example of a Republican party that is overreaching," she said. "Tom Delay and his cronies want to intrude in personal family matters. Democrats believe that individuals and their families should be trusted to make these very personal decisions, not Tom DeLay and not the government.

In Their Own Words

While discussing the case of two male Massachusetts inmates who requested prison officials' permission to marry, Fox News host Bill O'Reilly said that Gay marriage will eventually lead to people petitioning courts to marry goats. O'Reilly has voiced a similar idea before, as Media Matters for America has noted.

From the April 13 broadcast of Westwood One's The Radio Factor with Bill O'Reilly:

O'Reilly: Now, there was another request up there from a woman — prisoner, inmate, convict — who wanted to marry another woman who's not in prison. And, I guess they're still mullin' that over. No, it was denied — no, I'm sorry, they're mullin' it over — no, it was approved! Oooh, no, look at this! The other request was approved because it involved the marriage of a female inmate to a woman who's not in prison. See, I woulda denied that. I'd have said, "When you get outta prison, you can marry her." But not here. This isn't pre-Cana [Catholic premarital counseling] prison — all right, you can't do that. See, I'm not buyin' into any of this politically correct nonsense. If you're a prisoner, you're a convict, you lose your rights until you get out. So, I'm sorry. We're not lettin' you get married, not gonna let you drive a car, you can't vote. You're in — you're in, that's it.

So this is just the beginning, ladies and gentlemen, of this crazy Gay marriage insanity — is gonna lead to all kinds of things like this. Courts are gonna be clogged. Every nut in the world is gonna — somebody's gonna come in and say, "I wanna marry the goat." You'll see it; I guarantee you'll see it.

Contacts: Bill O'Reilly, oreilly@foxnews.com. The Radio Factor, Call in live: 1-877-9-NO SPIN (noon - 2 p.m. Eastern time). Westwood One - Bart Tessler, Sr. VP, Network News / Talk Programming, (202) 457-7998

Catholic League's Donohue on Scarborough Country: "The Gay community has yet to apologize to straight people for all the damage that they have done." William Donohue, president of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, asserted that "[t]he Gay community has yet to apologize to straight people for all the damage that they have done" and denounced Gays for "asking for more rights" while allegedly "acting so morally delinquent."

Donohue: Look, look, there's a new strain of HIV available in New York City. It's because of Gay men. All right? All the talk about condoms —

Rachel Maddow: (guest and Air America radio host): Or virology.

Donohue: The fact of the matter is it's due to the behavioral recklessness of Gay men in New York City, that they're endangering the lives of everybody. So, you want to talk about the Catholic Church intervening in other people's lives? The Gay community has yet to apologize to straight people for all the damage that they have done — for contaminating the blood supply in New York City and around the country. And I find it amazing that, when people are acting so morally delinquent, that they're asking for more rights at the same time.

It seems to me that Gay people in this country should apologize to the rest of the people, the way the pope has apologized to other people, and practice sexual reticence. Practice restraint, and you won't have the problem. It's entirely a result of behavioral recklessness that we have this disease [HIV/AIDS]. And it's a politically correct disease, isn't it?

Contacts: Scarborough Country, joe@msnbc.com.

Sellout Enjoys Their 'True Colors'

PTUCSON - From the opening song "Turn the World Around" to the final encore of "Over the Rainbow", Desert Voices, Tucson's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight chorus, gave their sold out audience everything they had last Saturday night, April 16.

The Muse Community Arts Center was packed with an enthusiastic crowd and the chorus brought them to their feet, cheering, several times throughout the wildly entertaining show.

Director Chris Tackett and accompanist (and local rock star) Namoli Brennet, combined their talent to provide beautiful arrangements and stunning new songs for the chorus, including "Over the Rainbow", and "Shades of the Rainbow", following a theme of color, diversity and the rainbow, for the show. Chorus member and videographer, Bill Webber, created a beautiful backdrop of color, animation and photographs to frame the musical numbers, including several gorgeous rainbow shots by the renowned storm photographer, Warren Faidley, all projected on the large screen at the back of the stage at The Muse.

The chorus presented the show in three acts, leaving time for bidding on the silent auction items in between. In Act I, a small group presented a very funny number titled "Censored", that ripped the nonsense over Sponge Bob, Buster the Bunny and Tinky-Winky, with parody lyrics written by Sylvia Yeager. "We just felt we had to speak out and skewer that whole cartoon character silliness for the show," said Yeager. "The timing was just too perfect and we had to say something!"

Alegria, the comedy women's barbershop quartet received a standing ovation in the middle of their song, "Red Roses for a Blue Lady", parody lyrics by Mae Krueger, Board President and proud alto II. "I was a little angry when I wrote the lyrics," offered Krueger. "I'm tired of hearing about the sanctity of marriage and being denied my rights to marry my partner of 18 years. So I let my creative juices roll, and the song was born."

Also during Act II, a group of about 10 singers in male drag strutted onto the stage and performed "Blue Moon", wowing the audience with their "doo-wah's and doo-dip's". The parade of chorus members in female drag that followed the song, culminated with Steve McInnis as "Scarlett O'Hairy, Mark Brady as "Patty Meltz" and Tania Rhodes as "Peaches 'N Green" performing "It's Not Easy Being Green". After all the over the top laughter, the audience was left weeping as the chorus honored our Gay Ancestors with a spoken piece written by chorus member, Carrie Cooper, which ended in a gorgeous rendition of "Over the Rainbow" in tribute to Judy Garland.

The show wrapped up in Act III with a variety of protest songs, including a powerful performance by Namoli Brennet of her new song, "One Channel Nation". The crowd clearly was pleased to see and hear Namoli on the stage, as the show ended with the chorus singing backup for her familiar anthem, "We Belong".

The silent auction raised over $6,000 for the chorus, helping them to fulfill their mission to sing out for GLBT rights and have a voice in the community for those who feel they must hide their

Continued on Page Eleven

The Unintended Consequences Of 'Fair And Balanced' Reporting

by Vicki Gaubeca

[Editor's Note; Gaubeca's article, edited by the Arizona Daily Star, was printed in the April 18 edition. This is the unedited version of the article, presenting a fair and balanced look for the reader.]

At a time when the nation needs to be drawn together rather than further polarized, print and broadcast media are providing increasing amounts of space and time to extremist, prejudiced points of view. Editors and producers claim that they provide this space so as to offer "fair and balanced reporting" __ but simply because someone holds a point of view does not make it worthy for presentation in the public forum. To offer one example, in the first half of the twentieth century, much of the nation supported racial segregation, even as some courageous media outlets were leaders in promoting racial harmony.

What is it that is moving formerly moderate media, such as the local Arizona Daily Star and the national PBS, to include more extreme discourse? I've heard many theories, ranging from the trend of "reality TV" and the moving away from the art of refined debates to the embracing of shouting matches under the guise of pseudo entertainment. Some say there is overt or covert pressure (financial and otherwise) from factions in the U.S. Administration to include these extremist points of view. But the fact is that these points are being expressed so often now that their inherent bias has become invisible.

An example is the inclusion of Ann Coulter's articles in the Opinion pages of the Arizona Daily Star. One of her first articles published by the paper blamed the shooting of a judge and others in a courtroom in Atlanta on Harvard feminists. She explains that thanks to these feminists, women are now in positions they shouldn't be in, like security guards. She followed this article with one in which she further explained her support for roles that were acceptable to women and those that were not. It was not OK for women to be security guards, despite the fact that it was a woman who—by reading Biblical verses—was able to talk the perpetrator into giving up to the police many hours later (that role was okayed by her).

Let's follow Coulter's line of reasoning a little further. Stereotypically speaking, black men are taller than white men and Asian men are more agile. Thus, shouldn't we eliminate the possibility of white men in the security guard role? Wouldn't it be irresponsible and unsafe for our community to allow white men in these positions? Of course these statements are preposterous.

Then let's look at Jonah Greenberg's article where he stated that if a "homosexual gene" was found that could be identified before a baby was born and if expectant mothers could abort because of this, that Gays would immediately become 'pro_lifers.' He was quoting Rush Limbaugh in this assertion, but since he brought it up, I have to ask, what is he thinking? Has he completely missed the fact that this would be genocide?

Greenberg is also assuming that homosexuality is a disease, such as diabetes or cancer. I have lived with type 1 diabetes for more than 25 years now. I am also Gay. If given a choice, I would always seek a cure for my diabetes, but I would never seek one for my Gayness, despite the prejudice I may encounter because of it. I think that's because I consider it a gift, not a disease.

And then there was an interview of Len Munsil that was prominently placed on page one of the Sunday Opinion section. In the final paragraph of the article, Munsil even admits he doesn't understand why people consider him a bigot.

These examples, a few of many I could use, illustrate a general trend in the normalization of hate. Biased voices are getting heard under the guise of "fair and balanced reporting" and the effects are painful to watch.

This trend is allowing many groups to come under attack: women, Gays, seniors, immigrants, the poor, our children, and more. And with the verbal attacks come the loss of protection from discrimination and a media that has abdicated from its historical role in promoting social justice. A case in point is the seemingly unstoppable rally of legislated hate in our State's capitol. In the last few months, we have seen the approval of bills that seek not to better our communities through collaboration, inspiration and dignity, but instead those that divide and strip any intent of humanity.

As a strong nation, it is our duty to protect our most vulnerable populations and to seek the better good for all. Instead, we seem a nation divided against itself, filled with spite and greed. We are witnessing growing support of groups like the Minuteman Project or the Center for Arizona Policy, who aim only to increase divisiveness in our communities and who fail to see the big picture. These groups, I am certain, mean well. However, Minutemen fail to see the true causes, and therefore the solutions, to why entrants are coming to this country. And, the activities of the Center for Arizona Policy protect only families that fit their narrow definition of family.

For some people, this might be just the other end of a political pendulum swing. In my heart, I cannot believe that this is really what this country is about. In my version of this country, we are a more tolerant, compassionate people, and our faiths support this.

[Vicki Gaubeca has 20 years of experience in marketing and communications and is an advocate for fair treatment of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community.]

G/L Families Hit Harder On Tax Day

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Like millions of other Americans Gay and Lesbian couples are filing their income taxes on April 15, but unlike other taxpayers Gay families are harder hit and receive fewer benefits, reported the PlanetOut Network.

LGBT rights groups are protesting the inequity in a number of cities.

"We are protesting to raise awareness about the discrimination same-sex couples face by our federal tax laws," says Kathy Kelly, Equality Georgia who is demonstrating at the Post Office on Pharr Road.

"On tax day, it is particularly difficult for same-sex couples because it is a time when the federal government forces us to enter into a legal fiction of being single - when we are actually longtime together couples. In reality, our lives are completely intertwined—just like any other married couple. We own our homes, bank accounts, and investments together, yet we are forced to divvy all that up as if we are single persons when it comes to income taxes."

Other protests are being held in Oakland and San Francisco. Marriage Equality California says today above all days shows that Gays "pay first class taxes for second class citizenship."

Gay couples who share a home and income are denied the basic rights and benefits given to other taxpayers. They can't file jointly. If a partner dies, the survivor must pay all estate taxes.

They pay income taxes on their partner's health insurance. They pay Social Security taxes all of their lives but receive no survivor benefits when their partner dies.

To make matters even more confusing, state taxes vary from state to state. Some states offer some benefits and responsibilities to same-sex couples.

In Massachusetts, the only state where same-sex couples can legally marry, same-sex couples cannot file joint income tax.

The IRS says it is basing its denial of joint filings on Federal DOMA which restricts marriage to opposite-sex couples.

The result has meant chaos for hundreds of Massachusetts families who end up paying more in both federal and state taxes because of the separate filings.

Vermont's civil union law offers same-sex couples who obtain a civil union the state-level rights and benefits of marriage. California's domestic partnership law offers most state-level rights and benefits except joint filing of taxes. However, neither Vermont's civil union law nor California's domestic partnership law are recognized by any other state or the federal government.

Log Cain Republicans used tax day to call on Congress for income tax reform.

"Lower taxes are fundamental to growing the U.S. economy," said Log Cabin Republicans Political Director Chris Barron.

Log Cabin is calling for passage of the Domestic Partners Health Benefits Equity Act to end the double taxation of domestic partner benefits provided by employers.

Under current federal law, married heterosexual employees do not pay taxes on their employers' contribution for health insurance benefits, while Lesbian and Gay employees do. Additionally, because employers must pay payroll taxes on their employees' taxable incomes, employers who provide these benefits are taxed at a higher rate as well.

Denying Marriage Rights Damages Couples

WASHINGTON, D.C. - State amendments denying marriage rights to same-sex couples go far beyond defining marriage and cause significant harm to same-sex and opposite-sex couples, according to a report released Wednesday, April 13, by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a national Gay rights group, the PlanetOut Network reported.

The report sites examples from four states where marriage amendments have been used to deny domestic violence protections to battered women, eliminate health insurance and other domestic partner benefits for all unmarried couples, and attempt to rescind a same-sex couple's custody agreement.

"So far, the evidence is ominous," the report says, noting that the "vague and ill-defined" language of these amendments, which varies greatly state to state, has "damaging effects on all unmarried couples."

"No matter what our political opponents said these amendments did, the reality is they are being used and will be used to roll back and stop progress on treating Gay and Lesbian people equally," Seth Kilbourn, HRC's marriage project director, told the PlanetOut Network.

Seventeen states have amended their constitutions to define marriage as between a man and woman only. Twenty-three others have introduced similar bans in 2005.

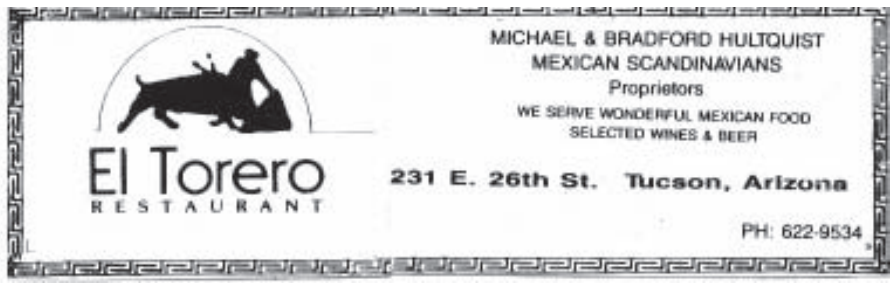
The four states cited in the report — Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Utah — have all interpreted their amendments as justification to deny rights other than marriage to both same- and opposite-sex couples.

The Ohio amendment, which bans not just same-sex marriage, but any relationship that "intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance or effect of marriage," was cited by the University of Toledo as reason not to implement domestic partner benefits, even though five other state universities offer such benefits.

The amendment was also used to reduce felony domestic violence charges against Frederick Burke, of Columbus, arrested for assaulting his girlfriend. The judge reduced Burke's charges to a misdemeanor because he and is girlfriend are not married, writing that the amendment limits "protections previously available" to unmarried battered women.

HRC's report was released to coincide with new Senate hearings held today to muster support for the Federal Marriage Amendment (FMA). Like many state amendments, the FMA contains language that can be used to deny other rights to unmarried couples. It defines marriage as between a man and a woman only, and stipulates that the "legal incidents of marriage" cannot be conferred on any unmarried couple.

"This hearing is an attack on same-sex couples and is further evidence that the far right is controlling the Senate, and keeping our leaders from focusing on issues that strengthen the whole country," said HRC President Joe Solmonese.



POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

'Red Star'

Dear Gracie:

Around the late 1960's or early 1970's, Tucson's morning newspaper, the Arizona Daily Star, with its commitment and standards, and intrepid reporting by journalists and editors in the goal of finding out the truth to inform the public was given a very interesting nickname, "the Red Star."

Times may have changed Gracie but the Old Pueblo's morning newspaper is living up to its moniker - even though the definition has unfortunately changed to match these times.

In the current realm of politics, everything is either "red" for Republican or "blue" for Democrat, and the Arizona Daily Star has definitely become the "Red Star."

On April 10, Tucson's morning newspaper, Gracie, ran a puff-piece that was full of opinion and short on facts, on Len Munsil, the head of the ultraconservative and very homophobic Center for Arizona Policy (CAP) and their proposed anti-G/L marriage amendment for the November 2006 Arizona general election ballot.

In lieu of the Munsil article, the Star has not provided equal time Gracie to groups such as the Arizona Human Rights Fund or the Arizona Coalition for Fairness opposing CAP's measure and homophobic goals.

Then not groups, what of individuals who wish to exercise their First Amendment rights?

Gracie, on Monday, April 18, the Star ran an edited version of an Op-Ed piece by Vicki Gaubeca, that dealt with "fair and balanced reporting," more words not in the Star's lexicon. The Observer is running the unedited version of Gaubeca's wonderful article in this week's publication to provide the readers the complete story.

This pattern doesn't just stop there Gracie, when on April 13, the morning publication ran an editorial about Jim Kolbe, praising him for his "strength in bucking anti-Gay policy," on "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," and doesn't inform readers of the entire picture about Kolbe's voting record, on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) issues, supporting such measures as:

H. R. 27, the Job Training Improvement Act of 2005 allowing religious organizations that receive federal funds to operate job-training programs that discriminate in employment based on religious grounds, which could include rejecting job applicants, who are GLBT. (March 3, 2005 - 224 yes, 200 no)

H.R. 3966, the ROTC and Military Recruiter Equal Access to Campus Act of 2004, strengthening the ability of military recruiters to violate university nondiscrimination policies, including provisions covering GLBT students and staff, for which the bill would provide stiffer penalties for institutions that deny recruiters access to campuses. (March 30, 2004 - 343 yes, 81 no)

H.R. 3396, the federal Defense of Marriage Act, defining marriage as a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word "spouse" refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife. (July 12, 1996 - 342 yes, 67 no).

H.R. 1530, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, that included an amendment from Congressman Gerald Solomon, R-NY, for which the amendment cuts off federal funds from any institution of higher learning that bars the campus gate to military recruiters because of their policy of prohibiting openly Gay and Lesbian service members. (December 15, 1995 - 267 yes, 149 no)

Facts and the truth should prevail over falsehoods Gracie, but the question is still out for the "Red Star," another example of which:

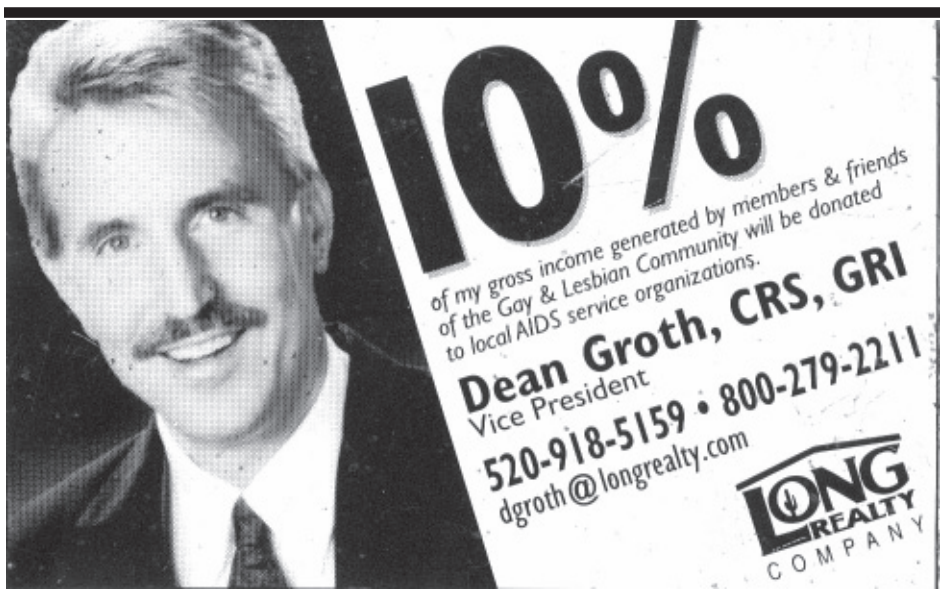
"I belong to an editorial writers listserv that flags errors in syndicated columns and alerts the syndicates. We will hold Ann Coulter to the same standard we do all of them ... ," responded Dennis Joyce, the Arizona Daily Star Opinion page editor to a March 13, 2005 E-mail by this reporter about whether the Star would run corrections about their new conservative, homophobic columnist, Time Magazine's cover-gal on its April 18 edition, Ann Coulter. Oh really?

They didn't Gracie, in fact, their April 16 edition, played Coulter's error-prone column up, with the front page tease, "Coulter bashes Tucson liberals," for which the waste of space purports that conservatives can't speak out freely in this country because liberals threaten them.

Coulter, in the article Gracie, blasts the Pima County Attorney, Democrat Barbara LaWall, for letting the two individuals who threw pies at Coulter, during her speech at U of A's Centennial Hall, get away by dropping the charges - despite the fact Coulter, who under Arizona law received notification of the court hearing date, and the arresting officer didn't bother showing up for the March 19 court hearing and LaWall announced she is still going to prosecute the two individuals.

So the times may have changed as well as the political winds but journalism's standards and ethics shouldn't Gracie. Unfortunately, Tucson's morning paper has, to the detriment of the GLBT community, as well as those people who believe in what is stated in the U.S. Constitution.

As ever faithful always.



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New Pope On Homosexuality: 'Intrinsic Moral Evil'

VATICAN CITY - In July 1999, the National Catholic Reporter delineated what was already a staunchly anti-Gay stance posited by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany, who was elected Pope Benedict XVI on Tuesday, April 19, reported Advocate.com.

At the time, Ratzinger had imposed a lifetime ban on pastoral work by pro-Gay Salvatorian Fr. Robert Nugent and School Sister of Notre Dame Jeannine Gramick. The move was just the latest step in an effort by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to prevent evolution in church teaching toward acceptance of openly Gay and Lesbian people, the paper reported. Here is the Reporter's review of key moments:

May 1984: Ratzinger orders the imprimatur lifted from Sexual Morality by Fr. Philip S. Keane, published in 1977 by Paulist Press. Keane argues that homosexual conduct cannot be understood as "absolutely immoral."

September 1986: Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen in Seattle announces that he has transferred final authority in five areas, including the pastoral care of Gays, to Auxiliary Bishop Donald Wuerl in accord with Vatican instructions. The action follows a written critique by Ratzinger, citing, among other flaws, Hunthausen's decision in 1983 to permit a Mass for Dignity, a Catholic Gay group, in his cathedral.

October 1986: Ratzinger publishes a document titled "On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons." The letter warns of "deceitful propaganda" from pro-homosexual groups. It instructs bishops not to accept groups that "seek to undermine the teaching of the church, which are ambiguous about it, or which neglect it entirely." The letter refers to homosexual orientation as an "intrinsic moral evil." In the wake of the letter, many Catholic bishops bar Dignity from using church facilities.

October 1986: Acting on instructions from Ratzinger, the head of the Jesuit order informs Jesuit Fr. John McNeill that he must either abandon pastoral ministry with Gays or be expelled from the order. McNeill chooses not to give up his work. McNeill had been silenced by the Vatican in 1977 for his book The Church and the Homosexual, which argued that stable homosexual relationships should be judged by the same moral criteria as heterosexual relationships. The book was originally published with the permission of McNeill's Jesuit superiors.

November 1986: Ratzinger directs Bishop Matthew Clark of the Rochester, N.Y., diocese to remove the imprimatur from Parents Talk Love: The Catholic Family Handbook About Sexuality, written by a priest and a high school teacher. According to the priest, Ratzinger objects to the lack of a clear condemnation of homosexual conduct.

January 1987: After prolonged debate, the Catholic University of America fires Fr. Charles Curran, a moral theologian known for his dissent from official church teaching on sexual ethics. On homosexuality, Curran has written: "Homosexual acts in the context of a loving relationship that strives for permanency can in a certain sense be objectively morally acceptable."

December 1988: Dominican Fr. Matthew Fox is silenced by Ratzinger, citing his failure to condemn homosexuality, among a host of other issues. Fox is expelled from the Dominican order in 1992.

February 1992: Canadian theologian Fr. Andrew Guindon is notified that he is under investigation by the doctrinal congregation for his book The Sexual Creators. Ratzinger demands that he clarify his views on homosexuality, birth control, and premarital sex. Ratzinger's 13-page critique is published in L'Osservatore Romano, the official Vatican newspaper.

July 1992: Ratzinger sends a letter to the U.S. bishops supporting legal discrimination against Gays in certain areas: adoption rights, the hiring of Gays as teachers or coaches, and the prohibition of Gays in the military. In such situations, Ratzinger writes, "It is not unjust discrimination to take sexual orientation into account."

November 1992: The new Catechism of the Catholic Church is published. Though the text acknowledges that homosexual persons "do not choose their homosexual condition; for most of them it is a trial" and forbids any disrespect or failure of compassion for Gays, the Catechism repeats the position that the homosexual orientation is "intrinsically disordered."

December 1996: Archbishop Tarcisio Bertone, secretary of the doctrinal congregation, publishes an article in L'Osservatore Romano asserting that certain church teachings must be considered infallible even in the absence of a formal declaration to that effect. The bans on homosexuality and contraception are among the teachings mentioned by Bertone.

February 1997: Following a warning to the Society of St. Paul from Ratzinger, the Vatican imposes a new leader on the order. The Paulines' flagship publication, Famiglia Cristiana, published an article in 1996 suggesting that parents should not force their moral views on a Gay child. Bishop Antonio Buoncristiani is appointed the society's temporary leader and charged with ensuring that Pauline publications better reflect church teaching.

July 1998: The Committee on Marriage and Family of the U.S. bishops' conference reissues its letter to parents of homosexuals, "Always Our Children," after making several changes demanded by Ratzinger. They include referring to homosexuality as a "deep-seated" rather than "fundamental" dimension of personality; suggesting that homosexual acts by adolescents may not indicate a homosexual orientation; adding a footnote describing homosexuality as "objectively disordered"; and deleting a passage that encourages use of terms such as "homosexual, Gay, and Lesbian" from the pulpit in order to "give people permission" to discuss homosexuality.

September 1998: Clark removes Fr. James Callan from his position as pastor of Rochester's Corpus Christi Parish. Callan asserts that Clark is acting under pressure from Ratzinger. Among other things, Callan is criticized for blessing same-sex unions.

December 1998: Ratzinger, other curial officials, and a group of Australian bishops put out a document citing problems in the Australian church resulting from a "worldwide crisis of faith." Among other deviations, the document cites a moral view in which "heterosexuality and homosexuality come to be seen as simply two morally equivalent variations."

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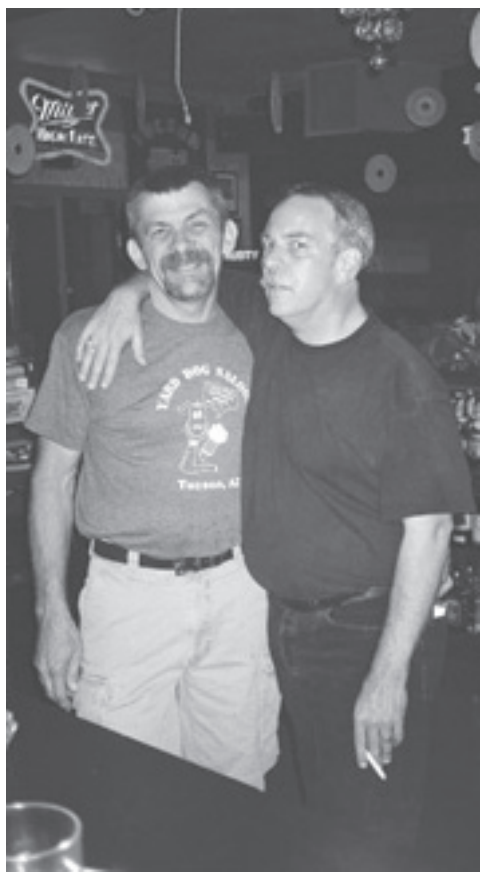

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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Implied News

by Lee Thorn

The news stories that have been dominating the airwaves lately, getting coverage out of all proportion to their importance, raise some interesting substantive issues that even the prevailing carnival approach to them can't quite cancel out.

I suppose that the pope's death got the unbelievable coverage it did because everyone loves a parade. Nobody does pomp and circumstance better than the Catholics. But the change in leadership raises the question of which direction the Church will now take.

Does it stay conservative and go after the huge growth potential in Africa and South America? Does it reverse course and go liberal to regain credibility in Europe and the US?

Does it reverse course and decentralize so as to allow the leaders in the third world to go conservative while the leaders in the economically advanced countries go liberal?

The long reign of the last pope was conservative and centralized, but there are two old Catholic sayings that may now apply: "There's nothing as dead as a dead pope." "Fat pope, thin pope." Both saws suggest that reversals of his policies, no matter how popular the last pope may have been in life, are not improbable.

Does it matter to non-Catholics what the Church does? I'd argue that it could matter a lot. Many sober observers would claim that the late pope had considerable responsibility for the fall of communism in Poland. Whether he did or not might be small potatoes to what the next guy could do.

What if the next pope were to decide that eradicating poverty was of greater spiritual importance than eradicating recreational sex? What if he were to preach that Catholics had a moral obligation to pressure their political leaders to end poverty? What if he said that an individual doing nothing to end systemic poverty was committing a mortal sin?

Under the right pope, the Catholic Church might be more powerful than anyone has recently imagined it could be. It could say, "To hell with the church poor box. Let's have societies that don't have any need of church poor boxes."

And then there was the sad story of the woman who was practically dead but couldn't be allowed to be technically dead. God only knows why that got the round-the-clock coverage it did. Maybe suspense enhanced our natural morbidity.

There was no ecclesiastical fancy dress here, but important questions about federalism and the separation of powers were thrown into the faces of conservatives who sometimes claim to believe in those concepts. When all was said and done, the conservative politicians took the position that, when God is whispering in their ears, federalism and the separation of powers can take a hike.

It was encouraging to see that most politicians and most of the public didn't go along with the take-a-hike position, but did they spurn it because they understood the underlying principles or because they didn't like seeing the victim used as a political football?

Without being overly technical about federalism or separation of powers, let me simply say that both concepts are intended to keep political power from being concentrated in just a few hands. In this case and generally, they tend to protect the rest of us from those of us who believe that God whispers in our ears on a regular basis.

And then there's the mega-coverage of the pop star who likes boys. Mercy, mercy, mercy. But here again there's an interesting question, actually a philosophically interesting one. The trial takes us to the realm of epistemology, the study of the nature of knowledge.

The philosophical, and for the jury the practical, question it raises is this: If you have several sources of information that, taken individually, you don't trust, and if all those sources are telling you something similar but not exactly the same, when you sort it all out do you actually know anything?

Consider a more abstract formulation: You have several sources of data that you know are all defective to some degree. They tend to agree in some respects but it's not possible to quantify the degree of their agreement.

Whatever the verdict, I predict that at least one juror will say, "There was no smoking gun so we went with our gut."

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns, and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754. E-mail: Doid3@aol.com.]

Anti-Violence Project Volunteer Training April 23 & 30

TUCSON - The Wingspan Anti-Violence Project (AVP) will hold a free, engaging, interactive and informative training for potential crisis line volunteer advocates, service providers, students, and interested community members. AVP relies on volunteers "just like you," to ensure the community has a 24-hour crisis line.

Topics that will be covered include: Domestic violence 101; LGBT 101; Hate Crimes 101; Suicide prevention; Active listening skills; Crisis intervention skills; Community Resources; and much, much more. The AVP welcome folks who have no prior experience, as well as crisis line veterans. To continue Wingspan's commitment to diversity, the AVP strongly urge people of color, survivors of violence, Gay and Bi men, people with disabilities, bilingual folks, rural community members, transmen and transwomen, LGBT parents, people living with HIV/AIDS, youth, older adults and straight allies to volunteer.

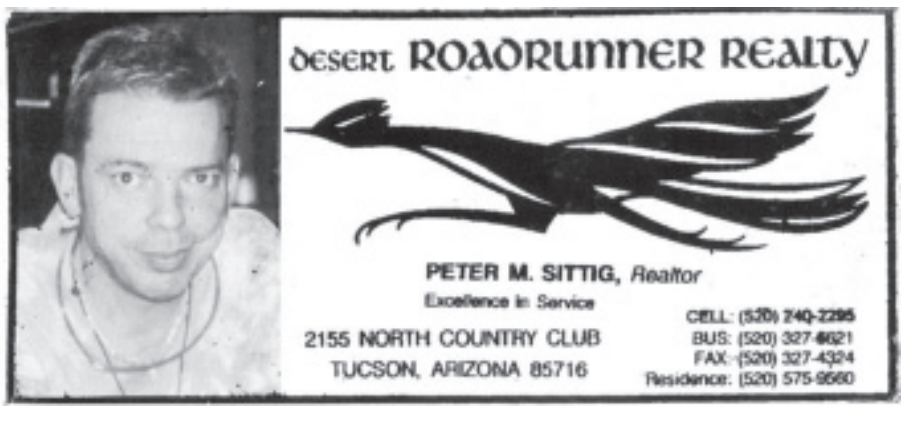
AVP's next training sessions will be on Saturday, April 23 and April 30, 9 a.m - 5 p.m. For more information please contact Carlos, (520) 624-1779 ext. 24,or toorres@wingspan.org. If you or anyone that you know is experiencing violence, please call the 24-hour crisis line, (520) 624-0348 or (800) 553-9387.

Sellout Enjoys Their 'True Colors'

Continued from Page Five

"True Colors". The chorus will be performing portions of the concert in Bisbee on June 18th for their Pride Festival, as well as singing at several community events during May. The organization's website, www.desertvoices.org has all the information about upcoming appearances.

If you are interested in joining Desert Voices, you can attend their open house on April 25, at Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain, to meet the chorus and find out if you'd like to sing with the group. You can also call their office, (520) 791-9662 for further information.



HOROSCOPES

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When is too much, too too much? Possibly when dreamy Venus squares creamy Neptune. Minor tremors become earthquakes, quiet interludes, heavy metal jams and carefully concealed secrets, front page news. So prepare to be jousted, rousted and thrown for a cosmic loop. Enjoy the ride.

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
Compadres demand more of your attention and personal resources when Venus squares Neptune. Give till it hurts Gay Ram - A favor to a friend in need will not be forgotten. Of course there may be those who become bottomless pits of need and greed. In that case, draw the line and cut the ties of dependency quickly. They may even thank you, one day.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
Just when you thought your career was cruising on course, Venus squares Neptune and blows your roadmap out the window. And yet, surprises are good for the soul and lead you to new, different opportunities. Dust yourself off and try try again. Once you get your juices going, you catapult to new heights. Don't bump your head on the glass ceiling, queer Bull!

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
A simple excursion may evolve into a wilde and out of control adventure when Venus squares Neptune. Pink Twins often wish for excitement. Oh be careful of what you wish right now! Plan all grand voyages carefully, sailor. The seas could suddenly become turgid and overturn your craft. Let's hope there will be some helpful seamen to give you a hand and pull you up.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Pink Crabs are ready to take the sexual plunge but may jump in over their heads as Venus squares Neptune. You are in love with love and give your heart to all comers. Try to be discerning and move in new social circles for your hunt. It would be a shame to ruin a perfectly good friendship by taking it on the wrong course. Love is in the air this week. It sort of smells like broccoli.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
Relationship issues are blown out of proportion when Venus squares Neptune. There are many more demands on your time. Proud Lions may institute a zero tolerance policy and demand change but hold off. Try instead to exert some patience with partners and would-be partners. It would be a shame to spend the summer sipping champagne with your cat. Hmm, or is it?

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
Queer Virgins find themselves buried under a load of paperwork on the job when Venus squares Neptune. And no matter how fast you work, you will find it difficult to keep up with the increasing demands of the marketplace. Before you give up and let things fall through the cracks, learn to prioritize. Escaping the humdrum is futile anyway right now.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
Party hound Gay Libras think that they can go the distance. Venus square Neptune puts that naive thought to the acid test. It's possible that in the spirit of the moment, you will imbibe that one drink too many and spend the next day hunkering down and avoiding loud noises. Instead of feeling your age the day after, I suggest that you behave the night before. Oh behave!

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
Venus square Neptune casts its spell in family affairs. Proud Scorps are hankering to blow things out of proportion. Dramatics aside, there is nothing to be gained by pushing the familial envelope now. Instead of storming the scene, take a breath and draw your line in the sand a couple of months from now. In the meantime, think only happy thoughts, and avoid sourpusses.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
You live up to your nickname this week; "Bigmouth." Venus squares Neptune and unleashes your innate ability to say the exact wrong thing at the wrong time. Strive for a more subtle approach now. Gay Archers are best advised to keep their more revolutionary thoughts to themselves for the time being and use their lips and tongues for quieter, friendlier pursuits.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
This may seem like an opportune time to hit it big or lose it big in the financial arena. Venus square Neptune tempts you to go for the big buckaroos without doing the necessary fact checking. Pyramid schemes seem like sure things. Yeah, right. It will be the truly wise pink Cap who realizes that all that glitters is not gold. In fact, it may not even be metal. Bite it to be sure.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Stand back and give the wilde one some space when Aqueerians experience Venus square Neptune. This exuberant out of control energy encourages you to boss the course in social situations. If folks don't do things your way, tough! You are as subtle as a jack hammer and about as pleasant. Be careful of dominating others, unless, of course others prefer it that way.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
Everything you have tried to hide in the past is exposed this week. As things begin to float to the surface Guppies are encouraged and ready to tell it like it is. It feels quite cathartic to dump your cosmic garbage on the highway but be careful of throwing out too much; There is sure to be something (or someone) worth keeping, if you take time to separate the real trash from all the posturing.

Moscow Mayor Says Golf Course Would Deter Gays

MOSCOW - Mayor Yuri Luzhkov suggested Tuesday that building a golf course in a picturesque corner of the Russian capital would deter Gays and unwanted picnickers from frequenting the area and harming the environment there, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

Luzhkov's comments came at a city government meeting during which officials discussed plans to develop part of northwestern Moscow along the city's main river and protect the area's waterside environment. He indicated he favored making a golf course part of the project. "In general, golf courses are organized protection of the environment," Luzhkov said during a short fragment of the meeting shown on state-run Rossiya television. "In this case there would be no barbecues, no picnics, no Gays—nothing like that, because there would be a structure that would take responsibility for this facility."

Luzhkov has been mayor of Moscow since 1992. The Russian capital is seeking to host the 2012 Olympics.

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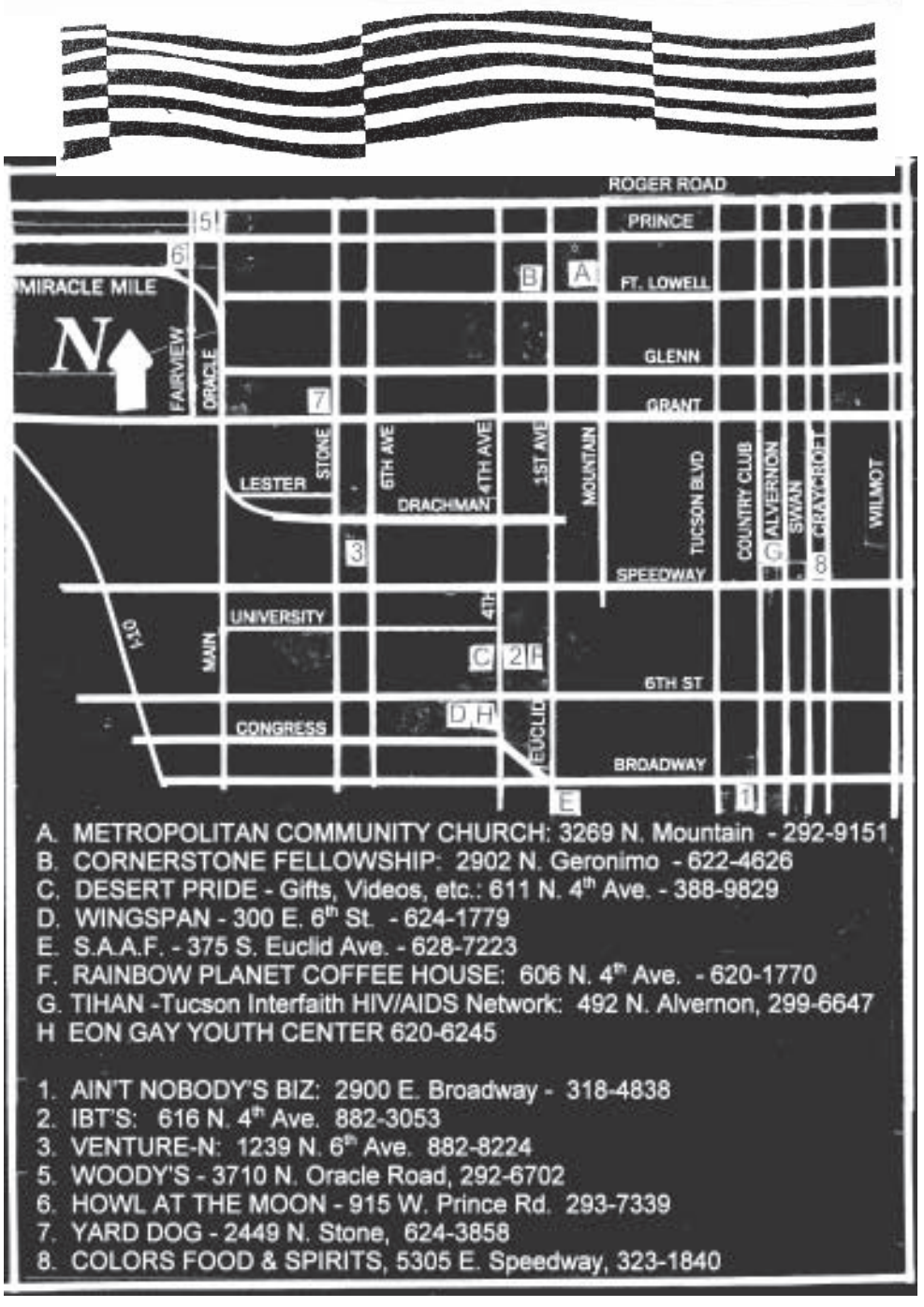

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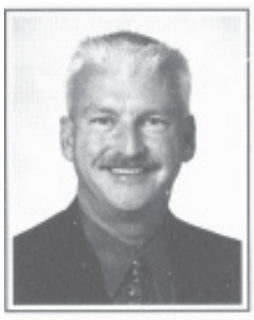
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Historian Defends Book's Gay Lincoln Claim

SPRINGFIELD, IL - It must have been the first conference in the history of Abraham Lincoln scholarship to call the Great Emancipator "a terrifically sexual guy." Addressing the nation's top Lincoln scholars on Sunday, April 10, two historians defended a new book that claims Lincoln was Gay and called for more research into his sexuality, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network.

"I could build a Lincoln log cabin of homophobic denial," said Civil War historian Michael Chesson. "There's been a cover-up, a conspiracy of silence for experts to hide what they regard as dirty linen in Abe's faded carpetbag."

The reason for the discussion — part of a conference held in conjunction with the opening of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum — is a new book called "The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln."

Author and sociologist C.A. Tripp, who died before the book was published, examined Lincoln's poetry, the recollections of those who knew him and his relationships with other men and concluded Lincoln was "predominantly homosexual."

Tripp goes into more detail, but he was not the first person to speculate on the subject.

Scholars have long wondered about the relationship between Lincoln and Joshua Speed. The two men slept in the same bed for four years in Springfield and developed a deep friendship.

Seeking to save money and stay warm in crude buildings, men of the day often shared beds. But Lincoln and Speed lived together long after they could afford separate quarters. Though both men married and Lincoln had four children, Tripp concluded they were lovers.

He reached the same conclusion about Lincoln and David Derickson, a soldier assigned to guard the president during the Civil War. Lincoln and Derickson sometimes shared a bed when Mary Todd Lincoln was out of town.

Jean Baker, author of a major biography of Mrs. Lincoln, has concluded that Lincoln was Bisexual.

"(Lincoln) loved men, and they loved him, at whatever level," Baker said.

She also rejected the contention that Lincoln married only to further his political career, saying Abraham and Mary "loved each other and could not be happy apart."

"It does seem to me that Lincoln is a terrifically sexual guy. He seems to exude testosterone from every pore," she added.

Many historians have questioned the theory that Lincoln was Gay, arguing that if there were anything suspicious about the president's relationships with Speed and Derickson, his enemies would have used it against him. They say Tripp relied on discredited sources and read too much into conversations that were recalled decades later.

Douglas Wilson, co-director of the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College, called the book's evidence "very, very shabby."

But Illinois state historian Thomas Schwartz suggested skeptics should keep an open mind. "I have found that the traditional assumptions about Lincoln, when carefully tested, fall apart," he said.

Sponsor Of Tennessee's Same Sex Marriage Ban In Messy Divorce

NASHVILLE - A Tennessee state senator sponsoring a state constitutional amendment aimed at "solemnizing the relationship of one man and one woman" is accused in a divorce case of cheating on his wife, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

Sen. Jeff Miller, a Republican from Cleveland, is accused of "inappropriate marital conduct" in a divorce complaint filed February 25 in Bradley County. The senator's March 2 answer to the complaint "vehemently denies" any inappropriate marital conduct.

"He is very hypocritical, fighting for the sanctity of marriage and not keeping his own," the senator's wife of 15 years, Bridgitte Suzanne Miller, said in a report in the Chattanooga Times Free Press. Miller, chairman of the senate Republican caucus, acknowledged the divorce in a statement Thursday. "Divorce is a very difficult time for everyone," he said. "It is a very private matter, which is played out in public proceedings. My chief concern right now is the best interest of our children."

The senator's wife said Wednesday, April 13, her husband was involved with a woman in Nashville. She said family members saw him with the woman at a Martina McBride concert. "He told them that she was just a friend," Bridgitte Miller said. "That really bothered me."

The Tennessee senate approved Miller's marriage protection amendment February 22. In addition to defining marriage as "the historical institutional and legal contract solemnizing the relationship of one man and one woman," it would also forbid state recognition of same-sex marriages. Miller stopped an attempt to include a constitutional ban on adultery in the amendment.

Court records show his wife has custody of the couple's three minor children, and the senator has agreed to pay $3,000 a month in child support, with Saturday visitation privileges. "We are very amicable and are talking every day. We remain close throughout this period," Miller said in his statement. "We have tried to work things out; however, it has become apparent over the last week or so that we have irreconcilable differences." Miller, 42, is acting as his own lawyer in the case.

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Dear Dr. X,

I went home with a guy the other night that I have been interested in for a while. When we got back to his place, we were going to have sex, and then he did something that totally freaked me out. He got out a needle, an injected something into his penis. He said it was like Viagra, and he needed it to help him keep an erection. I'm not into using drugs, and I got really freaked out and left. I really like this guy, and I think I want to date him, but don't want to be involved with a junkie. Was he telling the truth? Is there an injection for keeping a hard-on, or was this some freaky way to do crystal or something like that? I really need to know.

Signed, Nervous About Needles

Dear Nervous,

You will be pleased to know that penile injection is indeed a form of treating erectile dysfunction. While I have heard of men placing small amounts of drugs like crystal in the opening of the penis, I have never heard of anyone actually injecting illegal drugs into their penis. My guess here is that your man was telling the truth.

Though it does not sound like a desirable option to me, the fact is that penile injections remain an option for the 35 percent or so of men who either do not respond to, or cannot tolerate the side effects of, Viagra.

The medications that are used in this treatment work their magic either by a combination of changing pulse and blood pressure allowing for unrestricted blood flow, or relaxing the small muscles that line the penile blood vessels, thereby allowing them to expand. Both of these methods essentially accomplish the same task that Viagra was created for: allowing more blood to flow into the penis, creating fuller and longer erections.

Injections into the penis have two very distinct advantages over Viagra. One: erections can be achieved within twenty to thirty minutes from injection, versus an hour or more wait time for Viagra to kick in. Two: with injections, erections can be achieved without stimulation of the penis-they just show up. With Viagra, even doctors will tell you that without stimulation, you are wasting your money on the little blue pills.

The drawbacks are numerous however. First and foremost: you have to stick a needle into your penis. Pause here and reread that last sentence, just to really understand the meaning of it. Second: most urologists will recommend that injections not occur more than twice in a week, whereas Viagra can be taken daily if tolerated by the user. Third: numerous side effects exist with injections, such as scarring, possible liver damage, pain in the penis, Priapism (prolonged erections lasting for several hours, or even days), numbness, swelling, irritation sensitivity, redness, itching, yeast infections, and even some reported instances of Peyronie's disease (the growth of fibrous bands in the outer lining of the penis that lead to sever misshaping of the penis). Sounds fun, huh?

While I don't normally give out specific advice to folks, I do have some for you. I think you should call this guy up, or search him out if you don't have his number yet, and apologize. Tell him that you overreacted, and about your concerns regarding illicit drug use (if you guys are going to date at all, that's a conversation you should be having anyway). Let him know that you did some research on his condition, and ask him to tell you more about it. Then ask him how you can help. If you are truly interested in this guy, you will be able to suck it up and apologize. Good luck, and write back and let me know what happens.

[Do you have burning questions with no answer in sight? Ask Dr. X! 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.]

Joint Chiefs Head Backs Military G/L Ban

Continued from Page One

Government Accounting Office said the "don't ask" has cost taxpayers more than $200 million since its inception in 1993 and an admission from the Pentagon that it is suffering a severe troop shortage.

The GAO report said that it cost taxpayers $10,500 a person, to recruit replacements for enlisted service members who were discharged from 1994 to 2003 for being Gay.

The report said that GAO investigators could not quantify the cost of losing personnel discharged after having been trained in certain areas of expertise like intelligence or languages like Arabic, Chinese, Farsi or Korean.

Last month the Pentagon said military recruitment had bottomed out but it would not seek either a reinstatement of the draft or an end to "don't ask".

Same Sex Marriage Official Resigns

SAN FRANCISCO - A San Francisco city official who gained prominence when she officiated at last year's weddings of same-sex couples announced Thursday, April 14, she was resigning while under investigation for her hiring practices, the Associated Press reported on Advocate.com. San Francisco assessor-recorder Mabel Teng cited personal turmoil over a divorce and scrutiny of her management of the office that assesses property and maintains city records. Teng told Mayor Gavin Newsom that she would remain in office until May 15.

When Newsom ordered city officials to start issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on February 12, 2004, Teng and her office were an integral part of the month-long wedding spree. She personally officiated at the wedding of the first couple to get married, with the city's blessing, and agreed to keep her office open Valentine Day's weekend so as many marriages could be registered as possible before the courts intervened. Whenever she appeared at rallies attended by large numbers of Gay and Lesbian residents, she was greeted like a celebrity with people chanting, "Mabel! Mabel!"

Last fall the city's Civil Service Commission began investigating whether Teng violated patronage and nepotism rules by allegedly hiring or promoting her campaign workers and contributors. Last month the commission issued a report that called into question some of Teng's hiring practices but which reached no conclusions on whether she knowingly acted improperly.

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www.wingspan.org

NON-BAR CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Terry for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Terry at 577-2396.

THURSDAY APRIL 21
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. This is a No-host event, so please ask Barista to point you in our direction.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Lloyd hosts a fun evening of Scrabble. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Lloyd at 792-8537.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23
#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv hosts 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.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
Please join Robert for a trip to Corona de Tucson for an Italian Dinner. We are Carpooling at 6 PM, and there is room for 20. Please call Robert at 400-1376 by April 10th to reserve your spot and additional information.

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 24
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 12:30 p.m Please join Lloyd for Brunch at the fabulous Tanque Verde Guest Ranch. Reservations and $ must be with Lloyd by April 18th. Please contact Lloyd at 792-8537 for additional information and directions.

MONDAY, APRIL 25
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for the "putting out the Newsletter" Night. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Join us for the MSN Premiere of "Cowboys & Angels" (after Newsletter Night). For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 26
#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Jim hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Jim at 790-8735.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Richard & T. Jay for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call T. Jay and Richard at 881-7919.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.

Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. This is a No-host event, so please ask Barista to point you in our direction.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30
Annual Miss Gay Tucson America 2006 Pageant at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde Rd. For ticket information check their ad in this issue or call (520)904-9090

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Steve hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Steve at 664-2076.

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

SUNDAY, MAY 1
18TH Annual Reno Gannon Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Auction to be held at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Road. Advance tickets available now. Call SAAF, 628-7223

MONDAY, MAY 2
Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 7
Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks- 5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, MAY 9
Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 14
#1-Tucson Prime Timers, Breakfast – 9:00 a.m., The Good Egg, 4775 E. Grant Rd.
#2 -Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, MAY 16
Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18
Tucson Prime Timers, Luncheon – 1:00 p.m., La Parilla Suiza, 2720 N. Oracle Rd.

SATURDAY, MAY 21
#1 - Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch/ Business Meeting - Noon, Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd.
#2 - Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks- 5:00 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, MAY 23
Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch - 1 p.m., China A, River at Stone Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 28
Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks – 5 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

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

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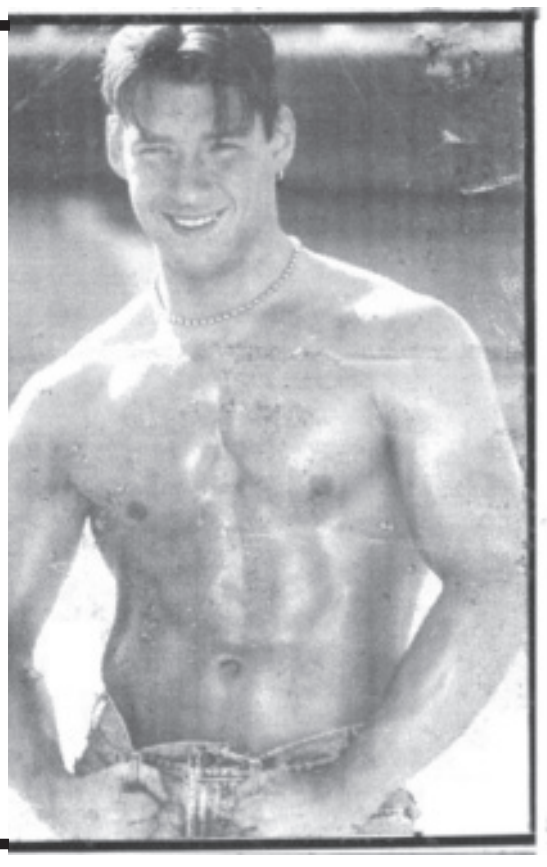

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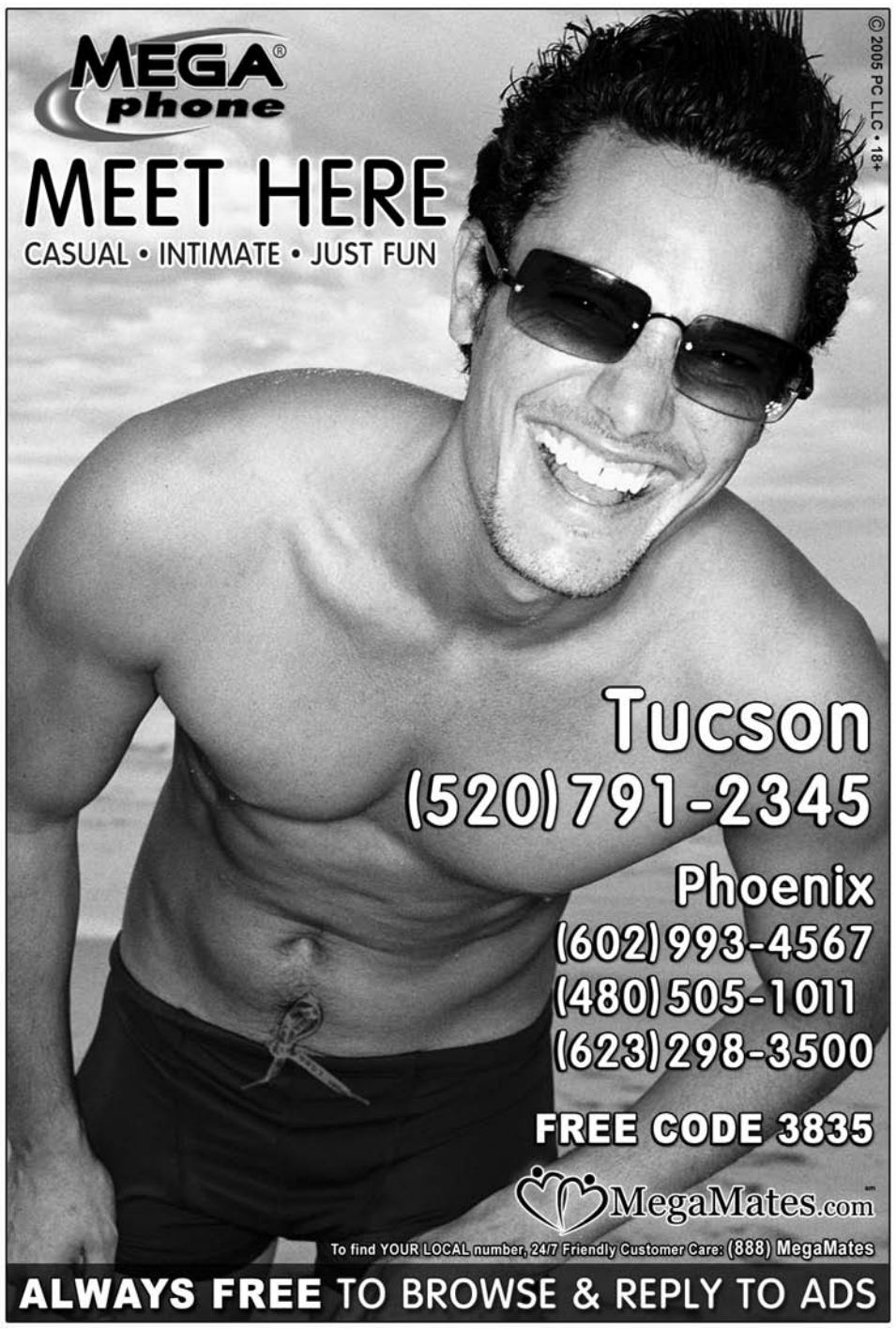

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G/B U of A

Continued from Page One

of a fraternity won't immediately rid Tucson of hate crimes, but "over the years it will help the atmosphere for all Gay people at this school."

A group of seven UA men are pursuing a charter with Delta Lambda Phi, the nation's oldest and largest fraternity welcoming Gay men.

Delta Lambda Phi, a national social fraternity, began in 1987. Other national fraternities exist for Gay and Lesbian students.

Nearly 25 Delta Lambda Phi chapters and one dozen colonies (those being reviewed for a charter) exist throughout the United States.

The UA men are joined as an interest group and hope to become a colony by the year's end.

Members will then pursue chapter status with the national council.

If approved, it will be Delta Lambda Phi's first fraternity in Arizona.

Source: Christopher Newman, president of the Delta Lambda Phi interest group at the University of Arizona and www.dlp.org.

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

sunday

COLORS - Open 11am. Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with complimentary mimosa. Lunch menu served 11am-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON –Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 11am - 1pm,$4.00 - Scrambled eggs, hash brown, biscuit & sausage gravy and your choice of Bloody Mary, coffee, juice or milk. Free Texas Hold'em Poker Tourney at 4 and 7pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points. Great chance to learn the hottest game around

IBT's -Open Noon. $1.75 Bloodys, Screws or mimosas. til 4pm 4-7:30 Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 5:30-8 Benefit BBQ for community organizations 7:30-2Am Dance with David Z.All drink specials not available during special events

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. $1.75 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm Patio Beer Bust 3-7.Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meats to choose from. $2 proceeds go to Pet Watch (helping HIV/AIDS clients with their veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. Sunday Brunch 11:30 - 2:30. Eggs and meat du jour plus BMs, Mims or Screws $5. $1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm. Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Beach Volleyball games 5-?. $2.50 sirloin burger w/salad 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers $1.75 from 10am - 3pm.

monday

COLORS - Closed on Mondays.

HOWL AT THE MOON –Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Monday Munchies 3 - 8 pm with reduced prices on appetizers - best deal in town! Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Audio Anomoly 9pm-2am with DJ Trinidad, 10pm-2am $1.50 well vodka drinks, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. $2.75 Skyy Martinis 4-8. Free Hot Dogs.

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

tuesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 $2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-10pm.1st Tuesday of month "Dinner & Movie" sponsored by GMHP. All other Tuesdays "Dinner & Concert" shown on our 52" projection System.

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Tequila Tuesday: $2.00 well margaritas, 50¢ off call tequilas. Karaoke with Debbie from 8 - midnight

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Tropical Tuesdays $2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Q playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Bartender Calls rink specials..

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Tequila until 7pm Beer Bust 3-7pm.

wednesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Free Pool all day. Draught Beer Specials all day. Country DJ Jake plays 8:30 - close

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/ Bunny Fu Fu. HiNrgy dance with DJ Q, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. $2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Free Hot Dog Buffet 5-11pm. Underwear- fetish- leather nite w/Gary and Chris with GMHP. $1 off any drink or bottled beer.(Excludes draft & schnapps) for all in leather or underwear.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm Beer Bust 3-7pm.

thursday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Karaoke from 9pm with Johnny DJ & Dan..

HOWL AT THE MOON –Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. $2.00 Mexican Beers all day. Karaoke with Debbie from 8 to midnight.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Tricked Out Thursday with your Bartenders in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request $1.75 Long Islands and $1.50 Cocksucker shots 10pm-2am, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. $3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (4th Thursday of each month). Bring your own or get it here $5.

WOODY'S - Open 10am.Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Free Pool 8 to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

friday

COLORS - Open 4pm-2am. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-11pm. 10pm "Guys & Dolls" Hosted by Lucinda Holliday in a 2 girl cabaret show with a different guest each week. Reservations suggested.

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Line Dance Lessons 7:30 to 8:30 pm. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to midnight then a mix of dance & country 'til close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Live Jazz on the Patio with Susan 6pm-9pm, Hot Dance with David Z from 9pm-2am, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. DJ 9pm to close.

WOODY'S - 10am.Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Martini Party - Well Martini's $2.00 3-4pm. Call Martinis $3 from 3-4pm. Complimentary Shrimp Cocktail 4-8pm. Patio Bar Open 7pm - midnight.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Gin until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel open 9pm.

saturday

COLORS - Open 4pm-2am. Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Reservations suggested. Karaoke 10pm-close with Johnny DJ & Dan.

HOWL AT THE MOON –Open at 11:00 am. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. $3.00 Burger & Fries all day. DJ playing your favorite country songs 8:30 - midnight, then "anything goes" requests until close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Janee Starr, Circuit Saturday's with DJ Q spinning Hot Club Music. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm. DJ 9-1.

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Steak or Mahi Mahi BBQ with all the trimmings $5, Live Jazz with Arthur Migliazza 6-9pm.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, $2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel Open 9pm.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Through APRIL 23 - Live heatre Workshop late night Series presents "Durang Does Williams including For Whom The Bell Tolls and Desire, Desire, Desire" by Christopher Durang. These two one act plays will provide an evening-long deconstruction of the works of Tennessee Williams. Running in conjnction with Live Theatre Workshop's mainstage production of "The Glass Managerie", these enlightening Durang works wil blow out your candles -- Stella. The show runs Friday and Saturday evenings April 1-23. Call327-4242 for reservations. $10 General admissiosn. $8 students, seniors and military. 5317 E. Speedway.

Through MAY 5 - Live Theatre Workshop Theatre presents "The Emperor's New Clothes", an original adaptation by Caarolyn Marbry with original music by Jay Everett.

Playing Sundays only at 1:00 p.m. at 5317 E. Speedway, tickets are $7.00 for adults and $5 for 18 and under.

The treasury has run low in the vast empire of Emperor Beauegard (Cliff Madison), and he hasn;t a stitch to wer to the upcoming Grand Ball. Fortunately, his two Evil Advisors (Sean Marbry & Sara Robison) know a fantastic tailor that can make him a new set of imperial robes out of ... well, nothing. The Emperor's Valet (Bruce Bieski) and Cook (Kristi Lorera) try to stop the two wicked advisors from embarrassing their dimwitted boss because they know it is all a plot to help Duke Wayne (also Cliff Madison) steal the throne.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 21
IBT'S - 80s Prom Party 10pm until 2am. Prom King and Queen Contest. $80 Cash prize for each. $2 drink specials all night. 80s movies playing, 80s music spun b DJ Mike Lopez. He contest will be hosted by Ajia Simone.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23
WOODY'S - Reveille Gay Men's Chorus Car Wash / Beer Bust / Bar-B-Que begins at 11am and runs until 4pm!

YARD DOG - It's original Prom Night time again - "Prom Night III" 10:00 p.m. DJ starts at 9pm with the King and Queen Contest at 10. Make your plans now and be sure to mark your calendar.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
VENTURE-N - Treat yourself to Bucky's 'Reubens' from 11 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Then it's Steak Night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m, $6 steak and sides. All this is followed by the enormously fun event, the "Locker Room Party" from 9:00 p.m. to close. Always steamy

SUNDAY, MAY 1
WOODY'S - 18TH Annual Reno Gannon Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Auction to be held at here, 3710 N. Oracle Road. Advance tickets available now. Call SAAF, 628-7223

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Find out how this clever musical adaptation of a classic comedy unfolds as sstshese hilarious characters sing and dance around their dunderhearded emperor. The whole theater will be laughing out loud and singing along with this all star cast. For reservations call 327-4242.

Through APRIL 30 - "Macbeth" presented by Arizona Theatre Company''s tribute to Shakespeare. "Macbeth" is playing at various stimes at the Temple of Music and Art, 330 SA. Scott Ave. Tickets are $26-$44, are available at the Box Office. Call 622-2823.

Through MAY 1 - "The Rocky Horror Show" presented by the University of Arizona's Repertory Theatre. Performances are at UA's Laboratory Theatsre at the couthewest corner of Park Avenue and Speedway. Performances are at 7:30 p.m.. Tickets are $29 general, $27 senior and $21 for students. For dates call 621-1162.

Through MAY 1 - "The Glass Menagerie", Tennessee Willilams' play of a family's struggle during the Depression days. This Live Theatre Production plays at 5317 E. Speedway. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays with Sunday matinees at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $13 - $15. Call 327-4242 for reservations.

APRIL 30 - Fairy Tail Productions presents the annual Miss Gay Tucson America Pageant beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde Rd. Janee Starr the reigning Miss Gay Tucson America 2005 will headline an all-star group of performers including : Bunny FuFu (Miss Gay Tucson 2001/Miss Gay Arizona 2004); Lucinda Holliday (Miss Gay Tucson 1994/Miss Gay Arizona 1996); and Tori Steele (Miss Gay Tucson 2000/Miss Gay Arizona 2006). Tickets: General (in advance) $12; General (at the door) $15; VIP (in advance) $20 For more information call (520)904-9090)

APRIL 30 - Female stand-up comic Paula Poundstone on her 2005 "The Big Picture" tour at the Leo Rich Theater in the Tucson Convention Center, 8:00 p.m. Tickets $29.00. Paula continues to be one of the country's funniest stand-up comics working today. She is a veteran of "The Tonight Show", David Letterman and has starred in her own award-winning HBO special. For more information call 520-791-4101.

OCTOBER 16 - 17TH Annual AIDSWALK takes place at Rillito Downs Race Park,s River Road and First Avenue in Tucson. AIDSWALK 2005 will again feture both the traditionala 4K walk as well as a 10K non-competitive run. Tucson's support of AIDSWALK over the years has made an important and lasting statement about Southern Arizona's commitment to the fight against AIDS. AIDSWSALK attracts approximately 4,000 walkers annually and continues to enjoy strong corporate underwriting alliances.

Of reported demographic information from participants, 60% of all registered walkers are female, two thirds are under 35, and one-fourth are under 18. AIDSWALK Tucson has grown from 800 participants in 1989 to more than 4,000 individuals and 79 businesses raising over $239,000 in 2004 for local HIV/AIDS education, prevention and support programs.

NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626.

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.saaf.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 36264, 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 info.

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 (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 529-2269, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww,org

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.

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 6:30 - 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), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.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 msg. TucsonSources@aol.com

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

TNTucsonMEN, a nudist Gay men's club. We are a social and recreational group. By the way the TN means Totally Naked! Drop us an e-mail at TNTucsonMEN@nethere,com

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

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 Hotliine (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. Ellie 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 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 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.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 16 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 739 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 info call Scott at 299-6647.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contract 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 MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 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. 694-7063.

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 CareTeams 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 Anabeli 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). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-variant advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)867-0083 for more info.

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.

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 6523 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. Web: http://www.desertdominion.org or call (520)792-6424

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 293-6624.

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 info.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)906-0669 and or Mona Garcia 256-8728.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED — Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 6:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lctucson.org write: LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

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)

REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Have any history/ experience singing? Join us!! Call 617-3100 for more info.

"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

LIKE TO READ?
The Guys Book Club (TGBC) invites new members to join them. The group meets once a month, on the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Magpie's Pizza on 4th Avenue to discuss the Gay-themed book read by members the previous month.

THE MAN TO MAN Social/erotic education club is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities and sex education. Marc 881-4582

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.

LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF
Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Lori at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 20. Services are free.

NEW TUCSON SOBRIETY SUPPORT GROUP. Secular Organizations for Sobriety - Sundays 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. at 739 N. 4th Avenue. Contacts Rick R. 520-792-2604 or Gary S. 520-323-1969. More information at www.secularhumanism.org/sos/ This group is an alternative to 12-step programs.

MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP (Open to all who identify as male and are 118 or older). 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map at www.desertdominion,org) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required
.
GET NAKED with TNTucson MEN! We're a social and recreational club. Have you ever longed to camp, swim, hike or play with others who enjoy the same, dropping all the masks, pretensions? TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

DESERT PRIDE - Your store for Gay Pride and more!
611 N. Fourth Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85705 (Across from IBT's, Next to Magpies. Come See Us!) **(520)388-9829**

Bid To Kill Canada's G/L Marriage Bill Defeated

OTTAWA - The Canadian Liberal government's same-sex marriage bill survived a move by the opposition Conservatives to derail the measure late Tuesday, April 12, 365Gay.com reported.

Conservative leader Stephen Harper had proposed amending the bill to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman but allow for civil unions. All but four members of his party supported the move. It was also supported by a large number of Liberals - opposed to their own government's legislation.

Almost all of the members of the two smaller parties - the New Democrats and the Bloc Quebecois - voted against the amendment.

The final vote was 164 -132 to defeat the Tory motion.

The legislation still faces other votes and Conservatives say they will continue to fight the marriage bill but most analysts, following the vote, say they expect the government's bill to survive.

The Liberals say they want the legislation passed by May. But, the minority Liberal government could fall at any time, forcing an election.

If the government falls before the bill is passed it would die on House floor. However, should that occur, or if the bill were defeated in a Commons vote, same-sex marriage in more than 80 percent of Canada where courts have ruled in favor of Gay and Lesbian couples would not be affected.

But, even if the legislation does make it through the future of same-sex marriage could be put in jeopardy by an impending election.

A poll showed that if there were an election today the Conservatives would win.

Speaking at a rally of some 15,000 evangelical Christians, Catholics and Muslims on Parliament Hill on Saturday Harper vowed that if his party is elected to govern he would would abolish same-sex marriage - even in those provinces where courts have declared it legal.

Two leading constitutional law experts said that the only way Harper could achieve that would be by using the so-called 'notwithstanding clause' - a section of the Constitution which allows governments to opt out of sections of the document and must be renewed every five years.

Although Harper denies that this would be the only way to accomplish it constitutional law professor Martha Jackman says he is wrong.

"Canadian courts . . . have made it clear that equal marriage is a matter of fundamental, constitutional law,'' said Jackman of the University of Ottawa. Her position is supported by the Canadian Bar Association.

Gay civil rights advocates say Harper is on dangerous ground. Alex Munter, spokesperson for Canadians for Equal Marriages, warned Harper that his bid to "vaporize'' same-sex marriages will cast him as a social extremist in any upcoming election.

"He wants to annul people's marriages,'' Munter told reporters on Parliament Hill.

"He wants to say that Gays and Lesbians are not protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Those are extreme positions not shared by most Canadians. And in an election campaign, he'll have to answer for those positions.''

Munter may be right. Pollsters say the public is almost evenly divided on Gay marriage. And, in the last federal election, a year ago, the Tories also were leading in the polls up until the week before the election. The lead evaporated when Liberals accused Conservatives of trying to gut the Charter - Canada's Bill of Rights.

What had been predicated as a Conservative landslide turned into a Liberal minority government.

More than 3,000 Gay couples have tied the knot in Canada since courts in seven provinces and the Yukon cleared the way.

Feminist Andrea Dworkin Dies

NEW YORK - Andrea Dworkin wrote openly about the experiences as a prostitute, rape victim and battered wife that led her to become a crusader against pornography and violence against women — and a lightning rod for the feminist movement, the Associated Press reported on the PlanetOut Network.

Dworkin died Monday, Aprill 11, at her home in Washington, said her husband, John Stoltenberg. She and Stoltenberg, who were openly Gay, began living together in 1974 and married in 1998.

Dworkin was 58 and had been ill for several years from ailments including osteoarthritis.

"In every century, there are a handful of writers who help the human race to evolve," fellow feminist Gloria Steinem said in a statement. "Andrea is one of them."

Dworkin, a self-proclaimed radical feminist once described as the Malcolm X of the women's movement, devoted her work and more than a dozen books to fighting what she considered the subordination of women, notably in marriage and pornography.

"She really committed her life to giving voice to the women at the bottom, the women who were battered, raped, who were prostituted, who were made into pornography," Stoltenberg said.

Her first book, "Woman Hating," published when she was 27, launched her lifelong advocacy on the ways pornography harms women.

She campaigned frequently on the subject and teamed with legal scholar Catharine A. MacKinnon to draft an ordinance defining pornography as a violation of women's civil rights, allowing women to sue for damages. The ordinance was inspired by the situation of Linda Marchiano, who as Linda Lovelace appeared in the pornographic film "Deep Throat" and later said she had been coerced.

She was arrested at a protest against the Vietnam War when she was 18 and sent to prison, where she said she was subjected to a body cavity search by prison doctors. She also said she married a man who beat her, was raped and at one point became a prostitute.

Her many books included "Scapegoat: The Jews, Israel and Women's Liberation," which in 2001 won an American Book Award, given to honor cultural diversity in American writing.

Everyone in Tucson is wagging their tails about the Humane Society of Southern Arizona's

7th Annual

Puttin' on the Dog!

Friday, May 6, 2005

6 - 9 p.m.
Tucson Country Club
2950 N. Camino Principal

- **Fashion Show emceed by Dana Cooper and Bob Elliot, featuring Local Celebrities modeling with their Favorite Canine Companions**
- **Fantastic Live and Silent Auctions**
- **Complimentary Hearty Hors d'oeuvres and Beverages**
- **Live Entertainment**

Relax ☙ while you view Tucson's most sought-after celebrities, dressed to the K-9's, sporting fashions by Franklin's Men's Store, Maya Palace, and Pour Moi; hair and makeup by Avalon Salon.

Enjoy ☙ great food and desserts from Tucson Originals and beverages from Metro Restaurants, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company, Golden Eagle Distributors and New Life Health Center; uplifting music from Steel del Sol; fine decór by Decór Solutions, and stunning floral arrangements from Sav-On Flowers.

Reservations ☙ only $65 per person; all proceeds benefit the homeless animals of the Humane Society of Southern Arizona.

Media Partner ☙ Tucson Lifestyle

the humane society of southern arizona

☙ For more information or to make reservations, contact Suzi Handel at 321-3704 ext. 188, or go to the HSSA website at www.humane-so-arizona.org