



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Chief Hedtke Presents Positive Image To Local Gay Community



TUCSON - Tucson's new police Chief, Elaine Hedtke is shown above being welcomed to the Old Pueblo Business and Professional Association by OP President

Jim Toevs. The occasion was the Old Pueblo March meeting last Friday, March 20, when Hedtke addressed the membership. See accompanying story.

New Tucson Police Chief Elaine Hedtke said last week she "will not tolerate inappropriate manifestations of personal prejudice or bias" among police officers.

"I cannot order them to change," Hedtke told an audience of 80 at the March meeting of the Old Pueblo Business and Professional Association. "I can only hope that over time these attitudes will change as police officers become more aware of the totality of this community."

But, she said, "when I see prejudice manifest itself within the department or outside it, I will deal with it in a positive fashion. In the meantime, you will have to be patient with us just as we must be more sensitive to you."

Hedtke reminded her audience that no social change comes without cost. It is the risk-takers, she said, who ultimately change things. The reality of

by Tom Norman
taking risks, such as coming out, she said, might be better than one fears it will be.

She encouraged OPBPA members to stay out front in the community, presenting "the face of a part of the professional community that has a life orientation a bit different from the rest of society."

Hedtke was asked whether she would change the methods used by the department to arrest Gay men around park bathrooms. There were 300 such arrests last year, for overt sexual conduct that many of those arrested said was encouraged by undercover officers.

"If people report that they have been hassled or harried by people asking for sex in the park, we will act to clear up the problem in that park," the chief said. "But I will not allow officers to engage in

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN

New Report Shows Violence and Victimization Against Lesbians and Gay Men Surge In Key U.S. Cities

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Violence against Gay men and Lesbians is pervasive around the nation, surging in key U.S. cities, and is having a "profoundly destructive" impact on Gay people and society in general, says a new report released by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Findings in the seventh annual NGLTF Policy Institute report, Anti Gay/Lesbian Violence, Victimization and Defamation in 1991, reveal a disturbing increase in attacks on Gay people in five major urban areas around the country. In addition, the report cites examples of 1992 presidential campaign defamation by Patrick Buchanan and others, and negative portrayals of homosexuals in Hollywood movies - including Basic Instinct - as fueling anti-Gay prejudice.

A total of 1,822 incidents - including harassment, threats, physical assaults, vandalism, arson, police abuse and murder - were reported to agencies in New York, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul and San Francisco. The incidents represent a 31 percent increase over 1990 in the same cities.

Among the most serious incidents that increased were anti-Gay murders, which more than doubled. Last year, eight people were killed for being Gay, up from three in 1990. Physical assaults, or "Gay-bashings," leaped 15 percent and acts of police abuse jumped 29 percent.

Anti-Gay and Lesbian violence continues to be a widespread and critical problem, provoked by official Gay bashing in politics and popular culture," said Kevin Burrill, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Anti-Violence Project director and author of the report. "Each attack sends a message of hatred and terror intended to silence and render invisible not only the victim but all Gay people."

"Unchecked, these crimes of hate create an atmosphere of fear and intolerance that undermines not only the Gay community but the democratic and pluralistic foundation of our society."

The 1991 Report: Anti Gay Backlash

This year's report focuses on trends in five key U.S. urban areas with professionally staffed Gay/Lesbian victim assistance agencies. However, the geographic and cultural diversity of the areas, combined with prevalence studies and reports from additional cities, "means it is likely that other U.S. urban areas, and perhaps suburban and rural communities, are experiencing a similar surge," said Burrill.

Burrill noted that the rise in documented anti-Gay episodes reflects a variety of factors, including greater outreach to victims by local agencies and/greater levels of reporting by victims. "It is likely, however, that the rising numbers indicate that the problem has intensified. A major factor has to be increasingly violent backlash against growing gay visibility - a visibility that ironically has garnered additional political power for Gays."

Statistics

A total of 1,822 incidents were reported to agencies in the five key cities. The New York City area recorded 592 incidents, the highest number of episodes, followed by 473 in San Francisco; 338 in Minneapolis/St. Paul; 210 in Chicago; and 209 in Boston. Because of under-reporting by victims, it is estimated these figures reflect a fraction of the actual number of incidents.

Compared to 1990, reported anti-gay incidents increased in 1991 by six percent in Chicago; 11 percent in San Francisco, 17 percent in New York City, 42 percent in the Boston area and 202 percent in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Combined, episodes rose 31 percent over 1990's total of 1,389 in the cities. Taken together, the number of anti-Gay incidents in the cities has increased 161 percent since 1988, the year several of the agencies began monitoring attacks.

Physical assaults climbed 15 percent to 775 incidents; police abuse jumped 29 percent to 146; and vandalism surged 51 percent to 125. Anti-Gay homicides went from three in 1990 to eight in 1991. Threats and harassment were the most frequently reported offenses, with 1,255 total episodes recorded. In addition, 52 incidents of robbery and extortion, six bomb threats and four acts of arson were reported.

The incidents were directed at a total of 2,117 individuals, of whom 1,634 were male (77 percent); 450 (21 percent) female; 12 (1 percent) transsexual and 21 (1 percent) "unknown." In addition, 88 Gay and Lesbian institutions were targeted.

AIDS bias continues to be a factor in many of the anti-Gay attacks. Among the incidents documented last year, 223, or 12 percent, involved AIDS-related epithets or were directed against people with AIDS or perceived to have AIDS.

Although only 362 anti-Gay crimes were reported to local police in all

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

UPDATE

Pride Week Logo Contest

The theme for this year's Pride Week is: "A Simple Matter Of Justice," a quote from Harvey Milk, the Gay San Francisco Supervisor who was murdered because of his Gayness. A contest is now being held for a logo for this year incorporating the 1992 theme. Artists and non-artists may submit entries by dropping them off at a TLGA meeting or by mailing them to TLGA, P.O., Box 57033, Tucson, AZ 85703. The winning entry will receive a \$75 first prize and the artwork will appear in all advertising and on T-Shirts and other items that will be on sale during pride week. The committee would like to get the first shipment of T-Shirts on sale during the Fiesta de Mayo events, so the deadline for entries will be Sunday, April 12 at the TLGA Meeting.

UofA Fraternity Seeks Funds

TUCSON - Delta Lambda Phi, is a progressive social fraternity on the UofA campus that provides a fraternal experience for men regardless of sexual orientation. In addition to fostering a brotherhood, the members also want to give back to Tucson's Gay community. Delta Lambda Phi is represented at the Tucson AIDS Project (TAP), Lesbians, Bi's and Gays United! (LGBU) and BGALA, an official branch of the UofA student government.

"As much as we want to support our community, we need the community to support us. While we appreciate the moral support that we've received, we also are in need of financial support," said F. Mike Radza, fundraising chairman for Delta Lambda Phi. "One of our many goals is to buy a 'house'. We also plan to establish a full calendar of philanthropies."

To raise the necessary funds, the fraternity will be making T-shirts that will advertise the sponsors. Members and pledges will be wearing these shirts on campus and around the community. On the front: "Delta Lambda Phi, Spring 1992"; and on the back: "Proudly sponsored by.... (the names of many supporters).

The group is requesting the following donations to display the sponsoring person's name or the business name. Individual names, \$15; Business names, \$30; Business names with logos, \$50.

For more information contact Delta Lambda Phi, Beta Class, 1001 W. St. Mary's, #612, Tucson, AZ 85745-2471

Violence

(Continued from page one)

five cities in 1991, this figure is 41 percent higher than the number documented in 1990.

EXAMPLES OF ANTI-GAY AND LESBIAN INCIDENTS

** Outside a Gay nightclub in Houston, Texas, on July 4, 10 young men armed with wooden clubs and a knife attacked three Gay men killing one and injuring another.

** On June 2, a Gay man in Superior, Wisconsin, was stabbed to death by a man who later told police, "I wanted to kill this fag. My whole life is devoted to killing faggots and child molesters ... they spread AIDS."

** In Los Angeles on August 7, an African-American Lesbian was called anti-Gay slurs, assaulted and terrorized by a man with a gun who forced his way into her home.

** In May in Springfield, Missouri, members of the Ku Klux Klan paraded outside the home of a Gay male couple, smashed the windows of their car and threw eggs and tomatoes at their home.

** In a February 11 attack described by a judge as "lawless," New York police officers charged a peaceful crowd of Gay demonstrators and brutally clubbed a man, leaving him with a concussion and other serious injuries.

** On June 24, and again on August 15, bombs exploded outside a Lesbian and Gay bookstore in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The explosions damaged the building, shattered windows and destroyed goods.

** At California State University at Northridge in October, anti-Gay flyers announcing "Gay bashing night" and "smear a queer" were posted across campus.

** Three bat-wielding teenagers on a spree in Pensacola, Florida, on June 15, bludgeoned to death a man whom they perceived to be Gay. Relatives of the victim said he was heterosexual.

SOCIAL CONTEXT HOLLYWOOD AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN HOMOPHOBIA

Rising reports of anti-Gay violence in 1992 occurred in a context in which Gays, Lesbians and people with AIDS are routinely vilified and defamed by leaders at every level of government, religion, entertainment and the media. In addition, reports show an increase in hate violence in the U.S. in general against

Blacks, Jews, Arabs, Asian-Americans, women and others.

"Venomous anti-Gay attacks by Patrick Buchanan, destructive stereotyping of Gay people in "Silence of the Lambs" and the just released "Basic Instinct", the demonization of Gay people by right-wing officials and "traditional values" groups, and the appalling silence among so many otherwise decent people in positions of leadership all contributed to the siege under which Lesbian and Gay Americans lived in 1991," said NGLTF's Berrill.

Patrick Buchanan has routinely denigrated Gays in his campaign speeches and released a 30-second campaign commercial that attacks federal funding of Marlon Riggs' "Tongues Untied" documentary about Gay people of color. "Basic Instinct", the multi-million dollar suspense blockbuster starring Michael Douglas, portrays Lesbians and Bisexual women as ice-pick wielding, man-hating, sociopathic killers.

GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY ACTION

In 1991, NGLTF assisted the FBI with regional seminars aimed at training law enforcement personnel to respond to bias crimes. Meanwhile, hate crimes laws were passed in nine states, bringing to 20 the number of states (not including the District of Columbia) with laws that monitor or penalize anti-Gay crimes. [ED NOTE: Arizona has passed a hate crimes bill that monitors but does not penalize anti-Gay crimes].

In addition, an unprecedented level of organizing against the rising tide of anti-Gay violence occurred in 1991. Gay communities launched safety patrols, awareness campaigns, demonstrations, violence surveys, coalitions to oppose hate violence, and lobbied for hate crime legislation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The NGLTF Policy Institute report recommends the following actions against anti-Gay/Lesbian violence:

** Increased funding for implementation of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act and other measures to counter hate crimes;

** Immediate passage of state and local laws to curb anti-Gay violence and other bias crimes;

** Immediate passage of local, state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and prompt repeal of sodomy laws that criminal private, consenting, adult sexual behavior;

** Mandatory training programs for law enforcement personnel to ensure competent and sensitive handling of bias crimes;

** Required educational programs in schools, churches and the wider community to counteract intolerance and anti-Gay prejudice.

** Vigorous condemnation of anti-Gay prejudice and violence by religious, political, education, business and media leaders.

"Empty Closet" Premieres

TUCSON Empty Closet Productions is now showing "Empty Closet", Tucson's new Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual cable TV program on Tucson Cablevision through TCCC. Shows continue twice a week, on Mondays at 8:30 p.m. on Channel 62 and on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. on Channel 49. There is a new program each month. For inquiries or information write to Empty Closet Productions, P.O. Box 1257, Tucson, AZ 85702.

DON'T MISS THE 7TH ANNUAL OBSERVER COMMUNITY BENEFIT SATURDAY, MARCH 28

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Office Hours 9 a.m. 6 p.m. M-F

EDITOR & PUBLISHER..... BOB ELLS
ART & GRAPHICS..... CLAYE

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

HEN COHEN
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DOC
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OBSERVER/Community Benefit - March 28 To Benefit SHANTI/Tucson and P.A.C.T. Plaza Hotel Convention Center

TUCSON - The 7th Annual OBSERVER/Community Benefit will be held this Saturday, March 28 at the Plaza Hotel Convention Center, at the intersection of Speedway and Campbell. The evening is a benefit for Shanti/Tucson and P.A.C.T. for Life.

The doors will open at 5:30 for cocktails. There will be three bars set up with liquor and beer donated by all of the local bars. Drinks will be sold by tickets with three tickets for \$5.00 or 7 tickets for \$10. Sodas are \$1.00. All proceeds from sales at the bar go directly to Shanti and P.A.C.T.

A sit-down Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Dinner this year will consist of Stuffed Baked Half Chicken on Herbed Rice, served with Mixed Green Salad, Fresh Vegetable, Hot Rolls, dessert and Beverage. Those attending who wish to have dinner, should get their tickets immediately so that the hotel can get some idea of just how many meals they must prepare.

The entertainment portion of the evening will begin at 8:30 p.m. The show will be hosted by Alan McLaughlin from Radio Cloud 95. Entertainment will include Miss Gay Arizona Pussy Le Hoot, Miss Gay Tucson Tiffany St. Thomas; the comedy talent of Emma Keller; live vocals by Soul Sisters, Loren Johnson, Eric Hemphill, Reggie Langston and Joe Wallen will be featured as well as the talents of Mr. Dani Reid and Monte-Jon, Jerry and Friends, Margo Leigh and Gilda Fatal.

There will be dancing to recorded music. Numerous door prizes will be drawn throughout the evening, and a raffle for some exciting and unusual items will also be held.

In addition to the bar sales going to Shanti and Pact, all tips and revenue derived from the raffles, sales of program advertising, ticket sales, cigarette sales and other donations will contribute once again promises to make this event one of the largest benefits of the year.

During the evening the Annual Tucson Observer Gay Appreciation Awards (TOGA) will be presented to the male and female who will be recognized for the outstanding work they have contributed to the community during the past year. In addition, the Lambda Democratic Caucus will present a special humanitarian award also.

The Plaza Hotel Convention Center is a large separate building to the rear of the hotel. There is plenty of parking at ground level as well as a huge underground garage for additional parking.

Make your plans now to attend this outstanding evening - join your friends for a excellent dinner, or plan to attend anyway and enjoy the entertainment and dance portion of the evening. General admission tickets are available for \$5.00. Tickets for the evening, including dinner are \$15.00 per person. Tables of eight may be reserved. Tickets are on sale now at all local Gay bars and at the Shanti Office as well as the PACT office.



Home On The Range With AGRA-Tucson

by Clyde Mitter

A.G.R.A. Tucson members selected Shanti, P.A.C.T. and PFLAG to each receive \$736.00 from Tucson's portion of the profits from the Road Runner Regional Rodeo held in Phoenix. Checks will be presented at A.G.R.A.'s general membership meeting to be held on April 12th at Club 2520 at 5:00 p.m.

The next fund raiser for the Saguaro Regional Rodeo will be "Chili Verde" to be held on April 12th starting at noon at Club 2520. Highlights include entertainment by area performers and a Bar-B-Que by Club 2520. Mark your calendar and plan to attend in support of Tucson's first gay rodeo.

The program for the 1992 Saguaro Regional Rodeo is currently being produced for May's rodeo. Anyone interested in advertising in the program contact Clyde Mitter at 798-3528. Camera ready ads need to be submitted no later than April 8th to A.G.R.A.-Tucson, 7272 East Broadway #412, Tucson Arizona 85710. For ad rates and sizes, see the official rodeo brochure in area bars.

The newest addition to the A.G.R.A. Tucson Board of Directors is R.T. "Stacked" who joins the Board as the Dance & Entertainment Director. Other Officers & Directors include: Michael Butrymowicz, President; Bill Darnell, Vice-President; Tom Turner, Recording Secretary; Craig Coder, Corresponding Secretary; Ron Shaw, Treasurer; Clyde Mitter, Public Relations Director; Sean Thomas, Fund Raising Director; John Klein, Rodeo Events Director; Jeff Parker, Mobility and Logistics Director.

To join A.G.R.A., an application must be filled out with a one-time initiation fee of \$20.00 and the annual membership dues of \$20.00. Your initiation fee covers the name tags, membership card, logo hat pin and monthly newsletter. See any A.G.R.A. member to join.

The next Tucson general membership meeting will be on Sunday, April 12th, at 5:00 p.m. at Club 2520, 2520 North Oracle. Anyone interested in becoming a member is encouraged to attend or write, A.G.R.A.-Tucson, 7272 East Broadway #412, Tucson Arizona 85710.

ACADEMY AWARDS PARTY

MONDAY, MARCH 30

7:00 P.M.

Obtain ballot from the bar, take it home and make your choices from each category. Ballots will be collected before the start of the show on Monday, March 30 with a \$5.00 entrance fee, which will go into the prize "pot". The top three ballots will split the "pot" First receives 60%, Second will take 25% and Third will take 15% of the "pot". The amount of the "pot" depends on the number of ballots turned in. So, get your friends to fill out a ballot too. There is only one ballot per person.

COMPLIMENTARY

HORS D'OEUVRES SERVED AT 6:30

Watch for "CHILI VERDE DAY" Sunday, April 12. A Benefit for A.G.R.A. - Tucson

Congratulations to all who participated in "Hides of March". It was a real fun event.

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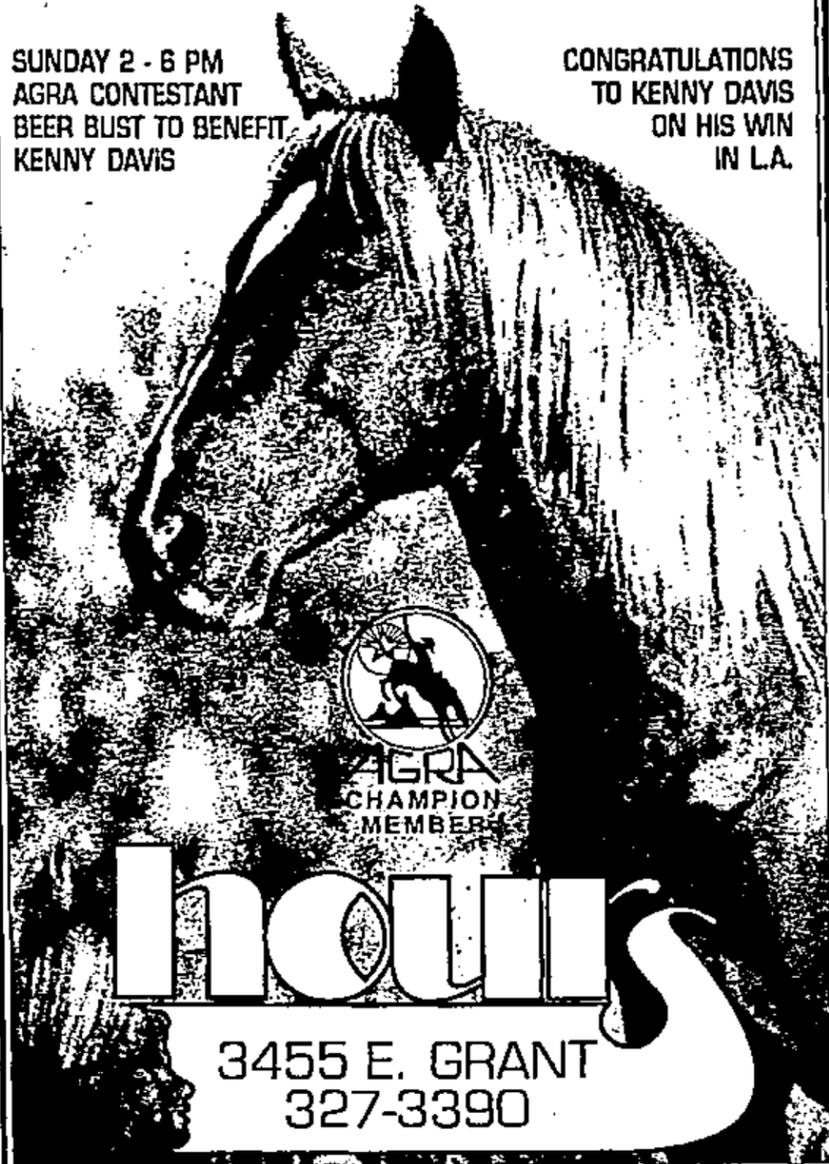
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News From MCC/TUCSON

by Ben Corbin

During the three weeks left in Lent, we will discuss those prominent in the Scriptures responsible for the death of Jesus. Pontius Pilate has a very high profile in the account described in all four of the Gospels. Pontius Pilate was the Roman prefect in Judea and was directly responsible to the Emperor in Rome for the government of the province. He held this post from AD 26 to 36 which can only mean that he was a capable Governor, the Emperor in Rome did not tolerate failures. Pilate was a Rome citizen and in all probability had experience as a Roman Soldier. He appears to have been well educated since he spoke with Jesus without an interpreter. When the Sanhedrin brought Jesus before Pilate for the sentence of death, Pilate protested and insisted that Jesus was innocent of any serious crime. The Sanhedrin had no authority to sentence Jesus to death, only Pontius Pilate had this authority. Pilate tried several ways to save Jesus but the Sanhedrins would have none of them. There were great crowds in Jerusalem at this time during Passover and Pilate feared of provoking the bloodthirsty leaders of the Sanhedrin. Pilate regrettably agreed to the execution but as his final act, took a bowl of water and washed his hands in full view of the people, proclaiming his innocence in the shedding of Jesus' blood.

One of the several ways Pontius Pilate tried to have Jesus released was to offer Barabbas for execution. As was a custom at this time of the year, any condemned person could be released by popular acclaim and Pilate offered the people their choice of either Jesus or Barabbas. Pilate was well aware that Jesus was more popular with the ordinary people than Jesus was with the chief priests. But the chief priests had been at work among the crowd that morning and to Pilate's great surprise, when he asked who should be released, the crowd shouted "Barabbas!". Barabbas was a rebel and had been charged with murder and the name means "son of as father", but apart from this incident we know nothing more about Barabbas.

This coming Sunday, March 29th, will be the drawing of the raffle for three valuable items, a silver and turquoise necklace, a man's gold and sapphire ring and a CB radio. Tickets will be on sale for \$1.00 each or 7 tickets for \$5.00, until the drawing. The winner need not be present to win. All proceeds from this raffle will be used to purchase new choir robes.

Rev. Judy Davenport, Assistant District Coordinator, was in Tucson this past week. Unfortunately, Rev. Judy was detained in Las Vegas and did not get into Tucson in time for our Midweek Service last Wednesday.

This coming Wednesday, March 25th, Rev. Don Pederson, District Coordinator and Rev. Thomas Jordan, Pastor of Gentle Shepherd MCC in Phoenix will be at our Midweek Service. A Pot-Luck Supper will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Worship Service will begin at 7:00 p.m. It is also possible that Rev. Charlotte Strayhorn, Pastor of Oasis MCC in Phoenix will be in Tucson at this time.

Thought of the week: It is easier to pull than push, that's why most leaders are usually up front.

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A Commentary By

Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

Was AIDS Man Made?

A recent article in London's "The Economist" presented a new entry into the continuing debate over the question of the origin of AIDS. It is a wide-ranging debate that has found as its progenitor the old Soviet Union, the CIA, god and mutated small pox vaccine.

Although finding the origin of AIDS can be likened to finding the very first language spoken by our ancestors, (yes, scientists are hunting for that too), the search for medicine's holy grail is certainly spirited and intriguing.

This article cogently points out the almost-exact similarity between HIV-2 (one of two human viruses that can lead to AIDS) and SIV, the simian immunodeficiency virus. Such exacting similarity, given the random nature of genetic mutation, can be safely said to be impossible without a common relation -- which, so far, eludes investigators.

However, with simians closely related genetically to the human animal, such a common relation is likely. But what?

One common relation inferred from circumstantial evidence centers around testing of a polio vaccine in central Africa in the 1950's. About 300,000 people received a vaccine that is thought to have been contaminated by SIV from

the monkey kidneys in which the polio vaccine was raised. Giving the known hibernation length of the AIDS virus (6-10 years), the first case of a human version of SIV would be expected around 1960. The first known case was 1959.

There are many facets to this theory -- some which support it, others which counter it. But, like any good mystery, often the most improbable solution proves correct.

UPDATE

Last week in this column, I delivered praise to the producers of television's "Murphy Brown" for the funny episode which Miles Silverberg thought he might be Gay. I intimated my concern over why this episode was scheduled in a "special" Wednesday spot -- and the recent Nielsen Ratings confirm my fears.

Whereas the regular Monday episode on March 2 garnered a 19.8 rating, placing it in third place for the week, this "special" Gay-themed episode had only a 12 rating, placing it in 41st place. Was this a compromise? Did Warner Brothers Television allow the producers a Gay-themed episode on the condition it did not run in the traditional time slot? One wonders...

At Spes Non Fracta: See you next week.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Some people in our community spend a great deal of time and effort to disprove the existence of God. By doing so, the undermine their own arguments. Addison Leitch wrote, "Unless an Atheist is carrying on his fight against absolute 'Nothingness', (and this makes us wonder about his zeal). Then He must be arguing against something he finds ingrained in himself."

The inherent belief in God doesn't prove that He exists, but surely hints in that direction. It is often said that there are no atheists in cancer wards or HIV wards for that matter. Having worked in Critical Care for many years, I can tell you the two words most dying people cry out is "Mother" and "God".

God's word, (the Bible), says "only a fool says there is no God." (Psalm 53:1). It's not about religion...it's about believing. Think about it. It wasn't fair for a rugged, healthy 33 year old carpenter to die for you; but He did. He did so you could live forever, starting

NOW. all you have to do is believe.

The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son, that who so ever believeth, (that's us too!), in Him should not perish but have ever lasting life." (John 3:16).

The fool says there is no God, no hope. Why don't you be wise, instead. Give your heart to Jesus. Make it your GOAL to believe and love God. After all, what have you got to lose?

God already knows everything about you. Isn't it time YOU learned about Him? We offer Morning Worship Services at 10:30 a.m. as well as Evening Worship Services at 6:00 p.m. every Sunday. You are most welcome and encouraged to join us in singing, praising and worshipping the Lord. We would love to meet you and share our joy; and fill you in on God's answers to any questions you may have. Will we see you Sunday morning or evening this week? We hope so.



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ENTERTAINMENT

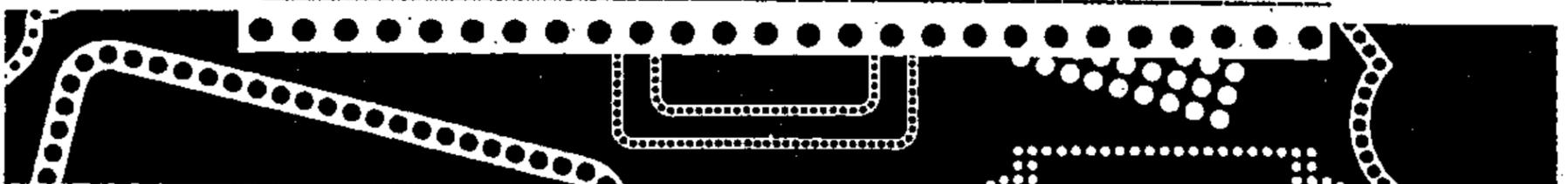
Hosted by Alan McLaughlin of Cloud 95 FM

And Starring In Alphabetical Order

ANNE ENGLISH * GILDA FATAL * MONTE-JON GILMER
ERIC HEMPHILL * PUSSY LE HOOT * JERRY & FRIENDS
LOREN JOHNSON * EMMA KELLER * REGGIE
LANGSTON * MARGO LEIGH * DANI REID
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3-BARS with reasonably priced drinks and all proceeds
going toward the benefit.

DOOR PRIZES - RAFFLES - TOGA AWARDS



Hedtke - Continued from page one

enforcement activity because they think it's neat."

She said that sexual conduct laws will be enforced by whatever means is deemed most professionally effective, be that uniformed officers, undercover officers wearing "wires" or decoys.

She urged anyone with documentation of police harassment in parks or elsewhere to bring it to her personally.

"If I find that the police conduct was unacceptable, I will request, politely, that it stop right now," she said.

Hedtke said she is well aware of what it's like to be the subject of bias and prejudice. She was among the first women on the Tucson police in the mid-70s.

"Did I experience prejudice?" she asked sardonically. "Of course not. I appreciated being called a cunt."

In response to questions, Hedtke said the department is working on ways to make basic police case reports available to the media, as they were before an Arizona court decision last summer that deemed release of information a violation of victim rights.

It was only through access to case reports that Arizona Daily Star reporter M. Scot Skinner was able to document the park arrests.

"Assuming that reporters can get all they need by listening to their police radio scanners is ridiculous," Hedtke

said. "How can you ask the right questions if you don't know that happened?"

She said the Legislature may act to clarify the victim rights bill and thereby ease the restrictions on information. Mean time, she assured, quarterly meetings between the police and the media to resolve such will resume, "only now the chief will be there." Former Chief Peter Ronstadt rarely attended such meetings.

Hedtke said that she will not specifically recruit Gay and Lesbian candidates for officer training.

"I don't know how many Gays and Lesbians there are in the department now," she said, "and quite honestly, I don't care because it doesn't make any difference. It's not my business."

"I intend to recruit quality people, no matter their ethnicity or race or sexual orientation," she said. "I will not put recruiting notices up in bars," she quipped, "because the kind of people I'm looking for aren't likely to be there, but I will put them out at Gay fairs and other social activities." She said she will also send recruitment notices to the Observer for publication.

Hedtke said she will institute new in-service training for officers. "I'm not going to call it sensitivity training' because they'll go, 'phht!' We'll find a name for it that the guys' can really appreciate, maybe 'customer service,' because that's really what it is."

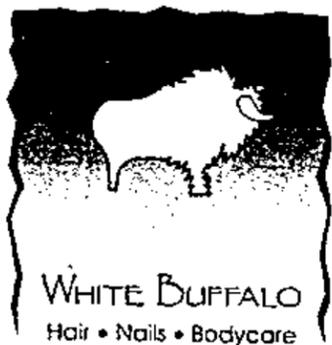
"We're not really friendly with each other any more and police must deal with that on a routine basis," she noted.

"But, while there is a danger in the community, this community is not, overall, dangerous," she said.

Under her supervision, officers are going to be required to become involved in various community organizations and activities, to better acquaint them with those whom they serve, Hedtke said.

She predicted that the state Legislature eventually will adopt a hate-crimes law, once it has been shown documentation that there is a need for it and when legislators resolve their concerns over inhibiting free speech with such a law.

"There is a distinction between having an opinion about someone and engaging in criminal activity against that person," Hedtke said. "I support the right to have opinions and to speak them, but that doesn't include assault and property crime."



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WHAT I SEE FROM HERE

Anne C. Schmitt



I have contemplated writing a column in the Observer for many years and many reasons. Occasionally I have submitted reviews of books or concerts, as well as letters to the Editor. But as far as a column goes, I have not felt, until now that I had enough to say on a regular basis to do one.

But now I'm angry. Angry at not having all my full civil rights because I am queer, angry that the general public pushes Gay issues to the back burner and angry that the apathy in our community prevents us from working together with the groups who battle for our rights with only a tiny bit of our involvement or support. This is only one of the things I am seeing that I want to bring to the attention of our community.

My work takes me into the realm of many non-profit organizations, political groups and arts groups. Many of these groups are involved in the Tucson Gay community either directly or indirectly. Part of what I want to do is let some of this information be passed around, thought about, discussed and hopefully stir some interest and action.

So, here I go... this weeks attempt to provoke either thought or discussion is "Where Do You Spend Your Money... and What Does That Money Do Once You've Spent It".

Every month I make a point of reading the Good News, which is the fundamentalist Christian newspaper. It is part of the Good News Communications, Inc., which includes KVOI-AM, KGMS-FM radio stations and Good News Magazine.

Even though reading this paper often raises chuckles of pure amusement at its level of idiocy, I have to remember that they are indeed serious about what they present. Their continual attacks on the Gay community proclaim us to be moral perverts with leftist tendencies (Un-American) who do not deserve the civil rights afforded to other citizens of the United States. They actively lobby against groups and organizations who openly support Gay rights.

Ultra Right Wing groups such as Concerned Women for America attend meetings of the Tucson City Council and the Pima County Board of Supervisors to protest funding of the Tucson Women's Commission because of its involvement with "very weird organizations" and other issues of "non-Christian" focus. These women have a loud mouthpiece in the form of Supervisor Ed Moore and they have instituted a letter writing campaign to both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors to protest funding of the Tucson Women's Commission. They will make sure that every fundamentalist church in Pima County announces this plan to its parishioners - and lots of letters will be written and sent protesting the Women's commission's support of Gay

Rights, Equal Rights, a woman's Right to Choose and other issues that are really purely just basic Civil Rights.

OK... so what does this have to do where you shop?

The Good News is full of ads. Businesses buy these ads with money - and that money goes to provide a widely circulated paper which advocates the denial of our civil rights. Chances are pretty good that these same advertisers contribute to organizations and politicians who actively work to keep us from obtaining the basic right to love the persons of our choice.

When we purchase goods and services from these advertisers, we actively participate in our own oppression. When we keep our mouths shut and don't let these businesses know that their advertisements deny us our civil rights, then we are telling them it's alright to continue this practice. If we let them know that it causes a loss of business for them, and brands them as fundamentalist bigots, then maybe they will think twice before putting their advertising money into the Good News. But most of all, don't buy from them and then turn around and say we have no rights!

On the other side of the coin... What about businesses which cater to the Gay community or at least welcome our business without openly proclaiming us the Scourge of the Earth? Spread those Gay bucks around a bit folks! Let them know who you are! They advertise in the Observer, they've been with us through good times and bad, they donate items for the many benefit raffles and auctions, they support community groups and organizations who fight for our rights. Buy from them first before heading to the nearest mall. These tend to be small businesses and they need our support as badly as we need theirs. If you go to the bars, take the time to spend a little money at all the bars - they all contribute space and time and money when we ask for their help. Buy books Antigone before you go to the mainstream bookstores and go to "Gay Friendly" restaurants instead of Rincon Market, which is one of the regular monthly advertisers in the Good news.

Think about how nice it would be to have the full benefits of complete civil rights as an openly Gay person - then think of where your money goes!

[Letters in support of the Tucson Women's Commission would be very helpful as they fight for their funding. Send them to the Mayor, Tucson City Council and the Pima County Board of Supervisors].
Pima County Board of Supervisors call 740-8216 or write to:
Pima County Board of Supervisors
130 W. Congress, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701
(Greg Lunn, Dan Eckstrom, Ed Moore, Reg Morrison, Raul Grijalva)

To reach the City Council call 791-4700 and leave a message 24-hours a day - it will be transcribed and given to each City Council member, or write to:
Mayor and Council
P.O. Box 27210
Tucson, AZ 85726
(Mayor George Miller, Bruce Wheeler, Janet Marcus, Michael Haggerty, Roger Sedlmayr, Steve Leal, Molly McKasson).

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CALENDAR of upcoming events

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

RUMORZ - "An Evening Of Illusion" show here as a benefit for Miss Gay Tucson candidate Jessica Blake. Show begins at 8:30 p.m. and stars Miss Gay Tucson, Tiffany St. Thomas, Lucinda Holliday, Christina de Alexis, Madame X and of course, Jessica Blake.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

CLUB 2520 - Academy Awards Party here beginning at 7:00 p.m. Obtain your ballot from the bar (you can do this prior to the date) take it home or make it out there. Ballots will be collected before the Awards show begins. To enter there is a \$5 entrance fee which goes into the prize "Pot". The top three ballots will split the "pot". 1st gets 60%; 2nd gets 25% and third receives 15%. The size of the "pot" depends on how many ballots are turned in. Get your friends to fill out one too because there is only one ballot per person. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres served at 6:30 p.m.

RUMORZ - Special drink prices during the showing of the Academy Awards on their big screen. It begins at 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

CLUB 2520 - A Benefit Car Wash for the Delta Lambda Phi fraternity on the UofA campus. You've read about them in this paper and know they want to go ahead with some important programs on campus and they need financial support. If your car is dirty (or even if it is clean) get on down and let them work on it for you. A great group and a great cause.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

CLUB 2520 - Another AGRA-Tucson benefit for the May rodeo. "Chili Verde Days" here. More details later. It'll be a big one!

SUNDAY, APRIL 19 (EASTER SUNDAY)

CLUB 2520 - Extra special Easter Brunch. Make plans now to enjoy Easter here with some great food and excellent company and fine surroundings.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

CLUB 2520 - It's Mother's Day. Plan to take mom out to Brunch here for some fabulous food. Treat your mother to a real treat.



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Non-Bar

CALENDAR

(NOTE: If you have an event or special happening that you feel should be included in this Non-Bar Activities Calendar, please contact Mr. Ben Corbin prior to Monday of that Wednesday's paper for inclusion in that week's issue. After the first notice has appeared, it will appear weekly until that event has taken place. Mr. Corbin may be reached at 322-9181 in Tucson.)

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

TLOA will meet at 3:00 p.m. to make plans for Fiesta de Mayo, the big fund-raising event to help finance Gay Pride Week. All parties interested in helping out or interested candidates for King or Queen of the Fiesta or persons with logos for Pride Week please attend.

FRI. - SAT. - SUN. MARCH 27-28-29

"MALA NOCHE" directed by Gus Van Sant, the director of "Drugstore Cowboy" and "My Own Private Idaho" will be showing at Midnight Friday and Saturday at the New Loft and on Sunday at 7:30 at the Downtown Performance Center, 530B N. Stone. The film is Van Sant's quasi-underground award-winning first feature. It is a stunning, ultra-realistic walk on Portland's wild side, a seedy strip populated by small-time hustlers. Romantic obsession is again plays for jagged comedy. Walt, who is openly and happily gay, develops a doomed passion for Johnny, a young drifter from south of the border. Curt McDowell's outrageous 10 minute film "A Night With Gilda Peck" is also on the program.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

OBSERVER/Community Benefit at the Plaza Hotel Convention Center. Dinner, Dancing, Entertainment. Tickets \$15.00 per person includes dinner and the entire evening of fun. Door Prizes. All net proceeds go to Shanti/Tucson and PACT for Life. Check story in this issue for complete details. \$5.00 general admission tickets are available at the door. Reasonably priced drinks, entertainment and a great cause for two of Tucson's finest AIDS agencies.

MONDAY & TUESDAY, MARCH 30 & 31

Robert Morse will perform his Tony-Award winning role in "TRU" at the UofA Centennial Hall beginning at 8 p.m. both nights. Morse portrays the flamboyant author Truman Capote in a one-man tour de force which has received rave reviews. The playwright, Jay Presson Allen, was given access to a massive amount of material from the Capote estate, including letters and private papers. The result is a highly insightful production which critics have called "wickedly funny" and "a dazzling triumph". Tickets are \$32; \$28; \$22. Full-time UA students receive \$10 off. Tickets are available at the Centennial Hall Box Office and all Dillard's and Tucson Convention Center outlets.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

The Spring Men's Group Massage Outdoor Event has been rescheduled for April 5 at 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. This is a good way to meet someone new and have a lot of clean fun besides. Fee. For more information contact Marque at 881-4582.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Miss Gay Tucson Pageant at the Quality Inn, 1601 N. Oracle at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person. Tables of ten may be reserved. For reservations and further information call Penelope Poupé Productions in Phoenix at (602)279-3736. More details later.



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Tucson CALENDAR

sunday

CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. Brunch served noon to 3 p.m. Ten Dance 1 to 4. Western Steak Fry 5 to 7. Video/Dance Bar and Country/Western Dance bar open 8 pm to 1 am. Live Dance lessons by Paul Barner from 6 to 8 pm.
GRADUATE - All White Well \$1.50 till 8pm and \$2.00 8 pm to close.
HOURS - Bloody Marys and Serves \$1.25 til 7 pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.
IBT'S - 2 for 1 Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm on well and non-premium beer. 8 to 1 Trunk Disco Night. Hot music from the 70s & 80s.
RUMORZ - Open at noon. \$1.50 well and Domestic Beer until 8:00 p.m. V/DJ Jeff 9 p.m.
VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. Cash Pool Tournament. 3 p.m. \$3 entry fee. Patio bar opens at 4 p.m.

monday

CLUB CONGRESS - 70's Disco with Super Star Lover. \$1. 9 pm to 1 am.
CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. Hourly mystery drink special 8 to close. C/W dancing and video dancing begins at 8 p.m.
GRADUATE - Happy Hour prices open to close. Mystery Movie mix. Bring in your VHS movie and they'll play it. (No porno please!).
HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7 pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 30 Draft Beer 7 to close.
IBT'S - 4 to 8 Two for One. Easy listening music. Bring in your own tape for a drink special 8 pm to 1 am.
RUMORZ - Open noon. From 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer. 8:00 to closing. \$1.50 White Well. V/DJ Jeff 9 p.m.
VENTURE-N - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens at 4 p.m.

tuesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer 8 pm to close. Country/Western and Video dancing begins at 8 pm.
GRADUATE - Draft Beer Bust. Small Pitches \$1.50, Large \$3.00 til close.
HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Schapp's 75¢ 7 to close.
IBT'S - 4 to 8 Two for One. Copper City Squares 7-9. Leather Nite with 75¢ draft beer and 50¢ off call liquor for anyone wearing leather 8 pm to close. Country music and dancing with Gil Lena 9-1.
RUMORZ - Open noon. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer from 3:00 p.m. to closing. V/DJ Mark 9 pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens at 4 p.m.

wednesday

CLUB CONGRESS - Rock 'n Roll Boy Bar with DJ Sir Rodney Farrow.
CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. 50¢ off on everything from 8 pm to close. Country/Western dancing and lessons for partners by Paul Barner from 8-10. Video dancing begins at 8 p.m. Spaghetti food 6 to 8 p.m. \$2.
GRADUATE - Domestic Longnecks \$1.25 to 8 pm - \$1.50 til closing.
HOURS - Happy Hours 12 to 7 pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Bartender's Choice 7 to close.
IBT'S - 4-8 Two for One. Dance music 8-1. Double dose Schapp's for \$1.50. Check out blended drink special. Bowler's Special \$1 Well or non-premium Beer.
RUMORZ - Open noon. From 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer. From 8:02 to closing. 75¢ Schapp's. V/DJ Mark 9pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens at 4 p.m.

thursday

CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. Men's Nite - Strip Show and/or Jockey Show Contest plus 50¢ draft beer 9 pm to 1 am. Country/Western & video dancing begins at 8 pm.
GRADUATE - Call \$2.00. Top Shelf \$2.50 all day and night.
HOURS - Happy Hours 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Heineken or Corona \$1.25 9 pm to 1 am. Country/Western dancing 9 to 1.
IBT'S - 4-8 Two for One. Country music and dancing with Gil Lena. Free dance lessons 8 p.m. Bud and Bud Lite \$1.50 from 8-1.
RUMORZ - Open Noon. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm. 50 cent Draft from 8:00 pm to close. Dancing with V/DJ Mark 9-1.
VENTURE-N - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens at 4 p.m.

friday

CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. Extended 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 10 pm. (well and domestic beer). Country/Western dancing and Video dancing begins at 8 pm.
GRADUATE - All Well \$1.50 and Domestic Beer \$1.25 until 8 p.m. All Well \$2 and Domestic Beer \$1.50 from 8 p.m. to close.
HOURS - Happy Hours 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Dancing 9 pm-1 am. Country/Western live Friday of each month.
IBT'S - 4-8 Two for One! Hot Music 8 to close with Kay.
RUMORZ - Open Noon. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer from 3:00 until 9:00. Hors D'Oeuvres. V/DJ Mark 9-1.
VENTURE-N - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens at 4 p.m.

saturday

CLUB 2520 - Open 11 am. 50¢ Schapp's 8 pm to 1 am. Country/Western dancing and Video dancing begins at 8 pm.
GRADUATE - Draft Well \$1.50 til 8 pm. \$2.00 to closing.
HOURS - Open Noon. 7 pm to 1 am. DJ music 9 to 1. Last Saturday of each month is Country and Western dance music.
IBT'S - 2 for 1 Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm on well and non-premium beer. Hot music 8 to close with Linda Fizzle.
RUMORZ - Open Noon. \$1.50 Corona 8:00 pm to close. Dance with Jeff V/DJ 9-1.
VENTURE-N - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens 4 p.m.



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Fiesta de Mayo Pride Week Benefit To Be Held At IBT's May 1-2-3

TUCSON - TLGA, Tucson Lesbian/Gay Alliance, is busy getting plans made for Pride Week 1992. June 21 through June 28 will be celebrated this year as Tucson's Pride Week with the big Picnic in Himmel Park on Sunday, June 21. TLGA has set a budget of \$6,500 for the weeklong series of activities, and several fund raising events are planned. The major one being Festa de Mayo to be held May 1-2-3 at IBT's this year.

Each year, candidates for King and Queen of the Fiesta are recruited and these people go out and raise funds throughout the community with various events including shows, car washes, rummage sales, etc. In the past the candidates have nearly funded the entire Pride Week celebration through their hard work and the cooperation of the Lesbian and Gay community by their support of these activities.

So far this year, four candidates have signed up. They include Lisette who will represent the Red team; Touché, representing the Green team; Christina de Alexis, representing the Gold team, and Madame X, who will represent the White team. Anyone else who is interested in running for King or Queen as single or as a couple should come to the next TLGA meeting.

There are booths at the Fiesta that will be available at no charge. This is a perfect opportunity for clubs and organizations to raise some funds by manning a booth. Interested persons should contact a TLGA member or come by the next meeting which will be at IBT's this coming Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 p.m.

TLGA is also running a contest

for a Logo for this year's Pride Week. People with Pride Week designs should also contact TLGA. The deadline is Sunday April 12 at the TLGA meeting at IBT's. See separate story.

The Pride Picnic is the most costly event held during the week. Free beer and soft drinks are dispensed throughout the afternoon. Last year nearly 9,000 persons attended the picnic and drank over 60 kegs of beer. That's why TLGA is trying to raise funds - it all goes back to the community. Your cooperation is needed.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

BENEFIT CAR WASH FOR DELTA LAMBDA PHI FRATERNITY CLUB 2520 at 2520 N. ORACLE, TUCSON

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES - DIVISION OF DISEASE PREVENTION

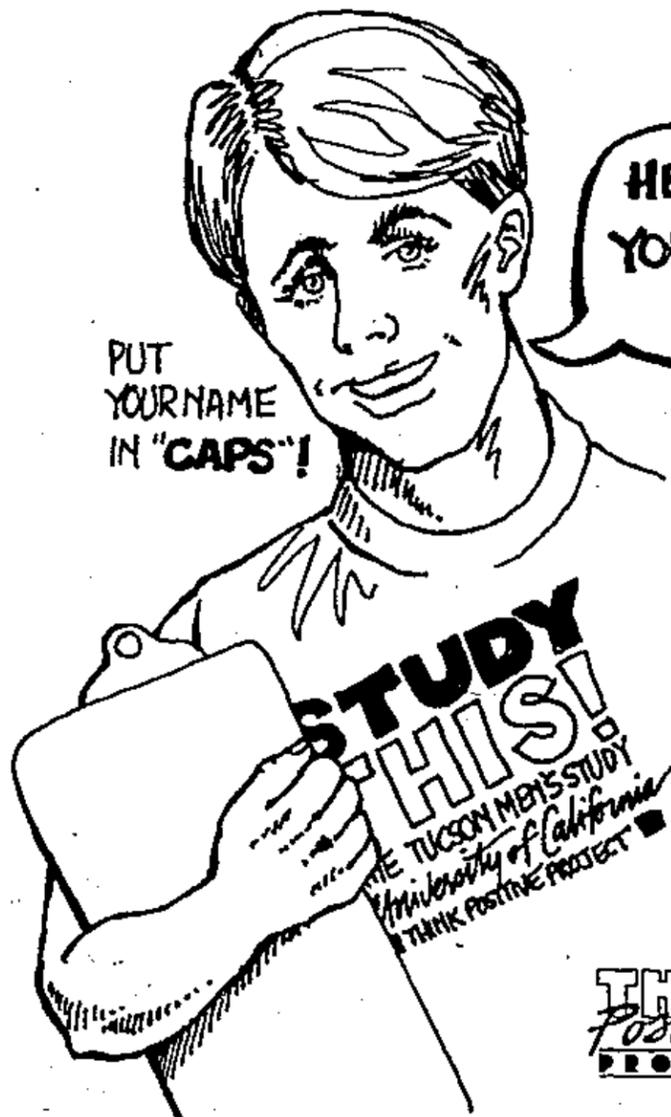
AIDS, ARC, HIV+ SURVEILLANCE REPORT FOR ARIZONA - MARCH 1, 1992

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	POPULATION	CASES OF AIDS			DEATHS	CASES OF ARC			DEATHS	CASES OF HIV+			DEATHS
		FEB.	JAN.	DEC.		FEB.	JAN.	DEC.		DEC.	NOV.	OCT.	
APACHE	61,591	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	-	10	5	5	-
COCHISE	97,624	12	12	12	5	7	9	9	-	46	44	44	-
COCUINO	96,591	10	10	10	5	0	0	0	-	19	18	18	-
GILA	40,216	5	5	5	3	0	0	0	-	4	4	4	-
GRAHAM	26,554	4	4	4	1	1	2	2	-	4	3	3	-
GREENLEE	8,008	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	-	1	0	0	-
LA PAZ	13,844	3	3	3	2	0	0	0	-	10	8	8	-
HARICOPA	2,122,101	1230	1196	1183	699	278	314	313	29	2050	2131	2055	43
HONAVE	93,497	15	15	15	7	1	1	1	-	22	27	27	-
NAVAJO	77,658	6	5	5	3	1	1	0	-	2	2	2	-
PIHA	666,880	306	299	292	157	60	62	60	8	532	551	537	9
PIHAL	116,379	14	13	13	11	3	3	3	-	24	26	26	-
SANTA CRUZ	29,676	4	4	4	0	1	2	2	-	4	5	4	-
YAVAPAI	107,714	18	17	16	11	0	0	0	-	30	29	28	1
YUMA	106,895	21	21	21	12	3	2	2	1	58	62	61	-
UNKNOWN		2	1	1	0	9	0	0	5	208	222	227	1
	3,655,228	1655	1610	1589	917	365	396	394	43	3024**	3136	3044	

54

** NOTE: ON MARCH 15, 1989, THE OPTION TO RECEIVE HIV TESTING ANONYMOUSLY BECAME AVAILABLE. AN ADDITIONAL 1,352 PERSONS HAVE TESTED HIV+ USING THE ANONYMOUS OPTION.

WHAT IS THIS!?



PUT YOUR NAME IN "CAPS"!

HEY! I WANT YOUR NAME AND NUMBER!

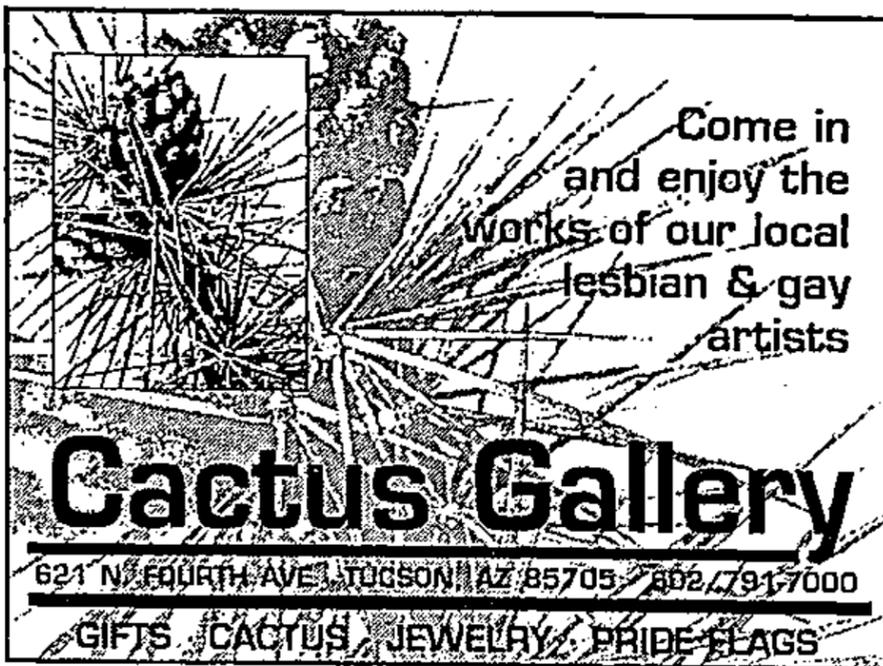
The Tucson Men's Study has been designed to find out more about how Tucson's gay and bisexual men are living during the AIDS epidemic. The study will investigate men's ideas about relationships, sex, HIV, treatment options for HIV and their relationship to the gay community.

The study is being conducted in collaboration with the Think Positive Project by the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California, San Francisco. Researchers at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies have been conducting research among gay men since 1984 and have never once compromised anyone's confidentiality. This is a study of gay men by gay men. We pledge confidentiality to our research subjects.

FOR INFORMATION CALL



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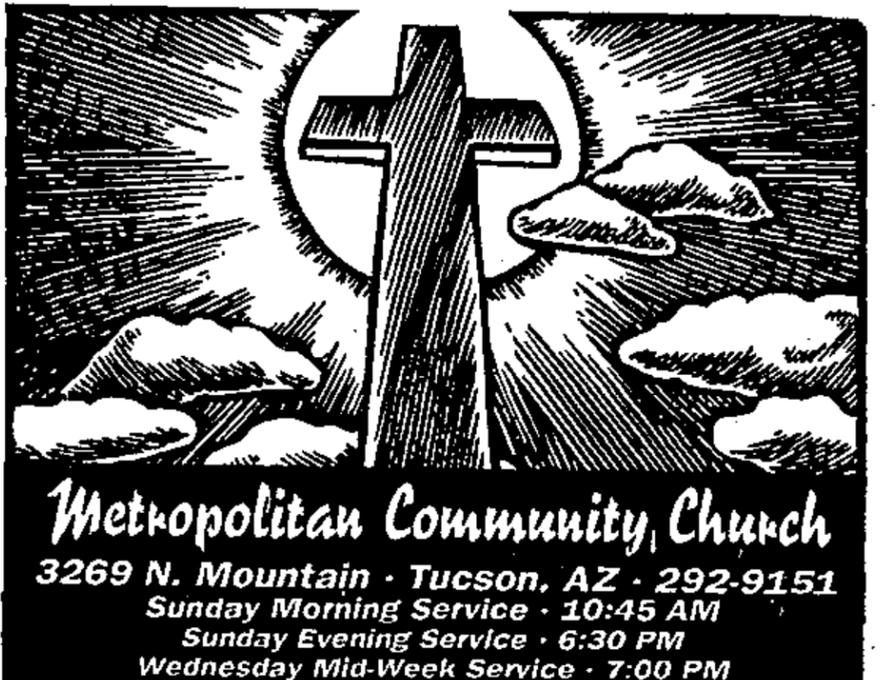
Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Celebration 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer & Praise 7:00 p.m.

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Metropolitan Community Church

3269 N. Mountain · Tucson, AZ · 292-9151

Sunday Morning Service · 10:45 AM

Sunday Evening Service · 6:30 PM

Wednesday Mid-Week Service · 7:00 PM



POLITICS '92

by Mark Kerr

NATIONAL NEWS

Another Democratic Presidential Candidate called it quits last week. Former Massachusetts Senator Paul Tsongas "suspended" his campaign for the Democratic Presidential nomination. In his withdrawal announcement, Tsongas cited media costs for New York and Connecticut as the primary reason for his withdrawal. Tsongas said his campaign would go into a debt of more than one million dollars to pay for the needed media advertising in the two markets. Tsongas did not use the term, "withdrawal", because he would lose his delegates and he wanted to go to the convention to have a say in party affairs.

The "check-kiting" scandal claimed his first victim. Representative Charles Hayes of Chicago, one of the worst offenders with 716 overdrafts, was defeated in the Democratic primary by Chicago Alderman Bobby Rush.

Another major upset occurred in last Tuesday's Illinois Primary. Representative Gus Savage, the controversial Chicago Congressman, was beaten by three time challenger Mel Reynolds in the Democratic primary contest. Savage, in a Wednesday press conference, blamed his loss on the "bigoted white press" and the "jews".

In the race for the U.S. Senate seat, the Democratic contest provided a history making outcome. Carol Moseley Braun, the Recorder of Deeds for Cook County, who ran a lightly financed campaign, upset two term incumbent Alan Dixon. Braun garnered 38% of the vote to Dixon's 34%, Chicago attorney Al Holfield, who spent \$5 million dollars of his money, came in third with 28% of the vote. Dixon's loss, his first in 43 years of public service, can be attributed to two factors. The anti-incumbent feeling, which is very high in lieu of the scandals evolving on Capitol Hill and his vote for confirmation of Clarence Thomas to the United States Supreme Court. He was one of three northern Democrats who voted in favor of confirmation of Thomas. If Braun can beat the little known Republican nominee, attorney Richard Williamson, she will become the first African-American woman elected to the United States Senate.

STATE NEWS

Annette Alvarez is back in the news again. Alvarez, who is on Governor Symington's staff, as a Trade Representative, did not pay her Federal and State Taxes for the past two years, was bailed out by Symington's Gubernatorial Election Campaign Committee, who paid the \$9,000 in back taxes. When reached for comment, Governor Symington stated that the campaign owed Alvarez the money, for the "excellent" work she had done.

Last Friday, Secretary of State Richard Mahoney reported that a Flagstaff man, a Democrat, took out recall petitions against Governor Symington. This effort has until July 17th to get 265,000 signatures to put this issue on the ballot. Is this the beginning of the end for Symington. We'll see....

A story brewing in the making. It looks like a current State Representative, who is contemplating a bid for the State Senate, may have violated Proposition 200, with questionable contributions, (especially in-kind) to City and County candidates. More on this later.

COUNTY NEWS

Last week, the County Board of

Supervisors was in the news with two votes taken on significant issues. The first vote was on the County joining the Tucson Women's Commission and the name changing to Pima County-Tucson Women's Commission. By a vote of 4 to 1, with Supervisor Ed Moore dissenting, the Board allocated an additional \$30,000 to their present \$10,000 allocated for the Commission. Ed Moore stated that he planned to place an ad in the newspapers saying the following, "WANTED: Female wrestlers who want to cause trouble in very weird organizations". Moore stated that he could not think of anything the commission has ever done right".

The second vote was on a resolution that would have forbid County employees from working on and contributing to County Campaigns. By a vote of 3 to 2, the Supervisors partially "Hatched" their work force.

END NOTES

Within the near future, the Tucson Mayor and City Council will take up two issues near and dear to our community. Hate Crimes and Domestic Partners. We need your help to lobby the Mayor and Council for passage on the two proposals; (which are in the development stage). Please call 791-4700 and state your support for a Hate Crimes measure and Domestic Partners.

Until next time, politics as usual.

Bit of the Old South

Did you miss the Hides of March? Too bad, you missed some great fun. I wasn't able to spend as much time as I'd have liked to, but the time I spent was fun. Okay guys, is there going to be a Hides of April? Please keep us posted. And for those little queens who have been expressing their shock and displeasure with my support of the leather part of our community, get a life! I still have one hell of a good time every time I attend a leather function, and they treat people like people, not eyeing them up and down as to where they bought their clothes or looking for flaws. None of us are perfect, honey. I'm the first to admit that. But why do people waste their time and energies tearing each other apart? Do they realize how stupid they make themselves look when they do that crap? We all have preferences to things and people, I know that. But that's different. Please try to accept the concept that all men are created equal. (That does not mean equal to your particular standards).

These people I refer to are few in numbers, thank God. And I don't even know if they realize what they do. That doesn't justify their cruelty or judgmental pretentiousness. I have been blessed to know some really wonderful people in various scenes here in our community. From MCC, local clubs like DL, TALL, TKO, Partners, business owners, entertainers, employees, AGRA, patrons and many more fine connections. It all these wonderful people that help make this community the best to live in. Enough of my complaining.

Don't forget this weekend is the Annual Observer Benefit. It will be great evening of food fun and entertainment. Thanks to Bob Ellis for designating PACT and Shanti as this years co-recipients. Tickets are available at all our local bars. Hope to see you all there. More details elsewhere in the week's Observer.

Till next week: Sean 628-7816
P.S. Congratulations to Natalie and Beth.

What's Up Doc ???



The first annual "Hides of March" is over and everyone (?) spent the night in their own beds last night. With all of the in-towner's, members of D.L., T.A.L.L. and T.K.O., some out of Phoenix, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Houston, there were approximately 80 people on this in town visit.

Friday afternoon, 26 people piled off the Continental Airline plane at the Tucson Airport and headed for the Venture-N. Upon arriving, it was the beginning of PARTY TIME IN THE OLD JEBLO.

After everyone from out of town got themselves settled in there motel, everyone gathered for some renewing of old friendships, and meeting new acquaintances. Then the excursions to the different bars around town began. When this group arrived at the different bars, head turned and questioned, "What is going on?" It only took everyone a couple minutes to realize they were in for a good party and a bunch of laughs.

The meals for the weekend were mostly served at the Venture-N, with Club 2520 supplying a spaghetti dinner for Friday evening, Bucky serving his omelets Saturday morning, TKO serving hoagie sandwiches for lunch, and the Venture-N serving a steak dinner. After this it was time for the colors presentation of all those on hand. Approximately 15 different clubs was present.

Sunday morning found DL serving a continental breakfast, and then the bunch headed over Club 2520 for brunch. Sunday evening, everyone was on their own for the meal. Finally Monday morning, D.L. served a biscuits and gravy style breakfast.

Then approximately 1:15, everyone loaded up and headed out to the airport for their return flight, that is those out of Houston. A couple from Los Angeles had to wait a little longer for their flight and other's just jumped into their cars and drove home.

Yes, it was a fun filled and I might say very interesting weekend. Upon walking into the Venture-N Saturday morning, I was greeted with everyone in some form of leather and levi. All were at that time of the morning very festive and giving Candas a run for the roses. Now this is typical for any group meeting such as this but what stuck me as funny was, on the T.V. screen, the movie "Fantasia" was showing and a large group of those were watching it.

Another special event that happened over the weekend, the Desert Leathersmen officially hung their club colors at the Venture-N, proclaiming the bar as their official home bar.

A few months back I reported on TKO going to Albuquerque for a run and on Saturday they went shopping. Well guess what, a group of these out of towners went shopping that Saturday afternoon. Of course others took in some of the different sites around town.

This was one weekend I will not forget for a long time and will remember all the new friends I met. I will also be looking forward to August when, if all plans go well, a plane load of Tucsonians will be arriving in Houston for a party weekend.

I know copies of this issue will be arriving in Houston and I want to thank each and everyone of you for a very enjoyable weekend. I also want to thank those out of Houston, Phoenix, Las Vegas (SKIP), and Los Angeles, your presence was also very enjoyable. For you up in Phoenix, watch for details of the August trip and get a bunch together and go with us.

Enough of that now. This coming weekend is a very special one for Tucson and the Observer. It is the time for the annual Observer Benefit. Tickets are available in all the bars so be sure to pick your tickets up and be on hand. All benefits for the evening will be split between Shanti and P.A.C.T.

Congratulations goes out to Partners who this past Saturday, held their monthly beer bust at the Graduate and also hung their club colors, officially making the Graduate their home bar. T.K.O. and T.A.L.L. welcomes you aboard, of course the Graduate does also.

With everything that has gone on this past weekend, I am just a bit over taxed and am going to take a day off, today - Tuesday. Now I know that does not really matter to you so why even mention it. By the way, what long time resident of Tucson, strong minded when it comes to drinking Coors, is now drinking Bud? I would also like to know why a couple of other people last Monday asked to borrow my tape measure. Then, who was that, that got lost at the airport last Monday, finally located walking out of the bathroom.

I hope everyone has a beautiful and loving week and I hope to see a lot of you at the Observer Benefit.

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3. Location of Services

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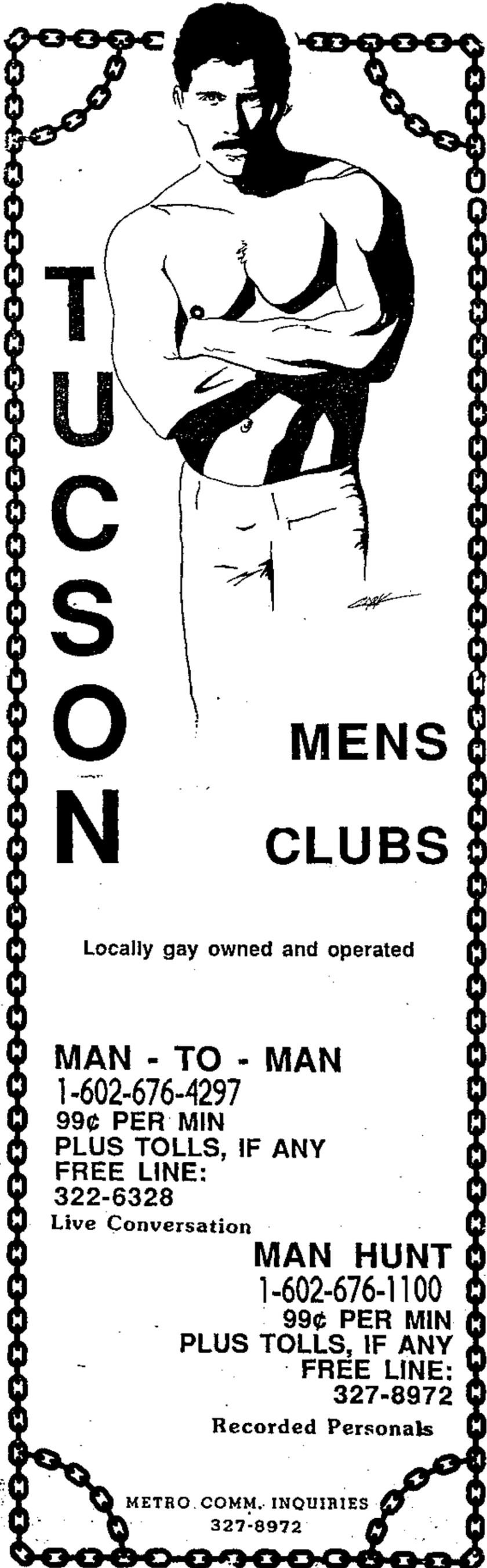
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METRO COMM. INQUIRIES
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ARIES

A real "sex fest" this weekend for you - the first of the year? Better contact Sean from "Bit Of The Old South" for pointers. What was that article a few months back - 101 Ways To Keep It Up? In Sean's case it should be 101 ways to keep it down! Luck runs high Monday.

TAURUS

Sunday burgers & fries on the Avenue is quite a change from lug nuts at Wards five days a week. A sexy guy catches your eye at "the bar" on Sunday - just do what you usually do - send your lover into the bathroom to check him out for you. You will be entertaining guests this weekend.

GEMINI

Spring has sprung - again - and as usual your feeling sexy. Speaking of sexy - I'm too sexy for my hair, my lips, my clothes, my wiennie - I love that song. Kinda reminds you of Paul at the old F.Q. - right? Be on the lookout for possible errors - your own or other people's.

CANCER

A financial merger makes everything fall into place. The fruit stand in Eloy was a brilliant idea. Sitting at home 7 nights a week in front of the liquor cart isn't any fun. Has anyone seen Kim & Roger the past 2 years? Try to get out this weekend. Sunday is perfect.

LEO

Being a trailblazer appeals to you. A 3-way with Steve & Steve that's really trailblazing. Renew your passport - your going on a long cruise soon - and I don't mean the bar's in Nogales. That was last week. Copyright or patent your clever ideas. Long awaited good news arrives Saturday.

VIRGO

New doors open to you now. All that banging on those bookstore stalls finally pays off. Make sure you look your best though - and have your condom 12 pack with you. Seize an opportunity to do a "flavor" for someone influential. Wash your tennis shoes this week Larry.

LIBRA

Regular exercise helps you keep in shape - is it thigh-master or whip-master Bruce? Returning phone calls promptly wins you points with those in authority. Keep Saturday evening open - a Patrick Swayzie look alike will ask you out. No it's not Zane.

SCORPIO

See things as they really are, not as you might wish them to be - yes; your still married Jerry - although theirs no harm in you usual routine of hanging out at the corner fire hydrant. Constructive changes

are long overdue. Take action! Lucky day at the park Sunday?

SAGITTARIUS

Seek publicity for your latest efforts. You name on the bathroom wall at the "movies" is a good start. Along awaited romance begins by months end. With so much going for you, it is almost certain you will be triumphant - maybe it's your Gold American Express Card.

CAPRICORN

You make a first class impression this week, you'll sell more Big Bites than anyone in 7-11 history. Of course you also eat more than anyone else in history. Refuse to settle for less than the best in romance. Your new love nest could be in Joliet Illinois.

AQUARIUS

Prestige & power will be yours when you learn to assert yourself. That means go out & finish that sidewalk Myron started. Also quit doing you lovers laundry, (you know ring around the collar!). You make new gains on the business front. Selling used jocks at the Venture-N now Lance?

PISCES

Pooling your resources with a friend or relative could be the best answer to rising costs. Try purchasing your feminine undies at the used clothing shops on the Avenue. That's where Frank shops now. K-Mart got too expensive! The fleets in town this weekend - O-Tay!

BARTMAN SPECIAL BULLETIN

I'm looking forward to seeing all my adoring fans this weekend. I'll be signing autographs in the men's room at Wards.

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CLASSIFIED: 20¢ per word. \$4.00 Minimum.

Notices

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in front of the Himmel Park Library, and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 326-3555

P.A.C.T. - People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson, 2579 N. 1st Avenue. Office hours 10 to 5, M-F; Wednesdays 7 pm. Call 770-1710 for info.

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

F.L.A.O. - 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.

ARE YOU IN A COUPLE RELATIONSHIP and interested in meeting other couples for social activities in a supportive atmosphere? Call Joe and E.B. at 292-6440.

Casa De La Paloma Apostolic Church, 1122 N. Jones Blvd., Tucson. Worship Services Sundays at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. If you are looking for a loving and caring church family who has a strong desire to share the love of God with others, look no further! Call Pastor S. Lewis for info 323-6855.

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

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP: The group focuses on assisting members in integrating a positive sense of self and building caring relationships. Contact Michael Hutchins, P.O. Box 327-4024 Tucson.

OLD PUEBLO BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION For meeting dates and locations or membership information call 377-6018 or write: OP, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85713

TRANSSEXUAL, TRANSGENDERS, TRANSVESSTITES AND CROSS GENDER SUPPORT GROUP. Conversation and Fellowship. Meets 2nd Saturday and last Friday of each month. Call 293-3456.

YOUNG AND GAY? Lesbians and Gay youths 23 and under, meet weekly in Tucson for sharing, support and information. You are not alone. Call Randy 882-8986 or Amy 884-8670.

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

GAY MEN 40 PLUS. For active men who are interested in meeting others in the same age group for dinners, theater, movies, travel, sports and companionship. Call Mike at CROMIES, 888-7264 in Tucson.

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

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL IN TUCSON Call information and Referral 881-1794 - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

GAY OR LESBIAN AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM? Call A.A. 624-4113. 24-Hour Hotline. Call for info about Gay and Lesbian meetings in Tucson.

AIDS HOTLINE - 326-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:01 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Certified psychologist facilitator. Call 884-8476 Tucson. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center offers support groups / library / monthly newsletter. Volunteer opportunities. Information 624-1779 Tucson.

GAY SUPPORT GROUP: Lesbians and Gay men meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road. Call the church at 294-9063 for information.

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX has a hotline for information and membership call: 266-7207 or write CBPA at P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings every Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 240 N. Court, 624-1779.

U of A LESBIAN/BISexuals/GAYS UNITED Group meets each Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. in Student Union, Room 285. During the school year. Open to all UofA and Pima College students and their friends.

SEEKING BIG MEN, Bears, Admirers and Friends for new social organization broadening horizons and creating new friendships in our vision. Write Southwest Men At Large, Box 25951, Tempe, AZ 85285-5951 or call (602)739-8171 for more info.

RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS - SOUTHWEST Don't give up your religious beliefs and principles. Be with brothers and sisters of RLDS, LDS Mormon faith. For more information call Elder But at 268-2928 (Phoenix) or 1-800-735-2928. Sacrament Meeting Sundays 1-2 (social after). Mondays Family home evening 7-9 p.m. All welcome. Bring a friend.

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

ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO, S.I.D.A. - AIDS INFO LINE 882-3933. Also seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish groups in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Early Intervention Center, 2579 N. 1st Ave., Tucson, AZ 85719. 770-1314.

Gay males, Lesbians and others interested in joining a triad group for weekly bike rides at the Rillito River Linear Park call 887-6473. Easy riding and pleasant company.

LOB - Life Outside of Bars. Involved in socializing in a non-drinking atmosphere. Singles welcome, couples welcome. Call 322-5655. Leave message.

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

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 798-3528 or write AGRA/Tucson, 7272 E. Broadway #412, Tucson, AZ 85710.

BISexual MEN IN RECOVERY Support Group forming to explore ways to embrace and celebrate our sexuality. For information call 742-6650.

FREE COMPUTER INTRODUCTIONS! The Western Connection Bulletin Board Service. Dial your modem to 602-881-8283 and sit for screen to Lambda West - a round table reserved exclusively for the Gay and Lesbian community.

Notices

AMERICAN GAY & LESBIAN ATHEISTS advocating state/church separation. Monthly meetings and support for the non-religious. Write: 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 121, Box 211, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2903. "Educating Our Community Since 1983".

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

COUPLES OF ARIZONA/TUCSON Affiliates. Lesbian/Gay couples. Social & educational organization. Monthly informal meetings. For information call Jean 573-3767.

ARE YOU FEMME AND ATTRACTED TO OTHER FEMMES? For Lesbians and Bisexuals: Do you love wearing makeup and high heels, perfume and skirts, lingerie, etc.? Then, let's get together and see who we are! Femmes for Femmes Social/Support Group. Partners and singles welcome. Call 321-4737 for more information.

GAY WILDMAN WEEKEND For Gay and Bisexual men. April 24, 7 p.m. - 26, 5 p.m. Healing our wounds, trust, sharing, honesty, empowerment, unconditional acceptance, beginner's meals. No alcohol, drugs, sex. Limited registration. \$75-\$150, sliding scale. 744-1001. 401

ATTENTION ALL NUDDISTS Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all. Nude activities scheduled both indoors and outdoors. Not "Gay only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. Special Interest Gay Sub-Group available. For further information, please send SASE to Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 85-G, Cortana, AZ 85652.

Personals

TO MY ALTERATION CUSTOMERS: I will be gone for the month of April. I will see you when I return. Merle Hudson, 888-7264. 401

LESBIAN SOFTBALL TEAMS - Are there any out there? I'm looking to join. Please call 881-1615 Tucson 401

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Admirers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504. 401

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN Desert Heart to Heart. A unique and discreet dating service. Info: Send SASE to PO Box 9246, Mesa, AZ 85214-9246. 412

HIV positive??? Meet others who are HIV+ for support and fun, call P.A.C.T. for Life, 770-1710 400

Housing / For Rent

ALL AREAS OF TUCSON. Nice 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. All clean; Private; Unfurnished. Many extras. 327-9963 405

Roommates

CLEAN, COMFORTABLE, FURNISHED ROOM FOR RENT. Quiet country setting. Student preferred. \$235/mo includes utilities. 402

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NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!! Two Bus Boys. Contact Michael at Club 2520, 2520 N. Oracle. Good opportunity. 400

EARN EXTRA INCOME

Earn \$200-\$300 weekly mailing travel brochures. For information, send a stamped addressed envelope to: Galaxy Travel, Inc., P.O. Box 13106, Silver Springs, MD 20911-3106 400

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