



At The Closet Door

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by Frank Hartigan

Special Rights

Welcome to my nightmare: the hate initiative has been filed. For months I've hoped that Arizona would not be among the states facing this battle, but Frank Meliti (and Lou Sheldon) have forced the issue. They have filed to take out petitions to put our civil rights on the ballot. They have equated being Lesbian, Gay, or bisexual with molesting children. They have already begun to try to frame the argument in terms of "special rights" for Arizona's queers.

What is special about equal rights? As Tom Paniccia has said, we basically want to be left alone. We want to live our lives as we see fit. Who and how we love should be a non-issue, but our enemies insist that by "choosing" to be queer we give up our equality and accept second-class citizenship.

Why should being able to rent an apartment or buy a house be a special right? What is special about the right to hold a job for which one is qualified? What is special about serving one's country honorably in the military?

What special right is involved in living in a committed, socially recognized relationship with a loved one? What is special about being able to visit a lover in the hospital or arrange a partner's funeral? What special right is involved in bequeathing one's home and possessions to the person of one's choice?

What is special about the right to one's own body? What special right grants freedom to make love with the partner of one's choice in private? Is having children a special right? How many parents would be permitted to reproduce if proof of parenting competency were required?

Frank Meliti has said that his group wants a "level playing field" on which all citizens are equal.

Much as it galls me to say so, I agree with Meliti on this one point.

Where we differ is in our view of the current playing field. Apparently Meliti sees the status quo as an atmosphere of equality for all. Although I, like every child in US schools, was taught that we are all equal, my experience in this society

has proven to me that we are not.

On the surface, our rights are recognized. The price we pay for this seeming equality, however, is staying in the closet. As soon as we attempt to claim our rights in the context of being queer, the inequities become apparent.

Gay and Lesbian families are not on a level playing field when buying a house. Each partner must qualify singly for any financing; since queers cannot marry, our joint incomes cannot be considered.

Queer employees cannot list same-sex partners as dependents for health insurance. While apologists for the status quo argue that unmarried straight couples are likewise barred, those couples can resolve the issue by marrying. We cannot. Is this a level playing field?

Queer families are not allowed to take advantage of family rates, family discounts, or other heterosexist marketing arrangements. Again, on a level playing field, our right to marry would include us in society's definition of "family".

Tom Paniccia, Margarethe Cammermeyer, and Joseph Steffens (among thousands of others) have served their country honorably and with exceptional valor, only to find that the much-touted equality of opportunity in the US military doesn't apply to queers.

Partners of Gays and Lesbians with AIDS find that, after helping their loved ones live with and die from AIDS, that they have no right to carry out a lover's wishes regarding funerals and burial.

The courts do not recognize the right of a queer lover to inherit a partner's property, even if it was 100% jointly acquired. Unless the partners take specific, costly legal action to prevent it, the legally-defined family of the dead partner gets it all, even if the surviving spouse is left with nothing. Grieving parents' denial of a child's relationship with a same-sex partner may cause them to take away as much as possible of a dead child's life from her/his bereaved lover.

Queers with kids are forced to

choose between their children and the closet. Simply being Lesbian or Gay automatically marks one as an unfit parent in the eyes of the law. What other group is automatically denied the right to raise children? When does "family values" become eugenics?

One of the most potent and insidious anti-queer arguments persists in the face of overwhelming evidence that it is false. I refer of course to the assumption that all Lesbians and Gays molest children, thereby "recruiting" them. Atop all the other odious lies told about queer Americans, the most glaring (and most effective) piece of propaganda is the allegation that we desire sex with children. Science has proven that 99.9% of all child sexual abuse and molestation is committed by heterosexuals, but Meliti and his hate group refuse to have any truck with the facts.

Molesting children is every bit as abhorrent to queers as to straights. Yet Frank Meliti and Lou Sheldon have linked "pedophile, homosexual, lesbian, or bisexual" as equally damnable states. By linking queers with a threat to children, the hate initiative will sway many otherwise supportive people to deny us our "level playing field."

Arizonans cherish their freedom. In many ways we still live in the Wild West, where each person is free to make her/his own choices, mistakes, and decisions with minimal State involvement. A cursory look at Arizona politics makes it plain that we hold dear the right to make a fool of oneself. Arizona attracts newcomers because the government stays pretty much out of citizens' lives. Why then are we faced with this fight?

This ballot initiative did not spring full-blown from the fevered mind of Frank Meliti. Guidance, advice, and many, many dollars are coming into Arizona from southern California and Colorado Springs. Our state is a likely target because of the initiative process contained in our Constitution, a large fundamentalist Christian (especially Mormon) population, and most of all because of the way we cherish our rights.

If Arizonans were not wary of governmental intrusion into private life, the "level playing field" argument against "special rights" would be ineffective. If the religious right could not cloak their hatred in a "special rights" lie, most Arizonans would agree that queers have the right to be left alone as free, full, and equal citizens of this republic.

What's the price for making the hate initiative go away without a fight? Shutting up, hiding, and accepting the partial rights that we have now. Denying who we are and accepting the status quo will make the hate bill moot: if we do not claim our rights, there will be no need to legislate against them.

There are many Lesbian and Gay people in Arizona who would prefer that things stay the way they are, that we didn't rock the boat, that we take our freedom to go to the bars as our due and be happy — and quiet.

Yet, if the hate initiative is enacted into law, will there still be queer bars to hide in? Without legal standing to protest anti-Gay discrimination, any bureaucrat could refuse to license the bars. Any city official could deny a picnic permit to any queer group, any landlord could terminate a lease, any bank could refuse a mortgage — and we would have no recourse. Queer-bashing would only be considered assault, not a hate crime.

Even more insidious is the fact that if the initiative passes, anyone even remotely suspected of being queer will have no recourse against anti-Gay discrimination. After all, we look like everyone else; therefore, everyone else looks like us. Straight people who may vote for this initiative will be equally at the mercy of anybody who may suspect they're Gay.

The sodomy law (which is still on the books, if seldom enforced, and subject to wide interpretation) could be used to do all of us great harm. Other "disorderly house" sorts of laws, easily passed by a right-wing majority in the state legislature, could effectively keep us out of sight. Queer life in public (and in private) in Arizona could easily be brought to a dead halt.

There will be closeted Lesbian, Gay, and bisexual voters who will sign the hate petitions; the price of concealment is giving up pieces of yourself to any who demand them.

I am tired of turning the other cheek, of waiting for our enemies to be enlightened, and of waiting for Arizona queers to realize just how grave our situation is. It's time to fight back.

If you aren't out of the closet, come out. Believe me, your silence will not protect you. Sooner or later Frank Meliti and Lou Sheldon will come knocking at the closet door — with the cops. If you think the price of visibility is too high now, you ain't seen nothin' yet.

Be prepared to fight for your rights in Arizona. The Meliti Initiative is a real threat to your lifestyle. Join The Tucson Human Rights Coalition. Call 791-7000 For Information.

UPDATE

A Call To Action: HCR2015 Assigned To House Committee

PHOENIX - H.C.R. 2015, the legislative version of the proposed Meliti Amendment has been assigned to committee.

H.C.R. 2015, sponsored by Rep. Russell Bowers (R-Mesa), would place a "Colorado Style Amendment 2", which would, if passed, prevent local governments to pass laws that would give homosexuals minority status or allow them to claim discrimination, on the November general election ballot.

The bill has been assigned to the House Judiciary Committee, a date for the initial hearing has not been given as of press time.

We must call the members of the House Judiciary Committee and urge them to vote NO! on this piece of legislation. Here is the list of representatives on the House Judiciary Committee:

Rep. Ernest Baird, Chair; Rep. John Kaites, Vice-Chair; Rep. Lori Daniels; Rep. Susan Gerard; Rep. Lisa Graham; Rep. John VerKamp; Rep. John Keagan; Rep. Ben Hanley; Rep. Phil Hubbard; Rep. Ruben Ortega.

The number to call is 1-800-352-8404 and leave a message urging them to vote NO on HCR 2015! Legislators pay attention to these calls, some have said that 1 call is equal to 200 constituents, so if we call, we will get our message through and we will defeat this bad piece of legislation!

Time For Valentine Messages Feb. 9

It is only 21 days until our annual Valentine's Day Issue. Each year Observer publishes Valentine messages free of charge. Each year the number of messages increases. Last year there were over 400 messages.

Envelopes will be placed in each of the local Gay bars to gather the messages. We ask that they be brief and a minimum number of messages from each person, please



GLA Organizer Encourages Violence

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Michael Petrellis, former head of ACT UP's Washington, D.C., chapter, is the organizer of a new group forming called Gay & Lesbian Americans (GLA) (Observer 11-17-93)

Petrellis is a former Queer Nation "queer activist" who has advocated rioting and political assassination, according to an article in the November/December 1990 Mother Jones.

In Michael Willrich's "Uncivil Disobedience," Petrellis is quoted about the Gay protests at the 1989 International AIDS Conference in San Francisco: "We should have shut down the subway and burned down city hall. I think rioting is a valid tactic and should be tried."

Petrellis "has 'outed' allegedly Gay, closeted politicians," Willrich wrote, adding that Petrellis is now "calling for a more final solution: assassination. 'If someone took out Jesse Helms or William Dannemeyer of California, I would be the first to stand up and applaud.'" Petrellis told Mother Jones.

Over 1,000 Attend Gay Beauty Contest

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Wearing heavy makeup and silicon breasts, 24 contestants paraded down the catwalk in the fifth annual "Miss Gay Philippines - Five Prettiest" beauty pageant.

More than 1,000 enthusiastic spectators, mostly from Manila's homosexual community and one third of them in drag, packed into the Philippine International Convention Center for the glitzy four hour spectacle.

Proceeds from sales of tickets, priced at \$5.50 each, will go to the Dominican Sisters of the Holy Rosary, a Roman Catholic charity, said pageant organizer Jim Encarnacion.

"Mikee" Aldana, one of the five winners, drew a standing ovation when he answered with a curtsy that he was certain "homosexuals will go to heaven, not because we are Gays but because of what we do in this world."

Winners received a trophy and a trip to Hong Kong. Awards were also given for "Miss Amity," "Miss Photogenic" and "Miss Absolutely Beautiful."

Frank Says Clinton Making Progress on Gay Rights

FALL RIVER, Mass., - The Clinton administration is making progress on Gay rights, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, (D-Mass.), says.

Frank, one of two openly Gay congressmen, says he expects the administration to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation for people seeking security clearances.

The new policy would cover the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency, which have previously rejected Gay applicants on the theory that they're security risks.

Attorney General Janet Reno has already drafted similar anti-bias policies for the Justice Department, including the FBI.

"There is going to be some progress on Gay and Lesbian issues," Frank told The Herald News. "What the president is doing is making it very clear that being Gay or Lesbian will be irrelevant for working for the federal government anywhere outside of the uniform military services, and it will also be irrelevant to getting a security clearance."

Frank said the new rules for the two spy agencies mean that employees will be judged on their job performance and behavior, and not on their sexual orientation.

"Now, that doesn't mean that your sexual behavior couldn't get you in trouble," he said. "It could get you in trouble if you're really stupid, whether you're Gay or straight. If you're having an affair with a Libyan terrorist, that's probably not good for your security clearance."

Frank, however, said "the notion that if you're Gay you're much more likely to be a security risk is not statistically valid at all and that's going to be discarded."



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1994 Gay Rodeo Coming To Tucson

TUCSON - The Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA) is now unveiling plans for the March 18-20 Saguaro Regional Rodeo. This unique annual event promises to bring Tucson a rodeo equal to the biggest and best rodeos held across the nation.

Michael Allison, Public Relations Director of the Rodeo says, "Gay rodeos aren't just a local or regional phenomena. They've spread to almost every major city in the country and have grown to be one of the most popular and well attended events within the Gay community on a national level. Even Chicago, certainly not associated with the 'Western Scene', has joined the band wagon with its first Gay rodeo in February of this year."

Allison added, "As country western music and country dancing has skyrocketed in popularity so has everything associated with 'The West', our way of life, our art, our jewelry, and our clothing are now very hot and trendy for people from the streets of Manhattan to the nation's capitol. I'm really proud that a Gay community the size of Tucson's can stage such a large event and draw contestants and spectators from all over the country. But then again, that should be only natural since we're genuinely western here and this isn't just a trend for us, it's a way of life! And the best of all this is that the profits from our rodeo will be used to help people here in our own community."

The 1994 Saguaro Regional Rodeo will have an exciting new look and feel, appealing to everyone. Rodeo Director Bob Janssen and assistant George Kaminsky, along with a dedicated staff, have all the gears in motion to bring an exciting new approach to the rodeo. The rodeo grounds will be the scene of not only non-stop rodeo action but an outdoor party area with food vendors, beer, a huge tented dance floor, entertainment stage, and a beer garden seating arrangement with tables and chairs. There'll be plenty of partying in a great central location. And the nightly post-rodeo party will bring Tucson's biggest and best social gathering a new look and approach.

R.T. Stacked, dance and entertainment coordinator for the rodeo, is organizing a hot entertainment line-up catering to everyone's tastes. The nightly dance party at the Ramada Inn, the host hotel, is without a doubt the single biggest Gay party held in Tucson. And this year's version will be even bigger and better. With an expected attendance of more than 3,000 people in the ballroom will surely fill to capacity for the hottest party of the year.

Dancing and entertainment will continue non-stop throughout the evening with a hot new format of both local and national entertainers. All of the entertainers will be performing country western songs so that dancing can continue without interruption. You can dance till you drop if that's your thing!

AGRA-Tucson proudly announces that Bob Ellis, one of the most active and dedicated members of Tucson's Gay community, will be honored as Grand Marshal of the 1994 Saguaro Regional Rodeo. The members feel that this honor is very fitting for Bob Ellis considering the great role he plays in our community. AGRA is proud of you and is very honored to have you preside over the rodeo.

And for those of you who don't understand "rodeo", don't worry about not being able to understand or enjoy the

various events. This year's program will assist everyone in having a working knowledge of what's taking place in the arena. Each event will be detailed and explained so that you'll be able to fully appreciate the rodeo and the long standing western traditions from which it springs.

Specific details of the rodeo will be released soon. Advertising in the rodeo program is now going on sale and can be arranged through AGRA-Tucson. Sponsorships for the rodeo award buckles can also be purchased at this time. Businesses and organizations wishing to be present at the rodeo can arrange for booth space at both the rodeo grounds and at the arena. Call AGRA-Tucson at (602) 323-0805 for more information.

AGRA-Tucson is very proud to have Miller Lite Beer as the corporate sponsor again for 1994. AGRA asks that Tucson's Gay community support Miller Lite Beer as they so much to support our community and all Gay rodeos, serving as corporate sponsor for the International Gay

Rodeo Association, the umbrella organization for chapters all across the country.

AGRA-Tucson is proud of its accomplishments in bringing yet another rodeo to Tucson and asks for the support and attendance of the entire community making this an event that not only the locals but rodeo fans from the entire country will brag about. We have a lot to be proud of in Tucson, let's continue the tradition of pride with the 1994 Saguaro Regional Rodeo.

Mark your calendars now for March 18-20 and get ready for the biggest and best weekend of the year! It's your rodeo, Tucson, be proud of the accomplishments of the community and show your support!



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Early Intervention Among Gay and Bisexual Men In Portland and Tucson

by Ron Stall, PhD, MPH

TUCSON - We have been working over the past three years to study ways that Gay/Bisexual men are responding to the AIDS epidemic in both Portland and Tucson, Arizona. We used both opportunistic sampling methods to interview Gay/Bisexual men in both cities. Together, these samples in both cities totaled over 2600 men, one of the largest surveys of Gay/Bisexual men taken in the United States in recent years.

We defined 'early intervention' by measuring a series of steps:

- (1) At-risk individuals are recommended to take the HIV antibody test and return for the results.
- (2) (If they do not already have one) Individuals who are seropositive are encouraged to develop a relationship with a health care provider who can treat HIV-related symptoms.
- (3) The men inform their health care provider that they are HIV+
- (4) HIV+ men agree to have their CD4 cells counted at least once a year.
- (5) If the helper T-cell count consistently yields a result of less than 500 T-cells per cubic milliliter, HIV+ men decide to undertake HIV antiviral treatment.

If an individual does not adhere to each of these steps, he was defined as 'non-adherent' for the purposes of our study.

OUR FINDINGS SO FAR

Survey results indicate that the primary reason for non-adherence to secondary prevention recommendations among Gay/Bisexual men has to do with not knowing one's current HIV status. About one-third of Gay/Bisexual men in both cities do not know their serostatus. Reasons given by more than half these men include:

*The perception that they are doing all that can be done for their health.

*Fear of not being able to handle the stress associated with HIV testing.

*Perceived low personal risk of HIV exposure.

*Fear of AIDS related discrimination.

Similarly, about one-third of the men who know that they are HIV+ do not adhere to each of the remaining secondary prevention recommendations. A set of variables distinguished seropositive men who did adhere from those who did not. Exclusively these variables had to do with general health behaviors and attitudes about the benefits of early intervention.

We included all of the statistically significant variables which distinguished HIV+ adherent and non-adherent men in a multivariate logistic analysis. Two variables remained in this analysis to significantly distinguish those who did from those who did not adhere:

*Quality of the relationship with one's health care provider.

*Belief in the efficacy of early intervention treatments.

IMPLICATIONS

These findings suggest that AIDS prevention efforts can be successfully designed not only to help individuals avoid initial HIV infection, but also to help access effective medical treatments.

Given the perceptions of the 'cost' of HIV testing (ie, fears, anxieties), it may well be that the most effective motivator for Gay/Bisexual men to undergo HIV testing would be to demonstrate the benefits of specific medical treatments that can delay the onset of dangerous opportunistic infections, while also making it clear that treatments cannot be accessed by HIV+ men who do not know their HIV status.

[Ron Stall, PhD, M.P.H., is Survey Project Director at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, University of California, San Francisco.

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TLGA Looks For New Officers

TUCSON - The Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance (TLGA) is looking for some new blood!

Some of the present officers have been hard at work for many years mainly producing Pride Week activities, but TLGA has taken many forms. It has successfully investigated many problems between the Gay community and city and county officials; it has held workshops and seminars concerning health and welfare of the community.

It was instrumental in stopping the harassment of Gay men by the Tucson Police Department in the city parks and presently a subcommittee of TLGA is active as an intermediary between the Gay community and Tucson's AIDS service organizations. These are just a few examples of TLGA's activities. The group has been in existence for 15 years or more and several of the officers have been there for that period of time.

It is time for rejuvenation. Nominations for the current offices include both male and female co-chairs, secretary and treasurer.

TLGA has scheduled a meeting for Sunday, February 6 to nominate the new slate of officers. The present officers want as smooth a transition as possible, and will be available for consultation during the interim period.

All interested persons who want to join this reputable organization and carry on its important agenda should be at IBT's on Sunday, Feb. 6 at 3:00 p.m.

The current officers have had to make some decisions already, regarding this year's pride activities and are anxious to get these elections underway in order that they can pass on the 'baton' in a smooth and orderly manner.

Because of the time schedule, the big Pride fund raiser, 'Fiesta de Mayo' has been scheduled for May 6-7-8. A call for King and/or Queen candidates has been called for with a deadline for entrants on March 20th. It is hoped that at least 3 or four couples will enter this contest which has been described as "the only crown that you can buy!" persons can enter singly or as a couple. The winner(s) will preside over all Pride week activities including the annual Picnic as well as other events that call for their representation.

The budget for this year's Pride events is over \$5,000, and these candidates raise this money through various benefits. The person(s) raising the most money are crowned King and/or Queen on the final night of Fiesta de Mayo.

TLGA has also called for a Pride Week Logo Contest. The theme this year is "Stonewall 25: A Global Celebration of Pride". The winner of the logo contest will receive a \$100.00 prize and the honor of his/her design being printed on hundreds of T-Shirts and other souvenir items commemorating Pride in Tucson 1994. Shirts will be introduced at Fiesta de Mayo and will be on sale at all bars and other businesses until after the annual Picnic, or until supplies run out.

Mark your calendars for February 6 and be at this most important meeting.



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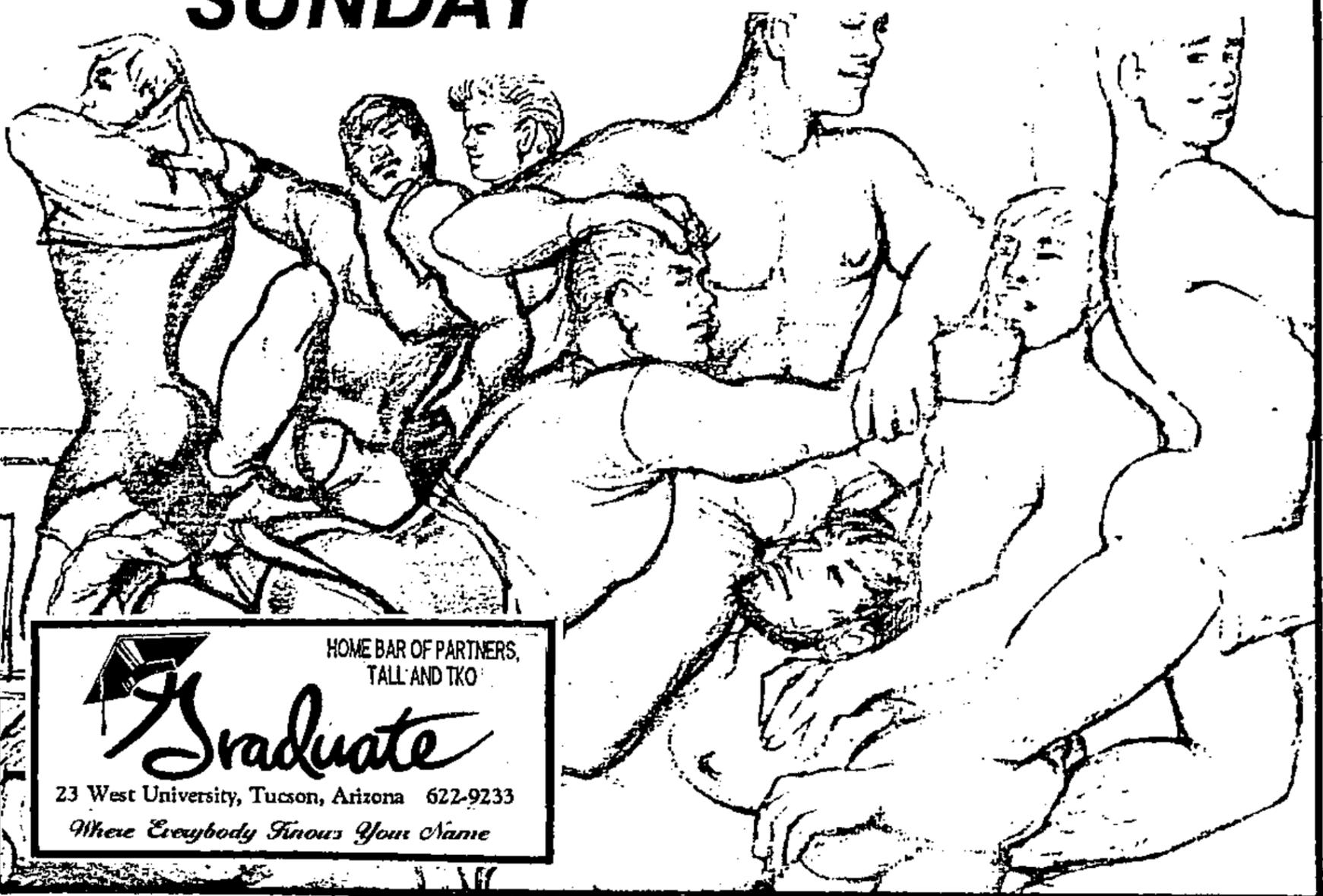
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Award Winning Documentary "Sex Is..." In Tucson Feb. 24-27

SAN FRANCISCO, Ca., - Marc Huestis and Lawrence Helman's bold new documentary Sex Is... plays Thursday through Sunday, February 24-27, 1994 at the Arizona Center For The Media Arts, in the Screening Room, 127 East Congress, in Tucson.

film range in age from 19 to 73. Most live in the San Francisco area. The carefully chosen ethnic and cultural mosaic includes one Asian, one Hispanic and three black men. They include a minister, artists, AIDS workers, apron star and a transvestite prostitute. Several men disclose that they are HIV positive.

Sex Is... winner of the Audience Award for Best Gay Film at the 1993 Berlin International Film Festival, is a bold, penetrating look at the meaning of sex and sexuality in the lives of 15 Gay men. From church pastor to porn star, the cast offers deeply touching interviews and provocative personal stories.

Sex Is... recently had a smash 4 week engagement at New York's Cinema Village and broke house records at San Francisco's 1500 seat Castro Theater. It has also garnered widespread critical praise.

Sex Is... combines with rare archival film and hot flashes of erotic footage, Sex Is... provides a wonderful panoramic view of Gay sexuality from the repressive '50s through the hedonistic '70s to the cautionary '90s and the age of AIDS.

The latest project from award winning filmmaker Marc Huestis (Chuck Solomon: Coming of Age) in collaboration with Lawrence Helman, Sex Is... has been invited to film festivals throughout the world, including Berlin, Montreal, Chicago, Seattle; London, Rome and Ghent.

Interweaving the erotic autobiography of 15 Gay male talking heads with snippets of pornography, the film offers a survey of Gay men's attitudes toward coming out, relationships, promiscuity and gay life before and after the AIDS epidemic struck.

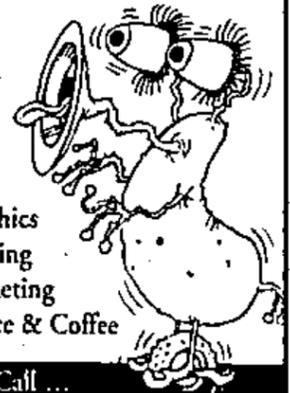
The subjects of the 80 minute

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Docs can stretch a man's skin over his head to cure baldness

BALD MEN may have to look like scary space aliens for several weeks, but it could bring them a full head of hair with a new miracle surgical method for baldies who lost their flowing locks years ago.



HOSPITAL HORROR

Stupid doc nearly kill bunion patient

A 43-year-old plumber went into the hospital to have a bunion removed — and wound up in intensive care after bungling doc nearly killed him!



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If you want to be irresistible to the opposite sex, don't take a bath!



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WHAT'S UP DOC???



In reading comments by one of the U of A latest recruits, he stated he choose Arizona because the weather was warmer. The other schools that had recruited him, as he put it, was too cold and too shuk up, earthquake style. I guess Mother Nature in now on the recruiting road for the football team, helping them on their quest for the roses.

It is strange but this coming weekend - NO BEER BUST. Well if I was you I would give much thought on that because Sunday will find more part time sports fans out and about around Tucson. It's Super Bowl Sunday. As for the team I am for, I have always liked the color Blue so I go on record at this time as stating that the team wearing Blue will be the winner. Now lets see if someone can point out another mistake to me this time?

With all the fiasco presently going on with Lang, it's is funny to me that I can find something in the club scene to compare it to. Of course, on the club scene, no one is trying to fire or remove anyone, all that is needed is a change. I'm talking about the on again - off again Arizona Fellowship meeting. The latest I've heard, and this is about the 4th or 5th different date, is the last weekend in February. I realize that problems do arise from different peoples work schedules but the meeting is only a formality, changing of the host club, so why couldn't someone else chair the meeting?

It is true that the meals and cocktail parties have already been pre-sched-

uled, years in advance, and true, it is a little early to even start working on this year's plans, so why the problem? And even if there had already been the final meeting for last year's run, nothing would be moving towards this year's as of yet. But, I have never seen such a simple problem of having one little meeting. Hell you would think it was going to take a major re-organization to have this meeting. O-well, I was not on last year's committee so I guess I have no room to talk, so I'll leave it at that for now.

Just a little early news concerning February's beer bust for TKO. With Valentine day two days after, they will be adding extra drawings with extra prizes, along with the lottery ticket drawings. Drawings will be every 15 minutes, starting at 2:30 p.m. At this time I'm not sure what some of the other prizes will be but I will tell you, I am baking cookies, and not the green type Jim S. use to serve.

Sometimes when I gather some of my TBBS's, even I think they are either sick or just plain twisted. The following are examples of such from this past week. But in the true spirit of passing on these little items, I give you the following.



TBBS: Every time a new bar opens, nick names will come to surface for the place. The latest is the "Sparrow" or since they want to have a leather scene, why not the "Crow". Of course a joke I've seen many times is, "How can your soar with the Eagles when you have to work with Turkeys?"

Candas was saying the other day that DL's Remembrance Chain was therapy for them, similar to basket weaving. And since Candas' name came up, Joe (Peanut Butter on your skirt, Bud drinker) said that Shadow was her illegitimate child. Her response was, she is putting it (Shadow) up for adoption.

For now that will be it. Don't forget to get your Valentine messages to Rub, envelopes for them are located at all the bars.

With the Super Bowl this coming Sunday, I leave you with my Quote of the Week: There's a surefire way to double your money, fold it in half and put it in your pocket.

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As I See It

by Clark

GREAT SUPERBOWL MOMENTS

HE WANTED TO RENT A NICE HOTEL ROOM, AND HAVE FUN, I WANTED TO SPEND SUPER BOWL AT ONE OF THE LOCAL CLUBS



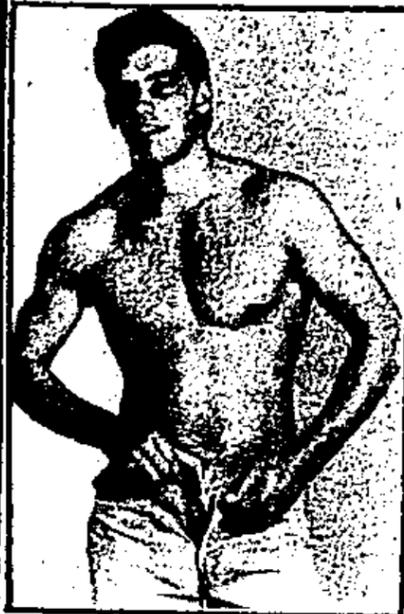
I RENTED A NICE HOTEL ROOM AND I PARTIED MY ASS OFF SORRY!

SO I SAID SEE YOU LATER BABE WHAT DID YOU DO.

CHU

RUMORZ

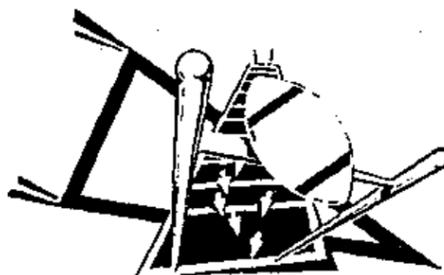
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CALENDAR of upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

IBT'S - Those amazing Glamazonz are back. Showtime is 9:00 p.m. SHARP! Hosted by Miss Gay Tucson, Madame X and starring Angelica West, Lucinda Holiday and Blaze. A wonderful show. Be there!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

CLUB 2520 - The Club is going all out to ensure you cannot miss a second of the football action. They're showing it on all of their eight TV screens that range from life size to regular size and all with sound and excitement. Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys are only a buck during the game and don't forget that super steak dinner from 3 to 7 for only \$14.95.

GRADUATE - Join the gang as they watch the Super Bowl Game with a party that is always packed with football fans and fun, and Stan will be head cheerleader!

HOURS - Not to be left out, the kids here will be having their own Super Bowl Party and you can watch the game on their large screen TV, touchdown shots, plus nachos and hot dogs during the game. Yea team!

IBT'S - The crowd will be gathering here for a super bowl party with food, drink specials, prizes and more. Oh yes, the game will be shown with sound on their 3 television sets. Glamazon cheerleaders, halftime entertainment, cheerleader contest, etc, etc, etc. Sounds like fun! Post-game Tea dancing too!

RUMORZ - Lots of hoopla here as you watch the big Super Bowl with the Rumorz boys and girls. Then beginning at 9:30 p.m., Rumorz 1st Annual "Customer Turnabout Show" will take place, co-hosted by Mr. Dan Reid and Tatiana Ladanova with a cast of Rumorz best customers. Come on in for some good laughs!

STONEWALL EAGLE - Plan to watch the Super Bowl here on the wide-screen television with sound. There'll be drink specials and other refreshments, plus a Super Bowl Snack-A-Rama hosted by Hopi.

VENTURE-N - The one and only Candis will be head bartender and cheerleader here and there will be special drink prices and a big Super Bowl "Snack-A-Rama" hosted by the one and only Hopi. Join the fun and root your team home.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

The Michael Bennett Memorial "Walk For Life" will take place today with all monies raised being split between PACT, Shanté & El Proyecto, for direct patient care. The walk begins at IBT's at 1:00 p.m. and will continue with 15 minute stops at the Venture-N and Rumorz and wind up at Club 2520 where there will be sandwiches and munchies for the walkers. Those wishing to enter the walk should pick up your sponsor sheets at any of the walk-by clubs. Monies should be turned in on the 13th at IBT's prior to the 1:00 p.m. starting time. As of press time more than 50 walkers have signed up. A great cause in memory of a wonderful gentleman.

Non-Bar CALENDAR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

The "Male Spirituality" seminars led by Fr. Dick Mevissen, OSB, continues from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Picture Rocks Retreat, 7101 W. Picture Rocks Road. The subject today is "Men and Lovers". A suggested donation of \$15 includes lunch. For more information call 714-3400 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

TIGA (Tucson Lesbian/Gay Alliance) will hold a meeting beginning at 3:00 p.m. at IBT's, 616 N. 4th Avenue on the patio, to take nominations of new officers for the upcoming year. Positions open are male and female co-chairs, secretary, treasurer. The group also would like to form coordinating committees for the Fiesta de Mayo fund raising events and to produce Pride Week activities. Interested persons are urged to attend since the old Pride Committee will not be taking an active role in this year's activities. They will be available for support and information, but the time has come for new blood to take over these important community activities.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

"How To Deal With Personality Differences In Gay And Lesbian Couples" is a workshop for Gay men and Lesbians to be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Francis Church, River and Swan. The workshop is designed to strengthen your relationship skills based on the Myers-Briggs-Type Indicator and is facilitated by Dr. Hill Harrison. The fee is \$55 per person or \$100 per couple. (Partial scholarships are available). All materials and refreshment breaks are included. Advance registration is strongly recommended to assure your place. To register call 577-3481.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Jamie Anderson, singer, songwriter, comic and parking lot attendant, is on tour to celebrate the release of her new recording "Mad Hair Day". She will be in concert in Tucson tonight at 8:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 4831 E. 22nd St. Tickets are \$8 in advance at Antelope's or by mail from Tsunami Records, P.O. Box 42282, Tucson, AZ 85733. Advance tickets are available until 4 p.m. the day of the show. Tickets at the door are \$10. Buy your tickets early. Last years concert sold out.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Tucson Lesbian & Gay Alliance (TLGA) will meet today at IBT's at 3:00 p.m. This is the final call for candidates for King and Queen of Fiesta de Mayo. Candidates may run individually or as couples. The candidates raise monies to produce Pride week activities including the annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Picnic '94. All candidates must attend this meeting to kick off their campaigns.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

TLGA, the Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance will meet to pick the 1994 Pride logo. The theme this year is "StoneWall 25: A Global Celebration of Pride". TLGA will offer a prize of \$100 to the winning entrant. The logo will appear on all T-shirts and other souvenir products which will be on sale during the pride activities. Submissions may be made earlier but April 3rd is the deadline at this meeting which begins at 3:00 p.m. and the tentative meeting place is IBT's. Watch the Observer in case there is a change.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MAY 6-7-8

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

JUNE 12 THROUGH 18 - PRIDE WEEK

Watch for more details as the time draws closer.

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Tucson CALENDAR sunday

CLUB 2520 - Open Noon. Salsa Bar and Western Swing 7:30 to 9pm. AGR & CWS dancing and River Road S.S. all you can drink 9:30. CWS and Progressive Dance Music 8-11. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm all well drinks \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm. Beach 11pm - 2pm. Tea Dance with Kim Dine 7:30-8:30 and then a live band from 7:30 to 11:30pm (usually a cover for the band). HOURS - Bloody Marys and Sweets \$1.25 till 7pm. Country Western Dance Instruction 6-8pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 11. HOURS - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4-8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer and well. South (P.B.) and River Road for community and parties 3-6. Back in Hall dancing to music. RUMORZ - Open at noon. Bloody Marys and Sweets \$1.25 from Noon to 4pm. Domestic Beer \$1.25 9-11. STONEWALL EAGLE - The Eagle opens at 10 am on Sundays and the Stonewall opens for dancing at 8pm. VENTURE-N - Open 10 am. 1st Draft Tournament 4pm. \$3 entry fee. Cash prizes. Patio Bar 11am to 7pm. 5th Draft. Best Burger 5-7pm.

Monday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm - 9pm. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 well & 1.50 domestic. Madness "Buckets". CWS dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 9pm. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm all well drinks \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7pm. Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50 Draft Beer "in close". HOURS - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4-8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburger 4-7. Also, open to midnight. 5th Draft Beer. Million. 1st Mondays with Pete from 9 to 11. HOURS - Open 1pm. Happy Hour 1pm until 8pm. \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. 8 to closing. Domestic Beer \$1.75. STONEWALL EAGLE - Happy Hour in the Eagle from 7am to 8pm with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Stonewall side opens at 8pm for dancing. VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longnecks & Well. Patio Bar opens at 7pm.

tuesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm - 9pm. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer. 8pm to close. \$2.50 Pitcher of beer and get a free sub sandwich 8 to 10. 1st Squares. Advanced Group 7pm. Country Western dancing and Trash Disco Black Light Party begins at 9pm. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm. Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. Schnapps 75c. "9pm to close". HOURS - Open noon to 1am. White Tuesday - all white well drinks \$1.50 from open to close. 25c extra for jules. Happy Hour 4-8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer & well. \$1 hamburger 4-7. Million. Jax with Pete from 9-11. HOURS - Open 1:00pm - 11:00pm. Happy Hour 1-4pm with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. \$1.75 Domestic Beer 8 to close. Fabulous Ladies Open at 9:00pm. STONEWALL EAGLE - Happy Hour in the Eagle from 7am to 8pm with \$1.50 well and domestic beer. Stonewall side opens at 8pm for dancing. VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longnecks & Well. Patio Bar opens at 7pm.

wednesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm - 9pm. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. 50c off on everything from 8pm to close. Drink specials all night. HOURS - Open 10 am. 1st Draft Tournament 4pm. \$3 entry fee. Cash prizes. Patio Bar 11am to 7pm. 5th Draft. Best Burger 5-7pm. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well drinks \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm. Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50c off all call drinks 7 to close. Disc music 8 to 11. HOURS - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburger 4-7. Special shot specials 8pm to midnight. Country Western Dance Lessons with Tom Slatta. 6:30-8:30. Open CWS dancing 9pm to close. RUMORZ - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 1-8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Salsa Nite 9 to close. \$1.50 Margaritas on \$1.00 & "Fly" salsa. STONEWALL EAGLE - Happy Hour in the eagle from 7am to 8pm with \$1.50 well and domestic beer. Stonewall side opens at 8pm for dancing. VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longnecks & Well. Patio Bar opens at 7pm. Best Beer Nite from 7pm. Happy hour prices for "1st priority Salsa" nite.

thursday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm - 9pm. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. Men's Nite - 5th draft beer 9pm to 1am. CWS & Progressive Dance Music begins at 9pm. Draft Tournament 8pm. Bar matches pm. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. HOURS - Happy Hours 12 to 7pm. Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Heineken or Corona \$1.25 9pm to 1am. Country Western dancing 9 to 11. HOURS - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4-8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburger 4-7. Underwear Nite 10 to 11. Win a pair of Calvin Klein underwear. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer to those in their underwear. RUMORZ - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 1-8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Hot Male Dancers 9:30. High Kick Muscle follows with V.I.P. nite. STONEWALL EAGLE - Happy Hour in the Eagle 7am to 8pm with \$1.50 well and domestic beer. Stonewall side opens at 8pm for dancing. VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longnecks & Well. Patio Bar opens at 7pm. Leather Nite from 8 to midnight. Special prices for men in leather. Pool Tournament at 7pm. \$3 entry fee.

friday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm - 9pm. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. (well and domestic beer). CWS dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 9pm. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well drinks \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. HOURS - Happy Hours 12 to 7pm. Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Dancing 8-11. HOURS - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4-8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburger 4-7. Go to dancers 10pm. Dance Party Weekend 9pm to 1am with DJ David Z. RUMORZ - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 1-8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Hoes DV servers. V.I.P. off strikdown 9 to 11. STONEWALL EAGLE - Happy hour in the eagle from 7am to 8pm with \$1.50 well and domestic beer. Stonewall opens at 8pm for dancing. VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longnecks & Well. Patio Bar opens 7pm.

saturday

CLUB 2520 - Open Noon. CWS dancing and Progressive Dance Music at 8pm. GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well drinks \$1.25. Draft 75c. Schnapps 75c. Pool Tournament 2 pm. \$3 entry fee. pot matched. HOURS - Open Noon. Dancing 8pm to 1am. HOURS - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm. \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburger 4-7. Dance 9pm to 1am with DJ David Z. and Go Go dancers begin at 10pm. RUMORZ - Open Noon. \$1.50 Corona 8pm to close. Dance with Linda Etendale V.I.P. 10-11. STONEWALL EAGLE - The Eagle opens at 9am and Stonewall opens at 8pm. VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Patio bar opens at 7pm. Power Hour 5-6 pm. \$1 longnecks & Well.

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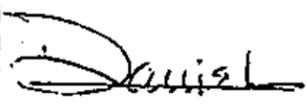
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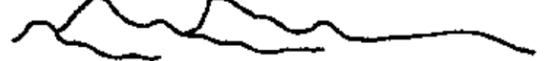
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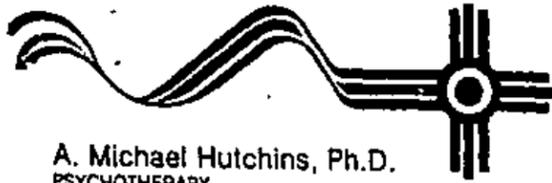
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Bears of the Old Pueblo

by Brad Spaulding

There's a whole lot of stuff going on this week. On Thursday, January 27 at 7:30 p.m., the Bears are holding a business meeting at the Venture-N patio. We'll probably be discussing moving our future General Meetings to another time and finalizing our nominations for secretary, so please be able to attend.

On Saturday January 29 at 7 p.m., Bob and Troy are hosting the Bear Hug at their house. Hope to see you there.

As for next week, our February general meeting will still be held on Thursday, February 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Venture-N patio. There will be a Bear Beer Bust to follow. There will be 50 cent drafts from 9 p.m. until midnight served by one of our own huggable bears. It is going to be a busy night with the election for secretary and our continuing membership drive.

The annual Bear membership dues are \$15 for renewing members and \$20 for new members. Hopefully, we'll see some of you at the February general meeting to

take care of your status. If not, give Treasurer, Brad Spaulding, a call at 882-4149.

UPCOMING BEAR EVENTS:

New Bear, Andy A., will be holding a video party on Saturday, February 12 at 7 p.m. Bring a copy of your favorite video, (the ones I brought to the last one met with mixed criticism), and some food because you know we Bears have a huge appetite.

The biggest Bear event in February, however, is happening in San Francisco: Bear Expo '94. On February 18-21, Bears from around the world will be gathering for fun and frolic. One of these frolickers will be our own John Clark. John, who was first runner up in the Mr. Rocky Mountain Bear '94 contest in Denver, may now be eligible to compete in the International Mr. Bear Contest '94 because the winner may be "unable to fulfill his obligations" as Mr. Rocky Mountain Bear. For more information about Bear Expo '94, call (415) 647-9127.

Finally, for those of you who wondered what happened to our End of the Year Banquet, let's just chalk it up to my favorite bit of graffiti: "If every Gay person in the universe planned to meet, at the supermarket, about 3 or 4 of them would show." C'est la vie.

Until next week, happy hunting!

For information on Bear Events, call Wayne at 887-3115 before 9 p.m.



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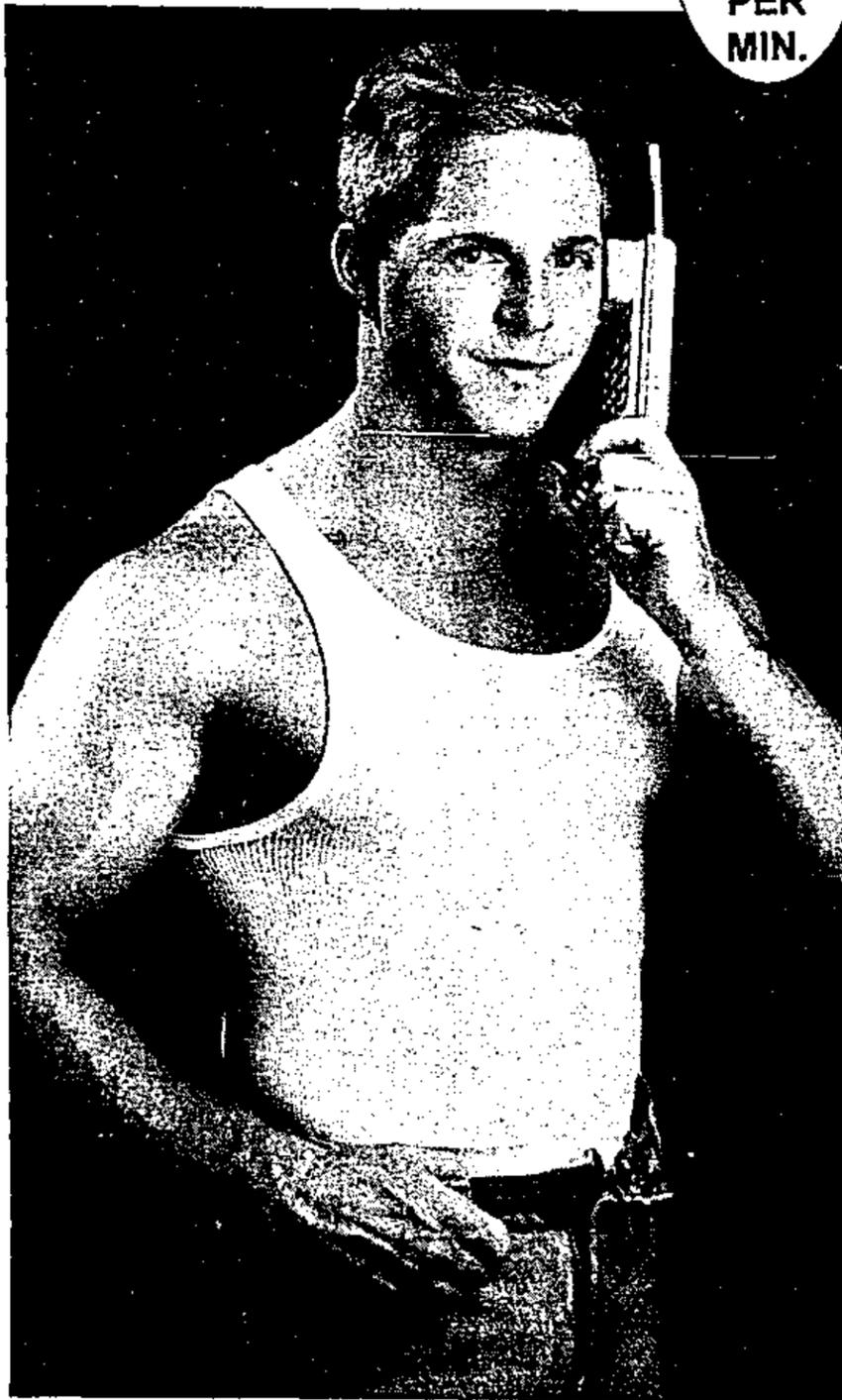
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By Bruce Fowler,
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No element of the Shanti Foundation is more important than the volunteers who do the vast majority of the work. From the earliest days, Shanti has been an organization totally dependant upon it's volunteers; without them, there would be no "hands" to do the work and the Foundation could not exist.

In the eight years of Shanti's existence, nearly 1,000 different individuals have been "Shanti volunteers". They have done everything requested of them and that often included such activities as counsel a client regarding options, drive a client to a doctor's appointment, comfort and support family members, visit a client in the hospital, sweep the floors, paint the walls, answer the phone, set up computer programs, maintain files, help with "mailings", stuff envelopes, help a client find needed resources, facilitate support groups, clean a client's home, cook a meal, take a client to a movie, help train new volunteers, talk to a group about HIV/AIDS, write an article for the newsletter or edit it, help coordinate volunteer and client needs, help raise funds to support these activities, serve on the Board, as well as dozens of other things, many of which are not known because these volunteers often perform their duties with little or no fanfare, and all too often without recognition, praise nor appropriate thanks.

The fact of the matter is, that only four people at Shanti receive any financial remuneration at all for their work and even these four often volunteer additional hours beyond that for which they are paid.

In an average month, volunteers put in 1200 to 1500 hours of work. Each one trying hard to make a difference in a world that often seems callous and indifferent.

In the past some volunteers worked so hard and long that they often "burned out". Becoming frustrated and disenchanted with their volunteer efforts, they simply left Shanti and discontinued their volunteer service in the community. Volunteer burn out was identified as a problem at a Shanti general meeting held in 1992.

Starting last year, the officers of the Board, together with the Executive Director have taken it upon themselves to monitor work loads and emotional impact on volunteers. As part of performance supervision, volunteers are sometimes encouraged to take "time out" from Shanti and to refresh their mind and spirit. At other times, they may be asked to select a different assignment in order to refresh and perhaps seek a different perspective. Retention and support of volunteers has become a major priority.

As we enter the second decade of AIDS, the number of clients continues to increase and the epidemic becomes more widespread. At the same time, the demand for additional services continues to escalate. The need for more volunteers becomes critical. In our ability to provide quality services here in Tucson, Shanti is limited by two things: funding and volunteers. And by far the most important is volunteers.

Volunteer training is conducted five or six times a year; the next train-

ing program will be held the weekend of January 21-23. Interested persons can register for the training by calling the Shanti office at 622-7107.

And persons who have had the training, but are no longer active with Shanti are encouraged to "come home". There are clients who need you as a buddy; there is much work yet to be done.

Community General Meeting

Each year Shanti holds a "general meeting", open to anyone in the community. These meetings are hosted by the Board and the information gathered is used to help set future direction and goals.

This year's General Meeting will be held on Monday, January 24th, from 5:30 to 7:00pm at Temple Emanuel (225 N. Country Club). The meeting is open to Shanti volunteers and members of the community and is a time when the Board of Directors of Shanti will listen to criticism, praise, suggestions, and just about anything else related to Shanti. Plan to attend and talk directly to the Board, tell them what you think of Shanti - we want to hear it.

Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be held February 9th, from 5:30-8:00pm at the Ramada Inn - Downtown (475 N. Granada Ave). The agenda for this meeting includes installation of new board members (1994-1996) and election of officers for 1994.

To avoid having the whole Board of Directors turn over at any given point, the Shanti by-laws call for half of the board (between 4 and 8 members) to be installed each year; their term of office is two years, thus creating an overlapping of membership which provides for stability and continuity.

The annual meeting is also the time when any new by-laws are presented and voted upon (none are expected this year). And while the Annual Meeting is an important event each year, it has come to be a time of celebration and remembering rather than a time to conduct business. Therefore, following a brief business meeting, a dinner will be served. All are invited. If you plan to attend the dinner, please call the Shanti office before January 28th and make reservations. Cost of the dinner is \$15.00 per person, which must be paid by the 28th.

Informing the Community

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News From MCC/Tucson

by Ben Corbin

The Annual Congregational Meeting of MCC-Tucson will be conducted this coming Saturday, January 29th. All of the church business conducted this past year will be approved by the Congregation, two seats on the Board of Directors will be elected, our Lay Delegate will be elected and the 1994 Budget will be approved. This is a very important meeting for and by the Congregation. MCC-Tucson is a chartered church within the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and under the By-Laws of the U.F.M.C.C. is a Congregational Church governed by the Congregation. Each active member of MCC-Tucson has both voice and vote during this meeting. Everyone is welcome to join with us to

observe how MCC-Tucson is a self governing church.

The month of January is practically history and spring on the desert is fast approaching. One of decisions to be made at the Congregational Meeting will be on the landscaping of the church property. The property consists of 1 1/2 acres with three buildings and lots of parking space and areas to be landscaped. We have our Memorial Rose Garden taking up about a fourth of an acre but the big decision will be what to do with the rest of the property.

Thought for the week: The best proof of love is trust. Dr. Joyce Brothers

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

**HOMOSEXUALITY & THE BIBLE
PART IV**

"Then the Lord said, 'The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and the sin so grievous that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know.'" (Genesis 18:20-21)

"Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom, both young and old, surrounded the house. They called to Lot, 'Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out so that we can have sex with them.'" (Genesis 19:24-25)

"Then the Lord rained down burning sulphur on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities, and also the vegetation in the land." (Genesis 19:24-25)

Most people are familiar with the ancient story of Sodom and Gomorrah as told in the first book of the Bible, Genesis. The whole story is too long to print here, but I have selected three passages which illustrate the path this story takes. Unfortunately, when the other details are left out, it appears that God destroyed these cities because of homosexuality, which is exactly what many anti-Gay fundamentalists choose to believe. In fact, many believe that the "Reader's Digest" condensed version printed above is all a person needs to know about what really happened to those cities.

The story, in a nutshell, goes like this: God and a couple of his angels visit the patriarch Abraham in the desert, where God promises to give a son to Abraham and his wife Sarah. Afterward, the angels go down to the plains where a number of cities are situated, including Sodom and Gomorrah. Apparently, reports of what these pagan communities were doing made God very upset, and he decides to send the angels to go check out the towns and see if the reports are true. The angels enter the city of Sodom and are greeted by Lot, Abraham's nephew. Lot invites the angels to his house for the night, since they have no place to stay.

Once inside the house, the townspeople come and demand that Lot send out the visitors so they can gang rape them. Lot refuses, offering his two virgin daughters to the crowd instead. The aggressors decline his offer and try to force their way into the house, so the angels struck the people with blindness so they can't see what they are doing. The angels then instruct Lot to take his family and escape the cities before they are destroyed. Lot, his wife, and his two daughters escape with the angels, and God burns up the cities and everything in them.

There are a number of important facts that need to be considered when analyzing this passage of Scripture. The first, and probably most important fact is that nowhere in this passage, (for anywhere else in the Bible), is God's destruction of these cities connected with homosexuality, either directly or indirectly, although many people make this assumption. In fact, this passage never goes into detail about what exactly was so terrible about these people that angered God so. However, there are a number of other places in the Bible which do give us more information about the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah, none of which have anything to do with homosexuality (we will look at those later).

Next week, we will continue to look at this passage of Scripture, and discuss some of the other important facts that help us understand what really happened to Sodom and Gomorrah.

If you would like to know more about what the Bible really says (and doesn't say) about homosexuality, please call Cornerstone Fellowship at 622-4626, or stop by to see the Pastor or an Elder. We'd love to talk with you. If you need a Bible to study these passages for yourself, we have plenty to share.

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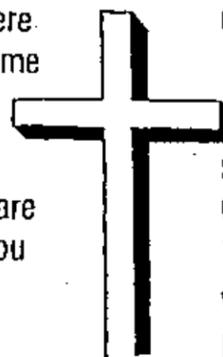
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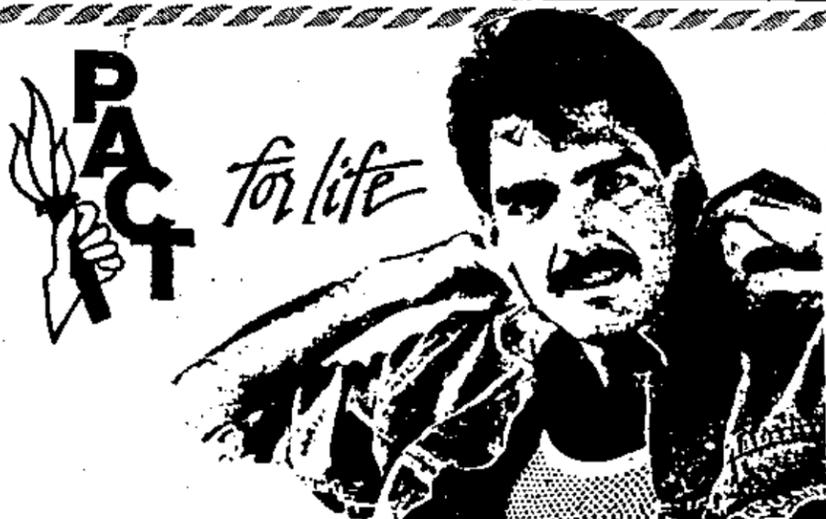
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States Watch As Courts Review Legality Of Anti-Gay Measure

SPOKANE, Wa., - Supporters and opponents of planned initiatives in Washington and Idaho are closely watching whether a Colorado measure to ban civil rights protection for Gays will survive court scrutiny.

state and local governments from passing any law that gives Gays, Lesbians, or Bisexuals minority or protected status.

Opponents sought and won an injunction preventing the law from going into effect without a court review.

Many observers believe the U.S. Supreme Court will have the final say on whether Colorado's Amendment 2 is constitutional.

Bayless found that the law "violates the fundamental right of an identifiable group to participate in the political process." He cited a clause of the U.S. Constitution that protects the rights for participate equally in the political process.

The measure, which passed by popular vote in November 1992, was struck down by Colorado District Court Judge Jeffrey Bayless.

In Washington, Swindler's group and the Citizens Alliance for Washington have announced plans for separate initiatives banning civil rights protections for Gays.

Activists who plan similar measures in Washington and Idaho say the ruling won't stop or slow their efforts.

In Idaho, activists are gathering signatures in a petition drive to get a measure on the 1994 ballot. State Attorney General Larry Echohawk has said the initiative is unconstitutional, but the measure has yet to undergo court scrutiny.

"It's just one battle in another war," said Kelly Watson, director of the Idaho Citizens Alliance.

"It's irrelevant," said Jeff Swindler, spokesman for the Washington Public Affairs Council, which is backing one of two expected anti-Gay rights initiatives in Washington.

Opponents of the initiatives are hailing Bayless's ruling.

"It just adds to the momentum and understanding of people that these kinds of initiatives are unconstitutional and inherently flawed," said John Hummel, an attorney and spokesman for a group called Idaho for Human Dignity.

Colorado's measure prohibits the

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Outing Leads To Rape And Murder Of Nebraska Lesbian

by John Hammond

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The New York City Anti-Violence Project has denounced the brutal murder of Brandon Teena, a Lesbian who lived as a man in Humboldt, Nebraska. Teena was raped on December 25 and was murdered on December 31, 1993, shortly after she was outed and her true gender and sexual orientation became public knowledge in the small midwestern town. Teena's companions, Phillip DeVine and Lisa Lambert, were also murdered.

Teena had recently moved to Humboldt and was living in Lambert's home. Phillip DeVine was a friend who was visiting from Iowa.

Two men have been arrested and charged with the murders, John Lotter and Marvin Nissen. Lotter and Nissen are also charged with having raped Teena a week earlier. Teena had tried to press charges of rape against the two men immediately after that crime, but her complaint was not taken seriously by authorities until after the triple murder.

The assaults against Teena occurred after she was involuntary "outed" as a passing Lesbian in a story in the local newspaper.

According to Michelle Lotter, a sister of one of the alleged murderers, Lotter and Nissen made statements indicating they wanted to hurt Teena for passing as a man and for passing as a man and for dating Lana Tisdell, a former girlfriend of Lotter. Michelle Lotter said the two men publicly stripped Teena at a Christmas Eve

party to prove she was a woman, then drove her out of town and raped her.

Brandon Teena's mother says her daughter was warned by the two men not to report the rape to police. Despite a partial confession from Nissen, who stated that he had gone for a drive with John Lotter and Brandon Teena, that "clothing was removed," and that he heard Teena say, "Please don't hurt me," police claimed they had insufficient evidence to make any arrests. A week later, Lotter and Nissen burst into Lambert's home and shot Teena, Lambert, and DeVine killing them. Lambert's 10 month old baby, also in the house, was spared.

"This brutal murders illustrates the level of hatred directed at Lesbians and women who breaks gender rules," said Terry Maroney, an AVP spokeswoman. "There is a long history of harassment and murder of 'passing women.' By being sexually involved with women, by refusing to look and act like women are supposed to in this society, Teena broke the rules of her gender and for that she was 'punished.'" AVP recorded 287 incidents of violence against Lesbians in New York City in 1993.

Leslie Feinberg, a transgendered Lesbian activist and author of Stone Butch Blues, a novel which addresses the overlapping oppressions of Gay/Lesbian and transgender people, placed blame with officials in Richardson County, Nebraska. Pointing out that Brandon Teena was placed in extreme danger by a local paper, which printed her gender after she was

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHTEEN

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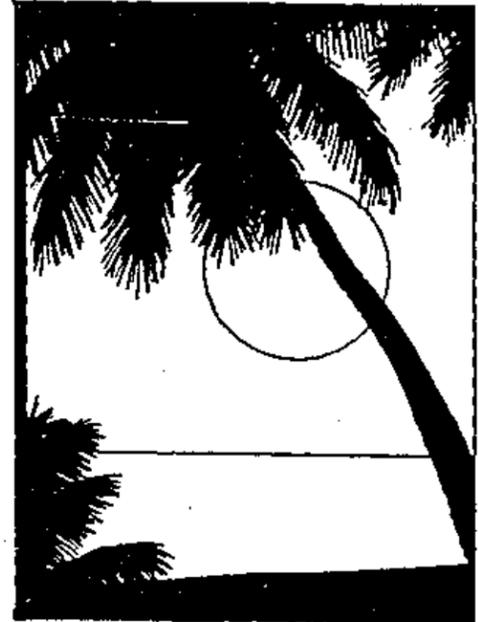
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Judge Temporarily Bars Benefits For Same Sex Couples

MINNEAPOLIS, Mn., - Both sides said they're satisfied with a judge's ruling that temporarily blocks a plan to extend health care benefits to partners of Gay and Lesbian city employees.

According to Hedlund's order, same-sex partners still may be reimbursed for their medical expenses under an eight month old "premium reimbursement plan," but their premiums will not be prepaid by the city.

The ruling from Hennepin County District Court Judge Deborah Hedlund came in a taxpayer suit challenging Minneapolis' domestic partners resolution.

A hearing on the suit's request for a full judgement against the domestic partner plan is scheduled for February 8.

Hedlund's temporary restraining order prevents the city from directly paying benefits for same-sex partners without completely nullifying the city's plan or branding it illegal.

"This is a fair resolution," said Jordan Lorence, a lawyer for James Lilly of North Minneapolis, who brought the law suit. "It maintains the status quo, and enjoins the city from doing what it was going to do."

Lorence has done legal work for conservative Christian and home school organizations and is working pro bono on Lilly's lawsuit.

Tim Skarda, assistant city attorney, argued that Minneapolis is merely extending benefits to another group of people whom the state recognizes under civil rights legislation.

Gay and Lesbian activists have called the domestic partnership resolution a major step in their struggle for equal rights. Conservative Christian groups have objected that such arrangements amount to governmental recognition or endorsement of homosexual behavior.

Murder

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVENTEEN
 accused of writing a bad check, Feinberg asks why authorities then refused to protect Teena. "Brandon Teena was outed as a transgender person by a small town newspaper," said Feinberg. "He was then beaten, stripped, kidnapped and raped, and the police ignored him until he and two other people were dead. And now they say they are not sure of a motive?"

"Brandon Teena, Lisa Lambert and Phillip DeVine might all be alive today if the police had responded appropriately to the rape," said Maroney.

Both AVP and Feinberg called on Richardson County Attorney Douglas Merz to recognize the gender and sexual orientation bias motives behind the rape and murder, in accordance with the Federal Hate crimes Statistics Act. "Given the negligence of local officials, federal intervention is necessary," said Feinberg, who demanded a civil rights investigation by the United States Department of Justice.

Several other organizations, including the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, have expressed interest in following the case.

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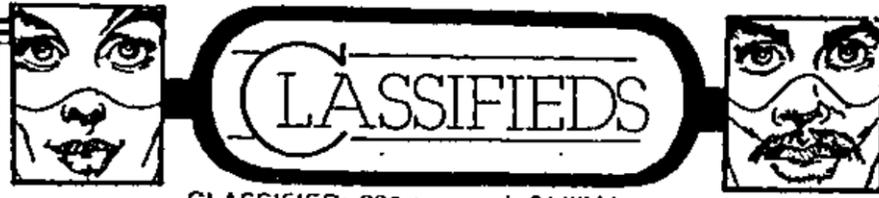
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TGN PERCENT meets every Wednesday on the UofA campus in the Student Union room 281 at 6 p.m. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual members of the community are invited.

RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF ALL LATTER DAY SAINTS - SOUTHWEST - Don't give up your religious beliefs and principles. Be with brothers and sisters of RLDS, LDS Mormon faith. For more information call 323-7668 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 meets on the fourth Monday of each month for a Brown Bag Lunch from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Room 281 or 285. Open to UofA faculty and staff concerned about Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues.

ARIZONA/SONORA PROJECTO, S.I.P.A. - AIDS INFO LINE 882-1933. Also seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/ English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish groups in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Early Intervention Center, 801 West Congress, Tucson, AZ 85719. 770-1314.

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AMERICAN GAY & LESBIAN ATHLETISTS advocating non-church separation. Monthly meetings and support for the non-religious. Write: 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 121, Box 211, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2901. "Educating Our Community Since 1983".

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

PRESCOTT GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP now forming. Are you lonely? Scared? Confused? Need Friendship? Support? Please write to us. We will respond to all in confidentiality. We're here for you... don't be alone! Write students and the community. YAG, Box 8663, 3200 North Willow Creek Road, Scott, AZ 85301-3720.

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP. This ongoing therapy group, facilitated by a licensed psychologist, provides a safe place to work on interpersonal blocks and self-esteem issues. Membership will be limited to 8-10 people. Call Randy Oberholt, Ph.D. 621-3300

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

GAY AND LESBIAN OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Stop bingeing, purging and creating. Get a life! Call 793-3488 / 394-1739. Come to a meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 pm at Steffy Bank, 1901 N. Wilma.

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

LESBIAN AND GAY ALANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 R. Thomas, Phoenix. Billie 581-8850 or Room 968-2384.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for free runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himsel Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 526-3555

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

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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.

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 44, Tucson, AZ 85740-0264. All replies confidential.

San De La Paloma Apostolic Church, 223 W. Flores, Tucson. Worship Services Sundays at 11 am & 6:30 pm. Wednesday & Saturday Bible Studies 7 pm. Tuesday, women's Rap Group 7 pm. Coming out issues couple counseling provided. For appointment Pastor S. Lewis for info 323-6835.

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, Ph.D. 327-4024 Tucson.

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

TRANSEXUAL, TRANSGENDERS, TRANSVESTITES AND CROSS GENDER SUPPORT GROUP. Conversation and Fellowship. Meets 2nd Saturday and last Friday of each month. Call 293-3456. Not a dating service.

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

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

ARE YOU A GAY MAN 40 OR OLDER? Do you enjoy the companionship of your peers? Call Crooks 884-7264 in Tucson.

Notices

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

JOIN US! PACC, Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, is a national organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Tucson chapter formed in May 1993: PACC de Cristo. We invite all Presbyterians to join us at our meeting on the 4th Sundays of each month at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3109 R. 3rd St. Tucson in Geneva Hall. For more details contact Nancy Brown, 327-1293.

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.

ARIZONA NUDE DUDES (ANDES) is a Gay men's nudist group with activities held in Tucson and Phoenix. Contact ANDERSON/Tucson, P.O. Box 64044, Tucson, AZ 85728-4044 or call Jim Paris at 297-9816.

MALIN, PEMALIN, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Info: Steve, 323-8436 or Wingspan, 624-1779.

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

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

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP), 231 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 327-6226 (Administration).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Personals

EMF. All for men personally serving Arizonan Gay and Bisexual men. For ad form, send SASE: D.C., Box 111, Midway, WA, 91281. 497

Roommates

QUEER MAN WANTED to share 2 bedroom townhouse. Afternoon/Evening area. Rent negotiable. 322-4969. 498

ROOMMATE WANTED to share 3 bedrooms, 2 bath home. \$180/mo. Includes utilities. No pet/no drugs. Tucson Verde/Cortaro area. 721-1481 500

NORTHWEST HOME WITH SPA. Choice of semi or private bath. \$260-\$320. Kitchen privileges; phone deposit. Utilities incl. 579-9901 496

Housing / For Rent

ALL AREAS OF TUCSON. See 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. All clean. Private. Furnished. Many extras. 885-6922. 499

Employment

DAYTIME BARTENDER AND PART TIME DOORPERSON WANTED. Apply with photo at 11 hours, 3455 E. Grant. 498

COUNTRYWESTERN DJ NEEDED. Apply in person for application. See Rob during business hours. Club 2520, 2528 N. Oracle. 497

Wanted

GYM NEEDED WORK! Part or full time. Have management, clerk, phone, housekeeping, laborer experience. Good references. Honest, dependable. Prefer something in the Gay community helping others, or anything. Call Rob at 745-6493. Leave message. 498

Miscellaneous

WILLING TO TRADE a waterbed frame, lining, mattress and heater for a convertible Penn/coach or a short coach. Call 884-5869 496

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HAR LEGAL DOCUMENTS. Bankruptcy 375, Uncontested Divorce 545, Separation 545, Living Trusts from \$125, Simple Wills \$35, Power of Attorney \$15, Living Will \$10. Complete preparation of any type of legal document. For appl: 822-1224

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422 North 4th Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85705 InfoLine 624-1778
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RECALL UPDATE!

Had enough! Some recall new to report. Total Recall and NOW/PAC announced that they have collected 24,000 signatures on the petition to recall Pima County Assessor Alan Lang. 61,000 signatures are needed by the April 8 deadline. 3,900 signatures have been collected to recall county supervisor Ed Moore. The Moore recall petition requires 11,000 signatures by April 8.

NOW/PAC Chair Claudia Ellquist said that, "we're right on schedule and I hope that everyone will continue to work hard because the recall is extremely important to everyone in Pima County."

John Kromko, chair of Total Recall, said that, "the county supervisors are spinning their wheels and wasting taxpayers money. Recall is the only sure way to solve the problems with Pima County government."

Here is the calendar for recall petition locations for the next two weeks: 1/27, Green Valley Library, 9-1 p.m./4-6 p.m. 1/29, Green Valley Library, 10-4 p.m.; River Center Library, 10-1 p.m.; Himmel Park Library, 10-2 p.m. 1/30, Park Mall, 1-5 p.m. 1/31, Green Valley Library, 9-1 p.m./3-5 p.m.; Woods Library, 1-5 p.m. 2/1 - 2/3, Park Mall, 10-6 p.m.; Catalina Library, 10-1 p.m.

For more information call 623-1478.

BASHA ON MELITI PROPOSAL

Democratic gubernatorial candidate, Eddie Basha, stated his opinion on the proposed Meliti Amendment this past week. Basha stated, "that he is 100%

Politics (Continued From Page Eleven)

against the proposed Meliti amendment" and "that he does not support any proposal or amendment that would take away civil rights from any groups."

Basha also announced to counter the Meliti group gathering signatures that he will change the Basha store policy that will not allow groups to circulate petitions in front of the Basha grocery stores which are located throughout the state. He stated he changed the policy in specific reference to Frank Meliti and the Traditional Values Coalition of Arizona.

MORE BASHA NEWS!

The Basha gubernatorial campaign is opening their southern Arizona office. The office is located at 4433 East Broadway, near the intersection of Broadway and Columbus. The office will hold its grand opening next week (more in next weeks column). Gabriella Rico, the southern Arizona coordinator stated the campaign is looking for tables and chairs for the office. If you have tables and chairs to spare, call the campaign at 882-2863.

NOW NEWS

The NOW Political Action Director, Alice Cohan, will be in Tucson Tuesday, February 8, at the Southside Presbyterian Church. This meeting will take place at 7 p.m.

Alice Cohan will be conducting a workshop for electing women to political office and to fight anti-feminist and anti-Gay initiatives. [There will be more about this meeting in next week's column.]

ICKY-DICKY BEING TRICKY!

Yes, our current, severely ambitious and "flip-flopping" Secretary of State and announced Democratic senatorial candidate, "Icky-Dicky" Mahoney is in hot water about campaign signs. How? Well, the primary election is not until September, and guess who has their signs up ALL over Maricopa county already! You guessed it, Mahoney! But get this, there is a law on the Maricopa books stating a campaign can not put up their signs until 30 days before the election, [Pima County has a law on the books as well]

Mahoney states the law violated his first amendment rights to free speech. But why hasn't he tried to change the law in the four years previous as Secretary of State. Why is he breaking the oath office he took by violating an election law? (So what elected official hasn't Need I say more "Pious St. Icky"! I don't think so!

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

Nurse practitioner and Democratic party activist, Betty Liggins announced her candidacy, at the weekly meeting of the Democrat's of Greater Tucson (DDT!), for the Democratic nomination for the State House of Representatives for Legislative District 10.

Liggins, who ran in 1992 for the Democratic nomination and came in third with 27% of the vote will challenge again the Democratic incumbents, Rep. Carmen Cajero and Phil Hubbard, who have stated they plan to run for re-election.

END NOTES

Recently, I had the opportunity to

read a Phoenix based publication, specifically an article on elected officials reaction to the proposed Meliti Amendment. I was surprised to read the publications attempt to get a comment from a gubernatorial wannabee. What happened, the candidate, a Democrat and former mayor of Phoenix, would not comment after repeated attempts and when the publication reached the campaign manager, the person stated, "their past record shows where they stand on the issue."

That is not good enough! We should not be "taken for granted" when it comes to our civil rights! This candidate, who wants to lead the state, should have the "courage" to respond and not refer to past deeds. Remember, actions speaks louder than words and we want action!

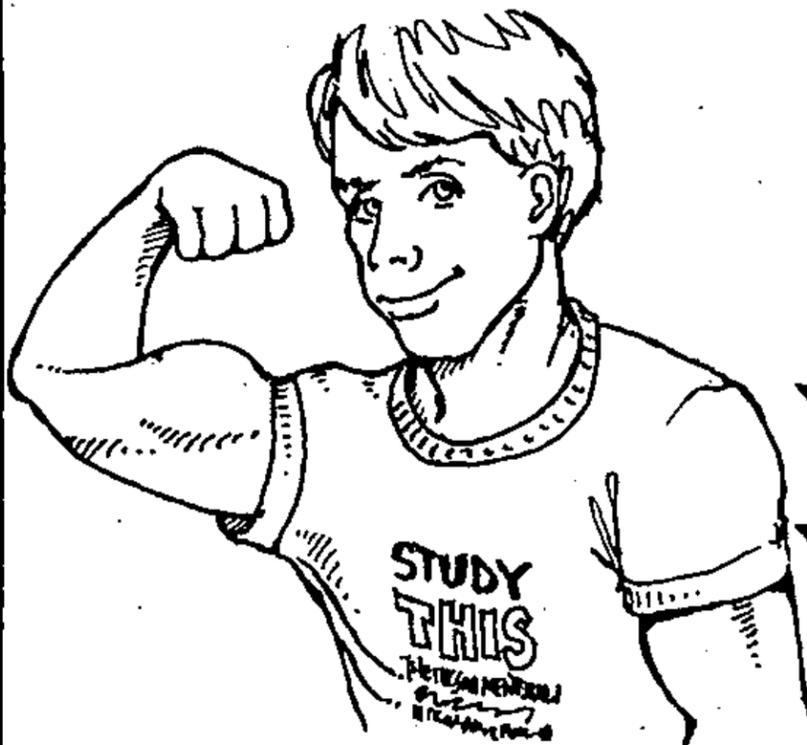


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