

WELCOME

WELCOME



# Happy New Year

Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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ISSUE 808

## Vermont Supreme Court Ruling Gets Praise From Mainstream Press

MONTPELIER, VT - Despite the obvious controversy that still surrounds the issue of same-sex marriage, newspaper editorials from around the nation reveals a remarkably uniform level of support for the rights of Gay men and women to have their commitments recognized in the eyes of the law.

It bears reminder that less than twenty years ago, the idea that Gay men and women could gain any sort of legal recognition for their relationships was nothing more than a pipe dream. So much so that in 1981, Diane Feinstein, then-President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, vetoed a local domestic partnership proposal as "too radical" a notion for the people of that city.

Many newspapers described the ruling in almost lyrical terms. The Philadelphia Inquirer called the Vermont decision a "cogent, eloquent ruling" that rejected "frenzied warnings that upholding Gay rights imperils the institution of marriage." The Inquirer termed it a "dramatic, welcome declaration of the rights of Gays and Lesbians who are committed to each other for life."

Most praised the court's decision to stop short of mandating Gay inclusion in an institution loaded with cultural and legal significance that many people hold "sacred," but some did not. The New York Times praised the "eloquence and passion" of the courts concurring opinion by Justice Denise Johnson, in which she criticized the court's unwillingness to simply legalize same-sex marriages.

The Boston Globe, in a dispassionate and level-headed column, called the Vermont decision "a common-sense recognition" that the American family is "slowly but inexorably changing to accommodate a mosaic of possibilities... new arrangements (which) no more undermine traditional marriage than sailing undermines swimming."

The Rutland Herald in Vermont praised the court's boldness and restraint, quoting at length Chief Justice Jeffrey L. Amestoy defending his decision not to impose Gay marriage on the state outright. "When a democracy is in moral flux, courts may not have the best or the final answers," the newspaper quotes him as saying. "Judicial answers may be wrong. They may be counterproductive even if they are right. Courts do best by proceeding in a way that is catalytic rather than preclusive and that is closely attuned to the fact that courts are participants in the system of democratic deliberation."

The Portland Press Herald in Maine lauded the Vermont Supreme Court for not "plunging...into a broader discussion of marriage as a social institution." Its editors' contribution to the national debate was notable, too, for its assertion that "the establishment of equal rights for all people should never depend upon a vote of the majority," while noting that social change is a process of persuading people to do the right and just thing.

The Des Moines Register coolly appraised the ruling and said it was only "a matter of time before this issue is resolved, whether state by state or in a single stroke by the U.S. Supreme Court." Moral questions aside, it was only fair that civil rights be delegated in an egalitarian way by the government, said its editors.

The Arizona Daily Star weighed in by pointing out the absurdity of the state's arguments for restricting marriage to opposite-sex couples for the protection of children. "If the concern is protection of children, won't imposing parental obligations on Gay couples give greater, not lesser, safeguards?" the paper asked.

Many papers advised Vermont lawmakers to choose the "wiser and easier" course of formulating a civil equivalent to

WASHINGTON, DC - For Gay Republicans, presidential hopeful Sen. John McCain is running as the clear favorite, having amassed, at last report, more than \$40,000 in campaign contributions from members of the Log Cabin Republicans, a Gay GOP group. The question being asked that no one seems qualified to answer at this stage in the campaign is why.

Policy positions staked out by the McCain campaign have put the candidate in opposition to a broad range of Gay concerns. McCain is on record as opposing changes to the rules governing Gay service in the military, to expanded rights for same-sex couples and to including sexual orientation in federal hate crimes laws. His positions, in short, are indistinguishable from his Republican opponents, and yet the level of support among Gay Republicans remains high.

The answer to this riddle appears to be in the tone and style communicated by the candidate. Unlike Gov. George W. Bush, who said last month that even meeting with the Gay group would create a "huge political nightmare," McCain has met with Log Cabin representatives and expressed his willingness to engage them in an on-going dialogue. While this has had no appreciable impact on his policy stances, this perceived openness has generated enormous good will among Gay Republicans. A recent article said that McCain was an "enigma."

"While he has an avowed 'visceral dislike' of discrimination, which presumably includes discrimination against Gays, he has consistently chosen to vote anti-Gay," said the article. "His actions over the years have likewise sent mixed messages to Gay voters."

McCain voted against the Employment Non Discrimination Act in 1996 and was denounced three years earlier by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force for

being the keynote speaker for a fund raiser benefiting the Oregon Citizens Alliance, a viscerally anti-Gay group. Aides to the Senator said at the time his appearance at the benefit did not constitute an endorsement for the group's aims.

But for Log Cabin Republicans, McCain's willingness to talk face-to-face with members of the group sets him head and shoulders above the rest. Aides to McCain say that while he may disagree with Gay Republicans on some issues, they were in agreement on such things as "lower taxes and a strong national defense."

"You're talking about those kind of values (McCain's) versus people like Pat Buchanan, Gary Bauer and others who have historically said that Gays should not be in the Republican Party," said Log Cabin spokesman Kevin Ivers, "that we are people who should not have civil rights, that we should be in programs because we're mentally ill."

## Gore Trumpets Support Of G/L Rights Issues

DES MOINES, IA - Vice President Al Gore said that the United States is close to granting anti-discrimination protections to Gay and Lesbian Americans and it is a move he wholeheartedly supports.

Gore, who earlier in his hit Cedar Rapids and Marshalltown, made his remarks in Des Moines to a group of about 250 Gay and Lesbian Democrats and activists.

Gore, who is facing an unexpectedly strong challenger in Bill Bradley for the 2000 Democratic nomination, issued his remarks at a reception for Gay rights campaigners in Iowa.

In the address Gore cited his call  
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# UPDATE

## GLBT Commission Update:

TUCSON - The three subcommittees of the City of Tucson Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Commission will be meeting in January. The following is the schedule:

The Legal Subcommittee will meet January 12, 5:00 p.m., 3131 E. Country Club, second floor - Northwest corner. Freedom to Marry and domestic partnership issues will be discussed.

The Education Subcommittee will meet January 10, noon, at Wingspan, 300 East Sixth Street. They will discuss the report on all area school district policies and practices.

The Social Services Subcommittee will meet January 25, 7:00 p.m. On the schedule, the committee will discuss Standards of Practice proposed to be distributed to all Tucson social service providers.

At the last Commission meeting, the recommendations from the nomination's committee for the six other seats on the board were submitted and discussed, and will be presented to the Tucson Mayor and Council for approval at the second meeting in January.

For more information, please call the City of Tucson EOO Office, (520) 791-4866.

## Contestants Wanted For Phoenix Leather Contest Feb. 11-13

PHOENIX - Contestants are wanted for the Mr. Padlock 2000 contest to be held Feb. 11-13.

The winner will receive hotel accommodations and round trip airfare to the International Mr. Leather 2000 Contest in Chicago, Illinois, May 25-29. There is a \$25 refundable entry fee.

Deadline for entries is January 16, 2000. Applications are available at the padlock, 998 E. Indian School in Phoenix, or call (602) 266-5640.

## G/L Partners Invited To Royal Fete

LONDON, UK (WS) - Queen Elizabeth allowed Gay and Lesbian staff members to invite their partners to the royal household Christmas party for the first time this year.

The invitations were issued to staff members, who were allowed to bring a guest. Senior staff members made it clear

that this year the guest could be a Gay or Lesbian partner. However, the senior staffers indicated that it would not be appropriate for same-sex couples to dance at the party or show "overt gestures of affection."

The queen, who has been supportive of her Gay staffers, approved the move. The party, held at Windsor Castle, is attended by the queen and Prince Philip. Half of the household staff of 850 is invited each year, with the other half invited the following year.

## Queer Voice To Discuss 'Freedom To Marry' At Meeting Jan. 6

TUCSON - With the recent court rulings from Hawaii and Vermont notwithstanding, the Tucson National Freedom to Marry coalition will hold their next meeting Thursday, January 6, 4:00 p.m. at SAAF, 375 S. Euclid Ave.

The coalition will discuss outreach and educating the public about the group and to plan the activities for the day of the actual event.

For more information, contact Mike Pollack, (520) 628-7223.

## New Years Eve Celebration At Tucson MCC

TUCSON - Rev. Joyce Cook, Pastor, is announcing a special New Year's Eve Worship Service at Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) this Friday, December 31, 1999, at 9:00 PM. The service will close out the year of 1999, and welcome in the year 2000, opening the new millennium. Refreshments will follow the New Year's Eve Service.

Pastor Rev. Cook is issuing an open invitation for everyone to come and share in this exciting celebration at the opening of the millennium. Water of Life MCC is located at 3269 N. Mountain Ave., just north of Fort Lowell Road.

Water of Life MCC is a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UF-MCC), which while open to all people, primarily serves the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community and their families and friends. Founded in 1970, Water of Life MCC numbers among the early congregations of the UFMCC with almost twenty-nine years of continuous service in the Tucson area.

The church meets for regular

worship each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. and at 11:15 a.m. For further information, please contact the local church office at (520) 292-9151 or e-mail WOLMCC@aol.com.

## Desert Players Presents 'Three Original Millennium One-Act Plays' Jan. 21

TUCSON - Desert Players Theatre will present the third production of its 1999/2000 season, "Three Original Millennium One-Act Plays," opening Friday, January 21.

The production will perform Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. through January 30.

Ticket prices are \$9, with discounts available for seniors, students and military personnel. Performances will be held at the Tucson Center for the Performing Arts, 408 S. Sixth Avenue (at 14th Street). For ticket information and reservations, call (520) 733-0733.

## G/L Film In Production In Tucson

TUCSON (ON) - The Old Pueblo will have the "First Gay Superhero," to protect it from evil, at least on film.

Pre-production has started for the independent video, "First Gay Superhero." According to Anthony Saladino, writer-producer-director, actual filming will start January 19. This is the first of five videos from Ariztical Entertainment.

A Gay man feels that there should be a Gay superhero, and proceeds to create one, Saladino said, describing the plot of the first video. "It's a comedy with a social meaning," added Saladino, originally from New York.

Writing, directing, acting and film making, just several of the many facets of Saladino. He has made many films/videos, including the autobiographical, "I'll Always Be Anthony," growing up Gay in Brooklyn. In addition to "I'll ..." Saladino has made such films as "Summon the Ant Woman," a film noir, 50's campy horror fantasy spoof of the criminal justice system, and "The Plug Lady," about a drag queen finding the real person inside.

So is the cast set for the first G/L production. Not quite, Saladino said. He has put out another call for actors. If interested, please send head shots to Anthony Saladino, c/o Ariztical Entertainment, 405 E. Wetmore, Tucson, AZ #516-117, 85705.



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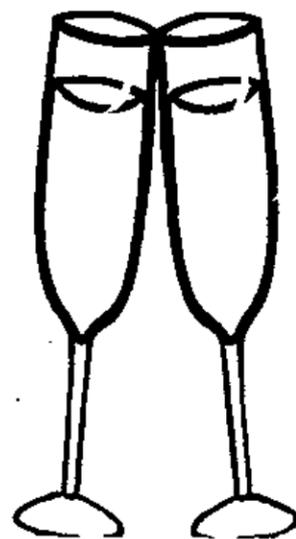
# Y2 What???



## Millennium Eve Celebration

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dinner, go go boys,  
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Early entry ticket (before 9 pm) \$25.00 per person  
Includes all amenities above

Entry after 8:30 pm \$15.00 per person  
Buy early and you won't wait in line  
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Does not include dinner or early evening entertainment

**The Girlie Show**  
Wed., Jan. 5th 9pm  
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Featuring:  
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**Sunday Benefit**  
**BBQ/Beerbust**  
5:30 – 8pm for  
Gay Mens Health Project  
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KARAOKE on the patio  
With Billy Dee 4:30 – 7:30

**Special Benefit Show**  
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For SAAF's  
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NEW YORK, NY (GFN) - Do you know what you're doing on New Year's Eve? If you're an information services director or professional, you do. And it is probably not attending Sting's New York concert, Lyle Lovett's Austin, Texas, gig or Bette Midler's Las Vegas act.

More likely, you'll be sitting in your office or, if you're fortunate, in your den at home, but not more than a step away from your pager, cell phone or other communications device. This is the night they have not been waiting for -- the night when the Y2K bug strikes.

Over the weekend of Dec. 31, 1999, law firms will discover whether they have followed the advice that they have given to clients. For the past three years or so, lawyers have been warning about a 30-year-old problem.

Computers don't like to be confused about time. Because of programming decisions made many years ago, on Jan. 1, 2000, computers might think that it is actually Jan. 1, 1900. All sorts of annoying, amusing or disastrous things might happen: stuck elevators, misbehaving video games, power outages and surges, and midair plane collisions. That is the worry.

Most of the bugs have probably

already been fixed. But just in case they haven't, the computer staffs at many firms will be stationed in their offices at the stroke of midnight, according to an informal survey of the Am Law 100 firms.

Here is contingency planning, Winston & Strawn style: "We will be performing full system backups and then bringing down all systems about 8 p.m. in each city on New Year's Eve," says Cindy Levin, the Chicago firm's information systems director.

"We have reserved hotel rooms in Chicago, New York, D.C. and our Geneva office for [information technology] staff to stay overnight. At 7 a.m. the next morning (assuming electricity is stable), we will systematically be bringing servers back online, and we'll be evaluating them for functionality with key end users throughout the day. We've worked extremely hard these last two years to ensure that the firm's systems are Y2K compliant, and now it's time to finally give birth to the baby. The party will begin for us after all the other parties are over."

Levin parenthetically notes that there is only so much firms can do. If the lights don't turn on, why bother booting up

the computers? San Francisco's Morrison & Foerster is prepared to function even without power.

The firm will turn off its computers at noon on Dec. 31, a holiday, but it will run voice mail and phones through a back-up power source. "We also have printers set up with independent power supplies for that last-minute document," says Jo Haraf, the chief tech officer. "The only thing we haven't issued is MoFo Y2K flashlights, but we're thinking about it."

At New York's Kaye Scholer Fierman Hays & Handler, senior members of the technology staff will be at each office. To liven the scene, the firm is catering parties and supplying "balloons, noisemakers and other party paraphernalia," but no alcohol, says John Palefsky, the firm's technical chief.

In Seattle, Perkins Coie is also planning parties for those required to work while the rest of the world plays. Families are invited. Some of these sentinels of the night have affected a certain strain of gallows humor to cope with the task.

Says David Lovell, director of firmwide information system services at

Jones Day Reavis & Pogue, "Fortunately, I, at least, have no life, so no harm is implied in this schedule." Others are simply resigned to their fate.

Says Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton's Eric Goldreich, "Depending upon the attitude of my wife and kids, I may spend the night of the 31st in the office. I am not, however, overly thrilled about the prospect of welcoming the year 2000 alone in a computer room."

For some firms, this New Year's weekend will be like any other.

"We're handling business as usual, as in, we always have staff here on holidays," says Judi Flournoy, the management information systems director at New York's Kelley Drye & Warren. "If we didn't catch any Y2K bugs this year during very extensive testing, then there isn't much we're going to be able to do on Dec. 31, 1999, standing in the data center watching the clock strike midnight."

Philadelphia's Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll is keeping the technology staff home on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, when its office building is closed. The tech staff is supposed to report to work on Sunday, Jan. 2, says Kim Wisner, the firm's IS director.

Martin Stalnaker, who heads the Y2K practice at technology consultant Baker & Robbins Co., surveyed the five largest firms in the six largest U.S. legal markets. Most plan to conduct tests over the weekend, but they are split over whether to turn off the computers to protect against power failures and surges. He says that most firms ought to come through the night in fairly good shape. But as the IS directors already know, it's not going to be a party.

### Clinton Sees G/L Gains

WASHINGTON, DC - In an appearance on a national cable network talk show, President Clinton said that the country had "come a long way" on Gay issues during his term.

In response to a question about "how we are doing...in the homosexual area in this country, with regard to acceptance," Clinton said that "vast majorities of the American people" support hate-crimes and other anti bias legislation.

"I think most Americans strongly support nondiscrimination in the workplace and would vote for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act if they were in Congress," Clinton said. "I think that the real problem, I still believe, is the absence of open, personal contact... I think there are too many people who don't know Gay men and Lesbian women in the ordinary course of their lives, and they don't see that there are people who their friends, their sisters, their brothers, their sons, their daughters, their coworkers, and that it is, my judgment is, it's not a lifestyle people choose. It is the way people are."

### Safe Sex



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# New Year's Eve

## 1999

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## Pentagon Issues New 'Don't Harass' Directive

WASHINGTON, DC (WS) - The Pentagon is reportedly pressing military leaders to reiterate to officers and lower level commanders in the field that verbal and physical harassment of troops perceived to be Gay or Lesbian will not be tolerated and should be dealt with on the same terms that governs racial or sexual harassment.

The Pentagon has been put under renewed pressure from officials in the Clinton administration to fix problems with the 1993 "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy governing Gay service in the U.S. military.

Criticism of the policy sharpened following the court-martial of an Army private who was convicted of murdering a Gay soldier. Testimony provided by commanding officers in the case revealed that the Pfc Barry Winchell had been harassed for months with the full knowledge and even participation of some of his superiors before he was killed and that anti-Gay bias played a role in his murder.

Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said that Rudy de Leon, the under secretary of defense for personnel, and Douglas Dworkin, the acting general counsel, issued a Dec. 18 memorandum to service leaders calling for immediate action against cases of anti-Gay harassment.

"We also think it is important that the leadership of each of the services issue a strong statement to the field that harassment of service members for any reason, to include alleged or perceived homosexuality, will not be tolerated and that commanders are expected to take prompt, appropriate action against individuals involved in such behavior," quoting a memo released by the Defense Department.

De Leon and Dworkin gave the services a deadline of Jan. 17 to submit revised training guidelines intended to clarify how anti-Gay threats or harassment of service members would be investigated. Bacon said it had "not been made sufficiently clear" to commanders that a complaint of Gay harassment was not to be taken as grounds that for investigating the complainant.

"You cannot take a complaint from a soldier about harassment to be evidence of homosexuality," he said. "In fact, what the commander should do is investigate the harasser, the person who is harassing the soldier or making the complaint."

"It's an effort to emphasize that the policy should be described as 'don't ask, don't tell, don't harass,' and to put some backbone in the 'don't harass' part of the policy," Bacon said.

## Baseball Player Retracts Comments

ATLANTA, GA (NP) - Even before "Sports Illustrated" (SI) hit the newsstands December 23, it caused a major league stir with a quote from Atlanta Braves pitcher John Rocker.

In October during this year's play offs and World Series, Rocker had offended virtually all of New York with his tirades against the Mets and their fans, but his newly released comments greatly expanded his verbal field of destruction, which now includes gays, people with AIDS and many others. On December 22, Rocker issued a written apology. The Braves have made a disclaimer that "in no way do the comments, attitude and feelings represent those of the Atlanta Braves," and will consider disciplinary action after New Year's. Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig called Rocker's remarks in "SI" "inappropriate and offensive" and promised "appropriate action."

Rocker, 25, wrote, "Even though it might appear otherwise from what I've said, I am not a racist. I should not have said what I did because it is not what I believe in my heart." He continued, "While I have evidenced strong competitive feelings about New York fans in the past, and take responsibility for things I have said publicly, including the 'Sports Illustrated' article, I recognize that I have gone way too far in my competitive zeal."

He went on, "I want everybody to understand that my emotions fuel my competitive desire. They are a source of energy for me. However, I have let my emotions get the best of my judgment, and have said things which, when read with cold, hard logic, are unacceptable to me and to my country." "Cold, hard logic," however, reveals that the heat of competition was several months removed when Rocker gave the "SI" interview, "safely" back home in

Atlanta. Still he claims to have seen the error of his words and said, "I fully intend to learn from this experience. Everyone makes mistakes, and I hope everyone can put this aside and begin with a fresh start in the 2000 season. I am contrite."

In his "SI" interview, Rocker, Georgia-born and raised, had expanded his complaints about his treatment by Mets fans at the play-offs to all of "hectic and nerve-wracking" New York City. Saying he'd quit baseball before he'd play for the Mets, the short reliever went on to add, "Imagine having to take the [Number] 7 train to [Shea Stadium] looking like you're [in] Beirut next to some kid with purple hair, next to some queer with AIDS, right next to some dude who got out of jail for the fourth time, right next to some 20-year-old mom with four kids. It's depressing. The biggest thing I don't like about New York are the foreigners. I'm not a very big fan of foreigners. You can walk an entire block in Times Square and not hear anybody speaking English. Asians and Koreans and Vietnamese and Indians and Russians and Spanish people and everything up there. How the hell did they get in this country?"

Naturally this brought an angry demand for Rocker to be held accountable from New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

AID Atlanta director Tony Braswell, who had also been shocked by the New York fans' behavior when he attended the play-offs, told the Associated Press, "Welcome to the real world, Mr. Rocker. The world is made up of people from India and Korea and Vietnam and Spain and Russia and people with purple hair and queers living with AIDS. There are men, women and children of all walks of life living with AIDS."

New Years Eve Fetish Ball  
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 Miss Gay Western States America Pageant  
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 Reveille Gay Mens Chorus  
 Ronald McDonald House  
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*Dave and Frank*

## Time Magazine Honors Harvey Milk

NEW YORK, NY (WS) - Time magazine has named Harvey Milk, the openly Gay San Francisco city supervisor assassinated in 1978, as one of the century's most influential people.

"This was a century in which all sorts of groups gained their civil rights because they stood up and insisted on them,

and they developed heroes who were willing to go to the wall for them," said Time managing editor Walter Isaacson, describing the magazine.

He added, "You can't talk about this century without the civil rights movement, the women's right movement, the Gay rights movement, and their heroes because they did change us."

## Mulryan/Nash Goes Bust

NEW YORK, NY (NP) - The firm whose annual report on advertising in the Gay press showed booming business for the niche market will show only debts for itself when its doors close at the end of the year.

Mulryan/Nash Advertising, a New York City-based firm specializing in arranging advertising for mainstream national companies in Gay and Lesbian publications, announced that after 8 years of business it will be shutting down as of December 31, leaving its outstanding bills unpaid.

Co-founder David Mulryan was not at liberty to say much because of legal circumstances; most of the company's assets are now encumbered by a bank lien. He wrote to publishers saying, "We have done everything we could to avoid this development. You should know that I have personally lost significant moneys that I invested in this company ... and that the assets of this company have not been used to repay my extensive financial investments in Mulryan/Nash."

Mulryan/Nash was perhaps most widely recognized for its annual report on advertis-

ing in the Gay press, which has shown a steady increase at a rate faster than other niche markets while print advertising in general has remained fairly flat. However, David Bianco, publisher of Press Pass Q, a newsletter for those involved in Gay and Lesbian publishing, announced that his Q Syndicate will attempt to coordinate similar research for the future.

No Gay and Lesbian publication has been exclusively dependent on national advertising, so most of Mulryan/Nash's client publishers say they'll be able to take the bit of the company's unpaid bills, although the smaller publications seem to feel the pinch more. Most regional publishers agree that the stronger opportunities for Gay and Lesbian print advertising lie in local businesses (as past Mulryan/Nash studies have documented), and that it's important for publications to maintain diversified sources of income.

Publishers also seem ready to blame Mulryan/Nash for its own failure due to bad business decisions, pointing in particular to a much-hyped plan for a "New York Times" insert on the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, which never materialized. Sean Strub, chair of POZ

Publishing, nonetheless said that the failure was "a black mark on the Gay market."

Rivendell Marketing, which has been brokering ads for Gay and Lesbian publications for 20 years, is picking up some of Mulryan/Nash's clients, including Agouron, the pharmaceutical company which manufactures the AIDS drug Viracept. Its chief executive Todd Evans is one who denies that Mulryan/Nash's failure represents any lack of opportunity in the

market, noting that Rivendell's business had increased 30% in 1999.

Another specialist in marketing to Gays, Mike Wilke, said that, "My sense is that this is a personal issue for David Mulryan versus a statement about where things are at nationally. Clearly the intention on the part of major national companies is to increase [advertising in the Gay press] while, at the same time, it's still a modest spending area."

## Navratilova Sets Trends

ASPEN, CO (GFN) - Martina Navratilova will be remembered as much for changing the face of women's tennis as for all her titles and her enduring rivalry with Chris Evert.

Navratilova, perhaps the greatest woman player of all-time, emerged from her native Czechoslovakia as a pudgy teenager but developed into the most outstanding physical specimen ever to play the sport.

The muscular left-hander, an outspoken Lesbian, helped change the face of the women's game forever. An attacking left-hander serve-and-volleyer, she raised the standards of fitness and training to new heights.

Navratilova, born in Prague in 1956, retired from singles in late 1994 after having amassed a 167 singles titles - a record for both men and women - including nine on the grass at Wimbledon, where she reigned supreme.

She won 19 Wimbledon titles in singles and doubles - just one short of Billie Jean King's record.

Navratilova, who became an American citizen in 1981, won at least one tournament each year for 21 years - another record and also won 165 doubles titles. Her 18 Grand Slam singles titles rank fourth on the all-time list. She won six Slams in a row from 1983-84 and earned over 20 million dollars in prize money. She was named Athlete of the Decade in the 1980s and was ranked No.1 for a total of 331 weeks.

Her off-court earnings were hit hard by her sexuality, although she became an increasingly popular figure with fans late in her career. In 1997, she captained the U.S. Fed Cup team.

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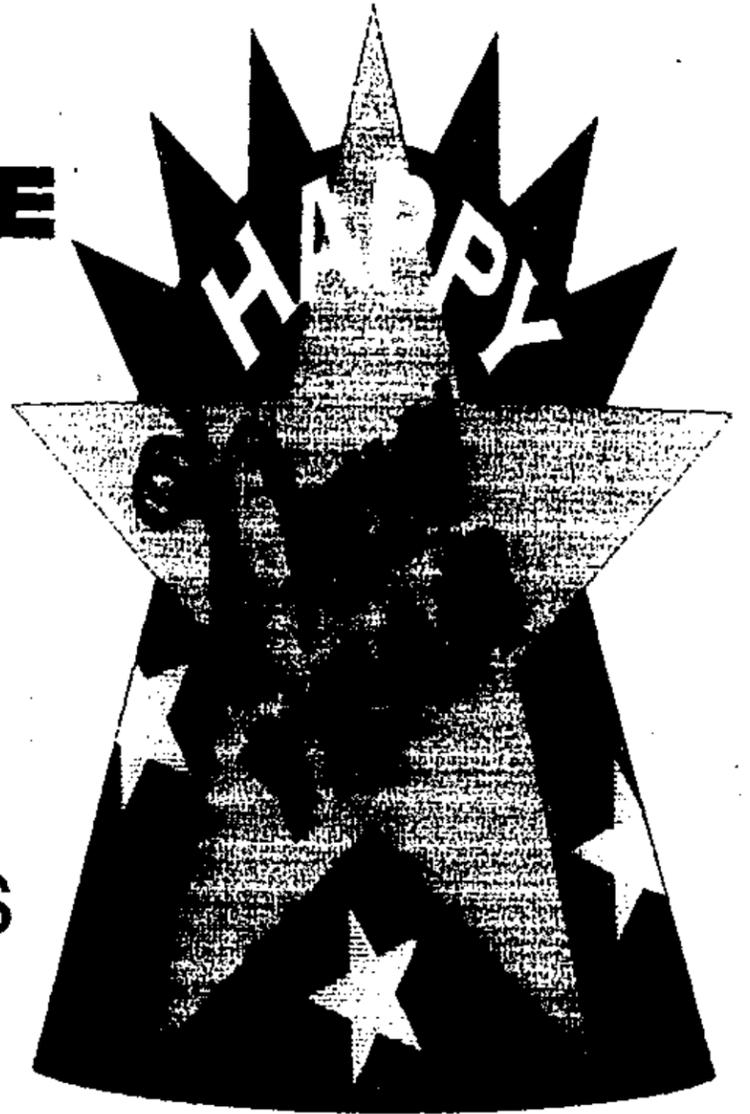
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## Observer Launches New Web Site

TUCSON (ON) — Please pardon our dust at the Observer's new Web site.

That's right, the Weekly Observer, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian newspaper for more than 20 years, has launched a new Web site: <http://www.tucsonobserver.com>.

According to Bob Ellis, Editor and Publisher of the Weekly Observer, "All the people who live and have lived in Tucson, can visit Tucson on the Internet at the new Observer site."

That is the case. Local news, news across the state, country and the world is featured at the new site, just like the print edition, but that's not all.

People surfing the Web can get news about sports, health, HIV/AIDS, financial news at [tucsonobserver.com](http://tucsonobserver.com).

"It will be current, accurate and will bring the world to your computer," Max Vosskuhler of Millennium Consulting, the webmaster for the new site. "In time, it will become the center of the Tucson online Gay and Lesbian community."

Keeping the news current is a top priority, according to Ellis. "People scoffed

at a Gay and Lesbian newspaper trying to publish a weekly edition. They stated there was not enough news to fill a newspaper," he said. "The print edition of the Weekly Observer has shown otherwise, as will the new online edition."

So what else does [tucsonobserver.com](http://tucsonobserver.com) offer? "More stories and more new pages, such as: Pictures of the Week, The Buzz, Back Page, and Q-News. A comment section, with letters to the editor, oped pieces, perspectives, Observer editorials and a cartoon," said Mark Kerr, Managing Editor of [tucsonobserver.com](http://tucsonobserver.com).

A cartoon? Kerr went on, "For how these many years, people have enjoyed or been outraged by 'As I See It,' by Clark in the print edition. Now people surfing the net will now have the opportunity to see how Clark sees it."

What else will [tucsonobserver.com](http://tucsonobserver.com) offer? Vosskuhler said chat rooms plus a search engine is in the works.

So, when your in front of the computer, surfing the net, take a look at Observer's new Web site, <http://www.tucsonobserver.com>.

### Vermont

Continued from Page One

marriage that could form the basis for a national model. The Chicago Tribune said that "a committed relationship between two people of the same sex does not fit the (marriage) tradition. That's not a value judgment but a recognition of the history of the institution of marriage... Parallel, fully fleshed-out domestic partnership agreements..." are preferable it said.

line from the Vermont Court's 48-page ruling. "All that same-sex couples are asking is that their relationships be included 'in the family of State-sanctioned human relations,'" the paper said. "Who would deny that?"

Editors at the Minneapolis Star Tribune compared the Vermont decision to Susan B. Anthony's impassioned assertion written in 1872 that women be given the right to vote, which to modern ears seems so sensible and fair. "In both cases," said the paper, "someone took a new look and asserted that current law flouted provisions of a revered constitution."

The Denver Post condemned government vacillation on the issue, saying the "buck-passing between courts and the politicians on this issue has now reached ludicrous levels." The Post reminded its readers its editors have "repeatedly argued that the institution of marriage has both religious and secular aspects. The government has no business dictating whether any religious body should sanction a Gay union. But the government equally has no business discriminating against homosexual couples in such purely secular issues as inheritance and property division in the event of a breakup."

The Salt Lake Tribune said the citizens of Vermont have an independent streak that makes a "pioneering step" on the issue of Gay marriage natural. "Their pride," said the paper, "is well-placed."

Editors at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reduced the entire question to a single



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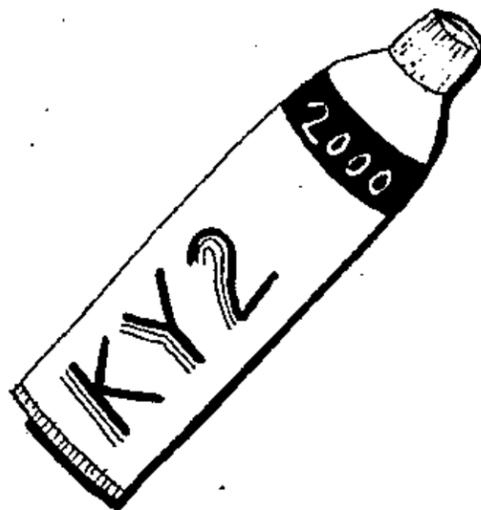
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### AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK

## LUBRICANT FOR THE PARANOID



Were terms used to describe Gays and Lesbians in the Arizona Legislature, which opened the year, by state Representative Barbara Blewster, R-Hell.

Bad old Babs compared Gays and Lesbians to the abovementioned, in an E-mail to a constituent, but she wasn't through on the subject.

"Homosexuality is a high sign of the downfall of the nation. There is no joy in life without taking on the responsibility of a wife and children," Blewster ranted during a legislative debate.

You wonder if Mesa's favorite bombastic bottle-blond, state Representative Karen Johnson, R-Divorce Court, paid attention to that, since she shares an office with Blewster and state Rep. Debra Brimhall, R-Look Out for The Black Helicopters Flying Overhead?

Of course not. Johnson's been hitched five times but that didn't stop her, nothing did.

During the session, Johnson tried to ramrod anti-Gay legislation, including two bills, prohibiting governments in Arizona from extending medical benefits to the domestic partners of their employees, through both houses. Determined to succeed, she went before the House Government Reform Committee, Feb. 3, to testify.

"It's critical to our national health and survival to restore social virtue and purity to our state and nation," Johnson blathered. "Is living together without the benefit of marriage good? Is homosexuality good? If cohabitating and homosexual behavior is detrimental to the individual and to society, besides breaking the law, then society has the responsibility to resist it," she continued, quoting from godhatesfags.com. Johnson added more

# POLITICS 1999

by Mark R. Kerr

## "Bestiality, Human Sacrifice and Cannibalism"

bile, talking about how Gay men have sex with gerbils, eat focal matter and live to be 42.

Upset? So was State Representative Steve May, R-Phoenix, who stepped forward and testified after Miss Johnson, countering her bile with logic. For his remarks, May faces discharge from the Army Reserve, despite being a civilian at the time and on inactive reserve.

A bill dealing with the extension of benefits, to the domestic partners of government employees, wasn't the only item considered by the Arizona Legislature this past year. More was ahead, and some dealt with the office-mate of Blewster and Johnson.

State Representative Debra Brimhall tried to get the state to ban adoptions and foster parenting by Gays and Lesbians.

"I find homosexuality disgustingly disturbing. This calls God and his designs into question. I feel a strong sense of fear for anyone who questions God's designs," Brimhall twittered during another legislative debate, for which there were too many for the 1999 session.

Many fellow legislators felt the same way, quoted or otherwise. An attempt to ban: Gay and Lesbian adoptions and foster parenting and, Gay and Lesbian school clubs, despite violating the federal Equal Access Act and losing \$410 million in funding, were made, luckily to no avail.

AIDS Drug Assistance Program

funding was reduced by \$600,000 by the Legislature. For another year, the blue laws - sodomy and cohabitation statutes are still on the books, despite receiving approval by the House to repeal them. It took a cheap maneuver by House Speaker Jeff Groskost, R-Mesa, to kill the amendment. What few rights a person, living with HIV/AIDS or has been tested for the virus has in Arizona, are still in tact, thanks to bickering by groups, fire fights and doctors, who wanted to reduce them. An enemy divided.

With the magic words of "Sine Die," said, the focus shifted to the nation's capital, Monica D.C. and the U.S. Congress. The first part of the year in the land of Potomac fever dealt with the impeachment of Clinton for lying (a familiar pattern?) during grand jury testimony during Zippergate. Bill got impeached but wasn't convicted and was welcomed into the "Andrew Johnson Club."

Gays and Lesbians weren't really welcome, despite U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin, D-WI, the first openly Gay or Lesbian to be initially elected to Congress. In the past year:

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), was a dead-enda.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act got a hearing, sort of, and was voted on in the Senate, sort off, passing by voice vote as an amendment to the Commerce-State-Justice Appropriations Bill. It was cut in a conference committee by the Republican leadership in Congress. Clinton vetoed the bill, citing the omission as the key reason,

but let the amendment fade away, like Gen. MacArthur, when it came to final budget negotiations. A familiar pattern.

Another item the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue would love to see just disappear is Arizona Representative and Lt. in the Army Reserve, Steve May. The Phoenix representative was under investigation for possible violations of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," for his testimony, as a civilian at the time, regarding HB 2524 in February. May was called back to active duty during the Kosovo crisis in April.

On Sept. 2, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-MA, Tom Campbell, R-CA, and close to 150 Members of Congress wrote Clinton and asked him to instruct the Department of Defense to drop their investigation. The White House said they sent the letter to Cohen. They didn't.

Frank pressed the White House for a response. Ninety-seven days later, a response came from Clinton's counsel, which he passed the letter on to. The letter stated the congressional inquiry had been sent to Cohen and that it is the Defense Secretary's responsibility, despite Article Two, Section Two of the U.S. Constitution stating the President is the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces. May is now facing discharge, despite the "help."

Meanwhile, in the Old Pueblo, Gays and Lesbians scored a big victory this past with the formation of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Commission. In addition to the unanimous approval by the Tucson Mayor and Council, they approved a measure strengthening of the city's anti discrimination ordinance, which added Transgendered people to the list of protected groups, a first in the nation.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN

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# T HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

I've been handed the daunting task of predicting events for 2000- the next millennium. Sticklers say that the millennium begins in 2001 but any excuse to poke around a year early will do. Gay2K, Hey Y-not??

Impressive planetary events abound! In February, a solar eclipse delivers surprises! In May, Jupiter and Saturn multiplies our life lessons. At the same time, seven planets line up in bullish Taurus. Stubborn!! No matter what sign you are, expect a zetz from these cosmic events. So keep your assets liquid, stock up on tuna fish and read ahead to see how the planets corrupt your hard drive this next year:

### VIRGO

**AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23**

Love: Torrid romance is there for the asking. Common sense conflicts with intuition during the eclipse so look before you leap. Travel this summer to snag your quarry. The most interesting people will be found in the most interesting places. Money: Queer Virgos amass a small fortune if they adhere to a strict investment plan. The eclipse brings a shake-up on the job. You'll get nothing for nothing during the Taurus pile-up this summer. Hard work pays off, laziness cashes you out.

### LIBRA

**SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23**

Love: Romance is a mixed bag especially during the eclipse when pink Libras wear their hearts on their sleeves. Be discerning, cousin. This summer is a hotbed of sexual activity, but don't restrict yourself to just the bed. Money: Creative pursuits reap big rewards, intrinsically and monetarily. Where will your Gay muse lead you during the wild eclipse? You try to adhere to your bottom line this summer, but planets tempt you to reach into other people's pockets. Hmm.

### SCORPIO

**OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22**

Love: Gay Scorps have their share of emotional tension through out 2000. The eclipse unleashes unresolved home and family issues. Do what you have to do. All is forgiven by the summer, you charmer you. Money: Planning on a move? Wait until after the eclipse. By the summer, the planetary trail in Taurus leads to increased expenses for your feathered nests. How much does domestic bliss cost? Don't ask!

### SAGITTARIUS

**NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22**

Love: Blurtng out your intentions don't have the intended effect during the eclipse. Mouthy Gay Archers are hoisted on their own petards. Are they clean?? Meet your match this summer at the gym. You lucky thing! Money: If you work hard this year, it pays off handsomely. The summer crush of Taurcan planets turn up the juice on the job. Avoid nasty comments as events percolate; a slip of the tongue slips you up, at work.

### CAPRICORN

**DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20**

Love: What you value in life is due for a reassessment during the eclipse. It's a new millennium so look at life from a new angle; A new rainbow you attracts multitudes. Summer fun is heated, intense and wild. Go for it! Money: Gay Goats can be tightwads but the eclipse loosens your wad. There may be a bit of waste so dole out your treasure discerningly. Fun has it's profitable side this summer so promise to party hearty, you party animal you.

### AQUARIUS

**JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19**

Love: The eclipse in your own sign either resolves festering issues or creates new ones. Aquereians transform themselves this year with a new look. Good thing; Sexy new lovers beat a path to your door this summer. Is your welcome mat clean? Money: Put your money where your mouth is. Gay2K is a time of action and implementation. Make your mark in the summer when a line of practical planets help you build for the future. Build a pink palace.

### ARIES

**MARCH 21 - APRIL 20**

Love: The emphasis is on balancing friendships with personal needs this year. Someone you trust disappoints you during the eclipse. How about a cheap and tawdry affair this summer? OK, it won't be cheap. Money: Gay Rams check their bottom line when planets line up in Taurus and tempt self-indulgence. This planetary conga line eventually bodes well for professional plans because the fixed energy stops at nothing once it's on track. Choose wisely.

### TAURUS

**APRIL 21 - MAY 21**

Love: Between the February eclipse and the summer's Taurcan line-up, queer Bulls have ample opportunity to graze at assorted meet markets. Strut your stuff. Wear clean underwear, or none at all. Money: Interestingly, more emphasis is placed on money than love this year. Dough evaporates during the eclipse but magically reappears in the summer once you regain your fiscal common sense. Splurge? Forget about it.

### GEMINI

**MAY 22 - JUNE 21**

Love: The eclipse broadcasts your most intimate secrets to the galaxy. Closeted Twins are kaput and good thing too; Liberation is liberating! Imagine a dreamboat this summer with all those bullish planets. Haul it into port, you old salt. Money: You're an easy touch this year and will be tempted to spend on expensive trinkets and nonsense. What the hell; you only live once. There are those who truly need your help and those who are lazy sponges. Squeeze 'em to find out.

### CANCER

**JUNE 22 - JULY 23**

Love: Friends lead you into mischief, especially during the eclipse. Will you lose your heart to a loser? Pink Crabs are advised to dance with the group dynamic through the summer. Romance is highlighted and so are you. Money: Cash flows a little too easily early in the year when the eclipse makes you a sucker for a sob sister. There are worse things in life, but try to save for a rainy day or a fabulous Taurcan summer oomph.

### LEO

**JULY 24 - AUGUST 23**

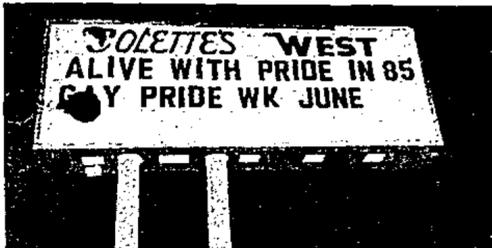
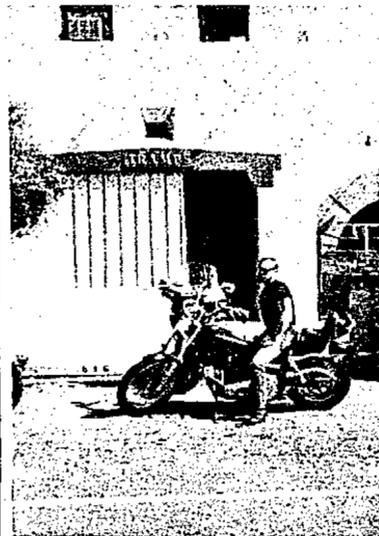
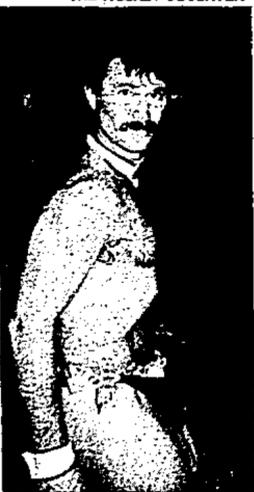
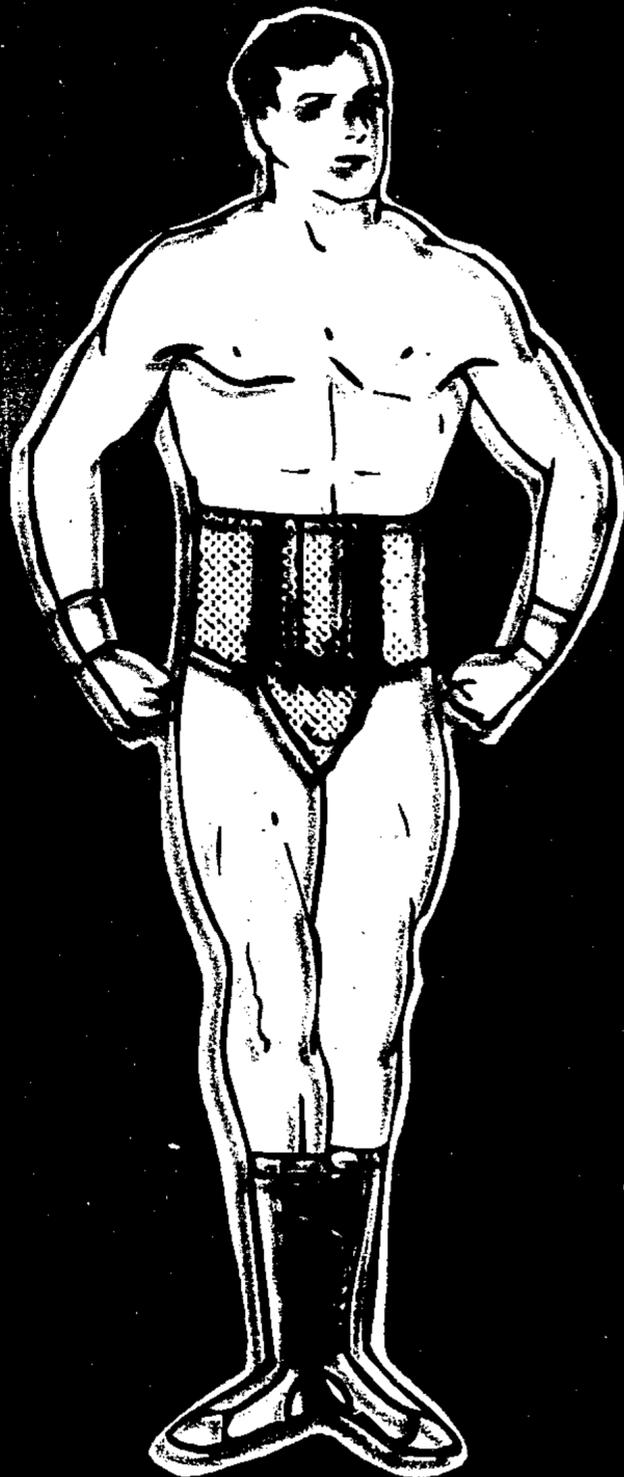
Love: 2000 is a pivotal growth year. Partnership issues come to the fore with the eclipse. Single cubs are swept off their paws. Summer romance is found on the job. Who would have thought? Money: You're propelled into the limelight in 2000 so make it pay off. Professional propulsion is assured in May but set firm foundations beforehand. Gay Leos are top of the heap. Which heap??

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN



# REMINISCING ABOUT THE FUTURE...

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## SAAF UPDATE

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

At the close of another year, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been a part of SAAF over the last year.

We have a lot to be thankful for. Community support has been very generous. As I write this, we are finishing our delivery of gifts, certificates, food, toys, personal care items, and household items to all SAAF's clients and their family members. Thanks to the wonderful support of the Desert Leathermen, Tucson Knight Owls, and so many individual members of the community who donate to SAAF's Holiday Project. Your help really makes this project possible.

We are pleased to report that the Ryan White Title II funding for 2000-2001 is looking like there will be an increase. And sufficient funds are being set aside for medications in Arizona.

Services and programs for the year 2000 look good. You probably know that Scott Davey has taken over as Gay Men's Health Project Coordinator. Many of you know Scott as one of SAAF's Housing Case Managers. We are pleased that he has agreed to head up the GMHP project, with assistance from Scott Sayer, a.k.a. Electra Bleu as the GMHP Outreach Specialist. With full staffing on this project once again, we expect no disruption in condom supplies in the bars. We apologize if this has not been consistent during the transition. We thank the community for your support and for working together to stop the spread of HIV.

We end this year hopeful that we can reduce the spread of HIV and that we can find better medical treatments and support for people living with HIV/AIDS. I wish you all a safe and very happy New Year.

We are also grateful to everyone who helped make our Holiday Party such a great success. We were honored to serve dinner to so many clients, volunteers, and their family members. We think Caruso's for their donation food and Gregory Robinson, Sandy Glass and Whisper Muse, and Vanessa Zuber for entertainment. And thank you to everyone who attended and made this such a festive celebration of the season.

## GO IN GOOD HEALTH... BY REV. ANDREW BROOKS

This week, I want to start with an herb that didn't make it into last week's column. Cat's Claw is a wonderful herb. The South American variety, which grows in the rainforests, has shown promise as an immune booster which helps to fight AIDS and the HIV virus. There is also a type of Cat's Claw that grows in America, but for some reason, the rainforest soils add the constituents needed to provide the immune boost. This herb is helpful for all immune deficient conditions.

refreshing drink that more people should get into the habit of drinking.

Damiana is an herb with a long and colorful history. According to The Male Herbal, an excellent text by James Green, Damiana is a healing herb, a tonic, and an anti-depressant. It has long been used as an aphrodisiac, and does have the ability to help strengthen the nervous system. It has been used successfully to treat impotence, and has long been reputed to be a powerful male booster herb. I have used it, and it does increase the sex drive, and improve erections and sexual functioning. Since it can greatly boost the sex drive, remember to play safe while you enjoy it's benefits! It is sold in male herbal formulas, often combined with other helpful herbs for men, such as Siberian Ginseng, Sarsaparilla, Saw Palmetto berries, and Hawthorn berries. All these herbs are good for men, and help to boost the male system.

Coltsfoot is an herb that is used for bronchial and gastric irritations, including congestion of the lungs, asthma, and cough. It is also used to soothe the throat during a cough. Coltsfoot is not to be used in high doses. It is also used to induce sweating, helping to rid the body of toxins. On the subject of helping to purify the body of toxins, Charcoal capsules will absorb all the toxins in the stomach also.

Corn silk is a diuretic herb, useful when you have bladder and prostate problems. It is soothing to the bladder, and is used by people with a history of kidney stones, for it's helpful, healing properties.

Cramp bark is an herb that is useful for it's antispasmodic properties, it helps soothe both muscle cramps and intestinal spasms. Women can use this herb to help with PMS and cramping associated with menstruation.

Cranberry is a plant often used by herbalists, with proven healthful benefits. It is a strong diuretic and urinary antiseptic, and it helps acidify the urine. Anyone with kidney trouble, should drink cranberry juice every day. It is also available in herbal liquid tinctures, and in pill form (Trader Joe's sells inexpensive cranberry tablets.) As you well know, Cranberry juice is combined with many other juices, such as Cherry, Blackberry, Raspberry, Apple, and others, all of which have their own healing benefits. Anyone who is diabetic should drink it in it's purest form, as it is diluted when combined with other juices. Rather than fill up on sodas, cranberry is a nice,

Dandelion is a wonderful herb, used to help the kidneys, and also used to help the liver. It is often combined with milk thistle, so they can work together. It is a diuretic, and it is said to lower cholesterol and blood pressure. Anyone suffering kidney trouble may benefit from using this herb.

The herb Devil's Claw is used as an anti-inflammatory, and is used for arthritis and other joint inflammations. It is not to be used by diabetics, as it can affect insulin levels. Devil's claw is used for liver and gallbladder troubles.

Dong Quai has long been used in Chinese herbal medicine, it is a menstrual regulator, and the Chinese say that it "regulates the hormonal balance and flow." It has long been regarded a women's tonic. It is to be used between monthly cycles for women, not during the period of menstruation. It may help lower high blood pressure. Dong Quai is to be avoided by women with a heavy flow, as it may increase it further.

More herbs next time. Goddess bless. Til next time, Go in Good Health.

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## Desert Vision: Planning For The Millennium

Over the last few months, I have spoken with many people about their plans for the millennium celebration. Some people have told me that this will be just another New Year's for them, just like all the rest. Others have told me that they've decided to avoid travel or large gatherings of people for fear of either Y2K failures or terrorist attempts. Most people I told me that they have specific plans that will make this New Year's Eve memorable.

One friend, who usually prefers quiet evenings at home, will attend an overnight formal event at an exclusive private club. Another friend is flying across country to be with the friends whom she's had in her life the longest. I spoke with a young man on an airplane recently who told me that he was going to Denver because "that's where the biggest ball of all drops." I don't know if Denver really has the biggest dropping ball, but that's what he told me. One guy told me that he is going to Egypt to be at the pyramids. Several Native American friends plan to be at the Thunder in the Desert Pow Wow here in Tucson to join in the round dance at midnight to dance in the millennium.

And what about me? My plans are the closest I've come to pretending to be a survivalist! I'm going to the White Mountains and hold up in a cabin! Actually, the remote cabin is part of a resort near Pinetop where friends of mine from San Francisco and Washington, D.C will join me. I'll be with people I've known for years to sit in front of the fireplace, soak in a hot tub, and mostly just visit and share about our hopes and dreams, and probably our disappointments, too.

As I think about the wide range of plans people I've spoken to have for this New Year's Eve, I am struck that the plans mostly fall into two categories: there are those like me who want to spend the time with people important to them. The other category is those who want to spend the night starting the next millennium with a bang! They are looking to do something that will make the new year, century and

era different for them.

As we approach this New Year's Eve, I am grateful for those who have touched my life deeply. Some of those encounters brought joy and others deep pain. Yet, I also look ahead to sharing deeply with them, and with others, in the future. (To that end, I am disappointed that some of those I invited on my trip to the White Mountains are unable to be with me.) In gratitude for the many things I have shared with those people who have touched my life deeply, that I share with you the following passage written by Wendell Berry. I do not know its source. It was given to me some years ago. Yet, as we mark the passage of the year and millennium, Berry's words offer deep meaning:

Within the circles of our lives we dance the circles of the years, the circles of the seasons within the circles of the years, the cycles of the moon within the circles of the seasons, the circles of our reasons within the cycles of the moon.

Again, again we come and go, changed, changing. Hands join, unjoin in love and fear, grief and joy. The circles turn, each giving to each, into all. Only music keeps us here, each by all the others held. In the hold of hands and eyes we turn in pairs, that joining, joining each to all again.

And then we turn aside, alone, out of the sunlight gone into the darker circles of return.

As we enter the next cycle, circling in the dance of life together, my hope is that the dawn of this new era bring fulfillment to your heart and soul! Happy New Year!

[Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D., is a counselor, hypnotherapist, and spiritual director in private practice in Tucson. He can be contacted at (520) 290-1591 or by e-mail at LouKavar@aol.com.]

### Politics '99

Continued from Page Nine

Elections in 1999? Every year there are elections. In the City of Tucson, Bob Walkup, a Gay friendly Republican was soundly elected. Councilmembers Jose Ibarra and Shirley Scott got a four-year extension and Carol West became the new Councilmember for Ward 2. ...

So it goes for the past year kids!

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### Horoscopes

Continued from Page Ten

#### PISCES

#### FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Love: Protect your heart during the eclipse. Rainbow Fish are swept off their feet by someone who disappoints. Save your soft kisses for the summer when planets stroll through sensual Taurus. Ask and you shall receive. No names please! Money: You're tempted to take profits in February but don't. Monetary matters are temporarily clouded during the eclipse. Wait. Revisit your gains this summer when seven planets bunny hop through practical Taurus. Can money buy love? Let's try.

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1 John 4:9-11



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#### QUOTE:

There's this illusion that homosexuals have sex and heterosexuals fall in love. That's completely untrue. Everybody wants to be loved. —Boy George  
FROM UNNATURAL QUOTATIONS by Leigh W. Fiedler

# The Gay Moment

by Richard Brookhiser

NEW YORK, NY — From time to time, an American minority group enjoys a "moment." Moments can last for decades, at least for a number of years. In its Moment the group takes center stage; its doings, habits, and preoccupations interest the nation. Every headset picks up the frequency. The simplest thing to do is just lie back and listen in quietly; it is impossible not to listen at all.

The moment we are in now is the Gay Moment. The Gay Moment can be explained and defined, though it is easier to describe, and easiest simple to experience. That is the quality of Moments, they are out there, just beyond your eyelids.

Years before the Gay Moment, I shared my freshman suite at college with a kid who is now a famous Gay playwright. (I see from Playbill that he lies about his age, so I will suppress his name.) We were the grossest mismatch in the class of '77. He had a camp sensibility; I read Dostoyevsky and taped a picture of Solzhenitsyn on my door. The bath of lukewarm water between us was the son of a dentist. One day I overheard the future playwright murmur, "Lesley Gore: She was a goddess!" Then I had no notion what he meant. But now of course I know. Anyone would know. It's the Gay moment.

Flash forward to 1999. The last weekend of June was coming up, and my trainer was not happy about it. The source of his funk was the Gay Pride Parade, which takes over Fifth Avenue. He himself is Gay, living in Chelsea, weekending on Fire Island. But the parade clogs the sidewalks, and strikes him as too solemn and political. "Why can't it be more like Carnival?" he asked. Thirty years ago, drag queens were rioting in Village bars against police harassment. Now my trainer criticizes the sensibility of one of New York City's largest parades. It's the Gay Moment.

Is Jar-Jar Binks, a creature in The Phantom Menace, Gay? In the wake of Ellen DeGeneres and Tinky Winky the Teletubby, this question has been seriously discussed. The national conversation on sexual orientation has moved from a comedienne to a toddler-surrogate with an antenna on his head to a digitalized monster, long ago and far away. With omnipresence comes triviality. Forget whether Disney gives benefits to the companions of Gay employees. In the Gay Moment, it's only a matter of time before the Mouse does a contemporary fairy tale.

Turning to the dead, who has a closet in his coffin this week? Gay polemicists are claiming Abraham Lincoln and Joshua Speed as an item. It will be the first time Larry Kramer writes for the Southern Partisan. Concerning the Founders, I got one angry letter asking why my book on Washington concealed the fact that he was Gay, as evidenced by his friendship with "known Gays" like Hamilton and Lafayette. Washington's history of sober flirtations, and Hamilton's history of less sober ones, makes this merely absurd. On the other hand, I did a double take when I read this contemporary description of Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, a Maryland delegate to the Constitutional Convention. "From his long continuance in single life, no doubt but he has made the vow of celibacy. He speaks warmly of the Ladies notwithstanding." No one would have given this a second look 20 years, or probably 200 years ago. But in the Gay Moment?

There have been two previous Moments in the 20th century. Irish Catho-

## PERSPECTIVE

lies had one from about 1900 to World War II; Jews followed them, until yesterday. The Irish Moment crystallized around athletes, actors, cops and cops, tough guys you liked. A typical figure was Fr. Francis P. Duffy, chaplain of the 165th Infantry ("The Fighting Irish") in World War I. There is a statue of him in Times Square. He grips a Bible; he could knock your block off; he is smiling. The Jewish Moment threw up comics, writers, and intellectuals, wise guys you liked. A typical figure was Saul Bellow, whose style was criticized, when he first appeared, as "Yinglish." But this was in fact its allure, rattling the express subway train from con men to Nietzsche.

These Moments are over. Here and there you can find stragglers, Irish bond traders in dark downtown restaurants, knocking back scotches and insulting one another and themselves; Jewish psychoanalysts, empathic, critical, and neurotic as their patients. But no one cares. They have lost the ear of America. John F. Kennedy's election in 1960, as Daniel Patrick Moynihan wrote in *Beyond the Melting Pot*, was not the culmination of the Irish Moment, but its tombstone. When did Jews vanish? When Woody Allen married Soon-Yi? When Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated? No matter, they are gone. Jackie Mason tends the cemetery.

**The moment we are in now is the Gay Moment. The Gay Moment can be explained and defined, though it is easier to describe, and easiest simple to experience. That is the quality of Moments, they are out there, just beyond your eyelids.**

What are the common traits of group in their Moments? Irish, Jews, and Gay all have high verbal skills, essential for attracting attention, stimulating and entertaining the national audience. A group in its Moment is one to which, as Arthur Miller put it, attention must be paid. The verbalists occupied similarly oblique positions, accepted enough to be comprehensible, still remote enough to be piquant.

Each group also deployed what political scientist Kenneth Minogue called "suffering situations," to elicit sympathy and induce guilt. Irish, Jews, and Gays all experienced varying degrees of hatred here which, as soon as it began to diminish, they cherished and used to manipulate their more numerous neighbors. For each group, a great disaster became the shorthand image of their suffering, the Famine, the Holocaust, AIDS. These crises, though horrific, are strictly speaking irrelevant to their problems in America, since the first two happened elsewhere and the third was self-inflicted. But during a Moment no one can make this point; after a Moment passes, nobody bothers to try.

A friend hearing me explain the theory of Moments wondered what it meant that the first two groups were religions, while the third is sexuality. A good point, though Gayness in the Gay Moment has many qualities of a religion. Gaydom today is a faith-based community. The central tenet of the faith is a creation myth, about how Gays got that way. The orthodox belief is that any man or woman self-defined as Gay was Gay from birth or infancy; he or she "always knew it." For many Gays this describes both their belief and their reality; for many others this is a subjective feeling only; and will one day be recog-

nized as such, though that day won't come any time soon. Tony Kushner, author of *Angels in America*, is a rare Gay figure who has entertained heresy: In one interview he expressed the belief that everyone, Gay or not, was "traumatized" into his belief that everyone, Gay and not, was "traumatized" into his sexuality. He used a lurid verb, but correctly referred to a process. Most of us are born with many paths open; the great majority takes the hetero highway; some go here and there. But there are more scenarios available, and will and chance play a larger role in the outcome, than we now imagine.

Moderate Gay writers like Bruce Bawer, who take contrarian stances within the Gay world, for religion, against promiscuity, are amazingly obtuse on this point. They have the psychological insight of doorjamb. In Bawer's *A Place At The Table*, he presented as if it were a knockout argument the commandment, "Believe what we say about ourselves." So, a century after Matthew Arnold heard the melancholy, long, withdrawing roar of the Sea of Faith, and at a time when everything has been questioned, from God to the atom, we must believe only what Gays say about themselves. Of course we must. It is the Gay moment.

Gays appeared at this Moment for

the same reason that modern feminism developed: the erosion of bourgeois patriarchy following World War II, not in the much-criticized Sixties, but in the Forties and Fifties. Bourgeois patriarchy had already given up many of the powers of their Biblical role models: the right to own slaves, for instance, or to execute members of their own families (see Genesis 38:24). Theirs was a patriarchy modified by Protestant religion, republican authority in governmental and corporate leaders, the welfare/welfare state and the grey flannel suit (as George W.S. Trow has argued) may have deprived patriarchy of one prop too many. Feminism arose when women decided that they had to fend for themselves. Gayness as a movement arose from men looking for lost maleness in all the wrong places. If Father doesn't know best, then maybe Tom of Finland does.

Another wrong place where men looked for maleness in the postwar world was sexual predation. Hugh Hefner airbrushed it, Woodstock took it back to the land. But beyond the surfaces, cool or flower-bedecked, there began a war of all against all, which rages still in every college dormitory and bar in the land. Battle fatigue is intense. Some of the fatigued decide to become Gay themselves: The young woman who is a Lesbian until graduation is a common enough phenomenon to have become a figure of fun. The normal majority (they cannot be called the moral majority: Morality is normally too spotty), once they overcome their squeamishness, seek out Gay friends and the Gay imaginary companions supplied by the media as symbolic non-combatants. They may not want to join them, but they are soothed by knowing that they exist. They visit Gayness like the escaped prisoners of war in fleeing to

neutral Switzerland at the end of Grand Illusion. The sexual turmoil in which so many Gay men live, worse even than their own, they conveniently ignore.

The other thing Gays offer the nation as a whole in this Moment is high gloss, their answer to Irish moxie and Jewish mockery. It is strange how living in a place like Manhattan, which sucks in Gays like a whirlpool and puts them to work, creating and designing, can alter one's standards of execution. I went upstate several Christmases ago to a 125-year-old-family-run resort, which holds a mammoth tree-trimming ceremony for kids and their parents. The tables were covered with construction paper, scissors, glitter, glue and Magic Markers. The tree was heavy with the resulting productions. Making them must have been fun, but the poor tree was a mess. Of course: All the work had been done by heterosexuals. G.K. Chesterton wisely wrote that anything worth doing is worth doing badly. Not a thought for the Gay Moment.

There is a specter haunting the Gay Moment: the specter of Bisexuality. The New York Observer, a weekly newspaper for which I write, recently ran a long story ("Hey! Yeah, you! What's Your Gay Quotient?" by George Gurley) in which the author posted a sliding scale of sexuality, and wandered like Candide through Manhattan asking people what percentage of Gayness they thought they had in them. A few said zero, and one confident young man said 101 percent (why so insistent?). But most rambled happily in the single digits and the teens or the eighties or nineties. "I'd have to say I'm probably, like, 90 percent," admitted a man drinking a frozen Cosmopolitan in a Gay bar. "I had a girlfriend many years ago, and I already knew I was Gay at the time, but I did have this girlfriend. I don't think that would happen again, but it's not impossible." This is the world described in the moving *Chasing Amy*, when the Lesbian heroine announces that if love is her guide, then she must love even the man she has become attracted to. If we're supposed to believe what people say, what do we believe when they say this? It would be strange if the Gay orthodoxy of sexual determinism were to be undermined by eros.

The real end will be boredom. Like the Irish and the Jews before them, Gays will run out of things to say. The force field will collapse. People will realize that Oscar Wilde was a witty craftsman, not a great modernist; that Gore Vidal is a vain old chatterbox, not Henry Adams; that Leslie Gore was a mediocre pop singer, not a goddess. Some other well-spoken outsiders will audition for center stage. We'll all move on.

[Richard Brookhiser is an Editor at the National Review. Copyright 1999 by National Review, Inc., www.nationalreview.com and reprinted by permission.]

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# Texas Anti-Sodomy Law Challenged

HOUSTON, TX (GFN) - In a packed courtroom, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund took aim at Texas' 119-year old anti-sodomy law, arguing the time has come to declare it unconstitutional.

Titled the "Homosexual Conduct Law," Texas Penal Code section 21.06 penalizes oral or anal sex between same-sex couples as a Class C misdemeanor, which carries up to a \$500 fine but no jail term.

If the 14th Court of Appeals does not overturn section 21.06 in Lawrence and Garner v. State, Texas will remain one of only four states, along with Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, with an anti-sodomy law targeted exclusively at Gays. Twelve other states have such laws, but they extend to same-sex and different-sex partners.

At press time, an Arkansas Circuit Court was considering a constitutional challenge to the state's anti-sodomy law, which is also being advanced by New York City-based Lambda.

The Texas case is unique in that it involves an arrest. According to appellate briefs, Houston police officers arrested John Goddes Lawrence, 56, and Tyron Garner, 32, in 1998 for allegedly engaging in anal sex. Lawrence and Garner pled no contest to the charges.

In other challenges to anti-sodomy laws, including the one in Arkansas, petitioners have filed civil suits proactively, triggering a procedural defense that the suits are not ripe for adjudication since the law has not been enforced against the plaintiffs.

Citing such a procedural defect, the Texas Supreme Court in 1994 held in State v. Morales that it had no jurisdiction to address whether section 21.06 is unconstitutional.

While the issue is now squarely before the 14th Court, the Harris County District Attorney's Office, which is defending the state, has asked the court to show restraint.

"The Legislature is the public policy establisher for the community. It is up to the Legislature to decide what is against the law," says District Attorney John B. Holmes Jr.

In its appellate brief, the state notes that the Legislature in 1974 altered section 21.06 so that it would apply only to Gays, instead of Gays and heterosexuals as it had previously done. This recent activity shows the Legislature continues to believe same-sex sexual conduct is "immoral and unacceptable," the state argues in its brief.

To the contrary, says state Rep. Debra Danburg, D-Houston, the Legislature is merely incapable of sticking its neck out to spare Gays from the anti-sodomy law.

"I have filed legislation to repeal section 21.06 on a number of occasions and because of the relative controversy, I have been unable to even so much as get a hearing," she says.

But a lack of legislative will does not empower courts to second-guess section 21.06, says Lino Graglia, a constitutional law professor at the University of Texas School of Law.

"It doesn't change the fact that the Legislature must decide issues of social policy," he adds.

### STRICT OR RATIONAL?

Arguing first, Ruth Harlow, Lamb-

da's managing attorney, sketched out her constitutional attack: Section 21.06 violates the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause because it treats Gays differently than heterosexuals, she argued, and it violates the Texas Constitution's right to privacy.

According to briefs, the defendants were arrested in Lawrence's apartment; police had entered the apartment to investigate a reported disturbance.

If the Texas right to privacy stands for anything, Harlow said, it must protect "private sexual intimacy by consenting adults."

The panel consisted of Chief Justice Paul C. Murphy and Justices J. Harvey Hudson and John S. Anderson, all Republicans.

The judges' questions to Harlow focused on what legal standard the court should use in assessing the constitutional viability of section 21.06.

The state argues the anti-sodomy law passes muster because there is a "rational basis" for the law, namely the discouragement of immoral behavior and the promotion of family values.

On Nov. 3, though, Harlow said the court should apply a more exacting "strict scrutiny" and strike down the law, because it does not serve a "compelling government interest."

While a legislature can consider social mores in passing laws, she said, "mores [alone] aren't enough to justify discriminatory classifications."

"Family values," she added, also do not furnish a compelling interest but are merely repackaged "majoritarian moral sentiment."

William J. Delmore III, an assistant Harris County DA, argued the state's case.

He was also deluged with standard-of-review questions.

Murphy wanted to know what evidence the state has introduced to meet a strict-scrutiny standard.

"There is no evidence on the record," Delmore conceded, "to support a compelling need for this legislation."

"Is there a fundamental right to engage in homosexual conduct? I believe there is not," he said.

And the court, he added, does not have the authority to challenge the purported rational basis for section 21.06: discouraging immorality.

"Throughout history, there has been a historical, cultural and religious consensus that homosexual conduct is immoral," he said. "Only a majority of the electorate can determine whether that morality has changed."

After the arguments, Houston lawyer Mitchell Katine, who is assisting Lambda, said his clients will take their fight to the U.S. Supreme Court if need be.

"The reaction to this by most people that we speak to is that they can't believe [the arrest] really occurred," Katine says. "That is one reason it is so important that we go forward. . . The sexual conduct of Gay and Lesbian people every day and every night in this city is criminalized by the presence of this statute on the books."



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# Companies Not Buying Lesbian Chic

NEW YORK, NY (GFN) - We all knew it: "Lesbian Chic" wasn't real.

It was a moment the media proclaimed a few years ago after Melissa Etheridge and Ellen DeGeneres came out and shared their girlfriends with the rest of the world.

But Lesbian chic never really took the advertising world by storm, or many other worlds for that matter. Although advertising is slowly including Gay people more often than ever before, it primarily remains limited to depictions of young, white men.

The truth is, the idea of Lesbians as "fashionable" remains a difficult sell since stereotypes prevail. Major advertising categories for women, such as makeup and fashion, don't target Lesbians because they supposedly have no interest in such things. Ironically, stereotypes actually are increasingly working in favor of Gay men for marketing (since they allegedly prefer fashion, art, theater and gourmet food).

With mainstream advertising, on the rare occasion that Lesbians make an appearance, it is usually as a fantasy for straight men.

"What (straight) guy doesn't have a fantasy of two women?" asks Jordan Mendelsohn, creative director of Mendelsohn/Zien Advertising, Los Angeles.

Mendelsohn created a controversial eight-week campaign in California for West Coast retailer Clothestime in 1996. The work included a cross-dressing man as well as a woman who makes a pass at another in a danceclub restroom.

As a woman checks her makeup in the mirror, another walks into the restroom and gives her a look-over with the growling sound of a wild tiger added. She then says, "I like your dress." The woman at the mirror thanks her and then the other says seductively, "I mean I really like your dress." Then the tagline appears: "Expect a perfectly natural reaction."

"It wasn't intended for Lesbians, but hopefully they liked it," said Mendelsohn, whose agency also has done work for BMW North America and regional hamburger chains Rally's Hamburgers Inc. (Nasdaq: RLLY) and Carl's Jr. "I hope Lesbians thought, 'Finally someone has used two women in an ad and poked no fun.'"

More common is a new print ad for Bison Brand Vodka, which also has a Lesbian theme and is not intended to appeal to them.

It shows three women and a man sitting in the grass of a park at night, playing Spin the (empty vodka) Bottle. The women have long hair and are wearing more makeup than clothing. Two of the gals are staring passionately into each others' eyes, about to liplock, as the skinny guy watches and the other gal covers her naked breasts. The tagline is "A little grass, a little vodka. Nothing wrong with that."

Century-old Bison is imported from Poland and has a blade of buffalo grass in it, purported to have aphrodisiac qualities. The ad began running in October in a number of hipster magazines, including Nylon, Paper, Detour, Flaunt, Surface and Ocean Drive.

Nancy Goldstein, a former lecturer at the Harvard women's studies program, calls such an ad the equivalent of "straight

male porn. These poses are supposed to suggest Lesbian erotica but the women are always there for the male gaze."

Michael Glowacki, creative director at Eyecandy Advertising, calls his work for Bison "kind of a ballsy ad." Yet when asked what the implied sexuality of the subjects are, he says, "It is a mistake to read too much out of it. I don't want to imply that they got drunk to do it. I don't want to imply anything."

Ironically, Glowacki himself is Gay and he tested the ad with Lesbian and Gay friends. He said their reaction was "they laughed. 90 percent said they thought it was cool that we're running it in Flaunt" magazine.

Glowacki is also part owner in Brooklyn-based Adamba Imports, which brings Bison to the U.S., and helped start Eyecandy a year ago. He has worked at notable New York ad agencies Messner Vetere Berger McNamee Schmetterer/Euro RSCG and Deutsch, which created the groundbreaking Ikea TV campaign that included a Gay couple, but says he was not open when he worked at them.

Beer marketers also have increasingly dealt with Gay and Lesbian themes. In the mid-1990s, they acknowledged criticism of their clichéd approach to winning drinkers through the Swedish Bikini Team and other ploys to focus on buxom gals. Philip Morris Company's (NYSE: MO) Miller Brewing Co., Anheuser-Busch Cos. (NYSE: BUD), Heineken USA and Pete's Brewing Co. began mining other areas of intrigue and found a winner in mostly Gay male themes for TV ads.

Lesbians showed up in almost identical situations for TV spots from Molson Breweries and Brasseries Kronenbourg beers, which aired briefly in Canada and Europe respectively. In both, a man tries to buy a beer for a woman who disappears, then turns up with her girlfriend. The hapless guy is amused as the two women, again with lots of makeup and glazed eyes—look back at him from afar, like twin aliens.

In the U.S., Lesbians have appeared in mainstream TV ads from Clothestime, Triarc's (NYSE: TRY) Mystic beverages and Lesbian cruise line Olivia, as well as Gay-targeted print ads from American Express Financial Services (NYSE: AXP), Subaru of America, Bacardi-Martini's Disaronno amaretto and Tuaca liqueur.

Olivia aired once on the coming-out episode of "Ellen" in 1997, seizing an opportunity to reach a large Lesbian market on TV. The ad showed a thin and glamorous couple enjoying themselves on the boat, swimming, sunning and having a meal.

"We wanted one to be Lesbian but we had no idea how hard it was to find someone willing to be in a Lesbian commercial," says Judith Dlugacz, Olivia president. "We had two days to do a search and did a call for models but didn't get a response. There was only one model who was out, Jenny Shimizu, but it didn't work out with her." (Shimizu, with short-cropped hair and tattoos, has modeled for Benetton and Calvin Klein.)

They finally found two models — one was even Lesbian, but which one remains a secret.

"The most important thing from our perspective was to make it a beautiful ad. We wanted to try to make sure it would

be aired," says Dlugacz.

Nonetheless, due to the pressure of carrying the coming-out of "Ellen," ABC declined to air the ad on the network and Olivia had to buy time on a handful of stations in individual cities. Still, Olivia became the first openly Gay product advertised on TV.

Goldstein observes that realistic Lesbian depictions are less about what they look like and more about "stance and attitude, with self-determination and autonomy."

A current Gay media print ad for Disaronno Originale shows two women in party dresses warmly embracing on a matchbox with the tagline "Light A Fire."

Like Ikea, Mystic's 1996 TV ad was created by the Deutsch agency. It aired on MTV and showed a young woman speaking to the camera: "Mom, Dad, if you're watching, I wanted to let you know I've finally found the person I want to spend the rest of my life with. Mom and dad, this is Jenn." Jenn sticks her head into the camera and says "Hi." It finishes with the tagline, "Show Your Colors."

Mistic's two young women were not highly sexualized or glamorized, similar to a print ad from American Express Financial Services that has run in Gay media for over a year. It shows a real couple of middle-aged women on the beach embracing as they contemplate their financial future together.

Mistic and American Express are among those getting closer to depicting Gay women in a more natural way but they remain the exception.

"Showing Gay people as the joke for entertainment value is both good and bad," says Mendelsohn. "Both are financial. Advertising agencies, for the most part, are afraid of creating controversy and losing their clients by bringing that 'solution' to a client. Most clients in America won't bring that to TV and risk losing business."

He continues, "Until Archie Bunker came along and made fun of blacks, Jews and Gays on TV, it was a no-no too. There are always going to be people who won't like it no matter how you treat it. Will it ever be an everyday concept? Maybe not in my lifetime."

However, if Dlugacz has her way, her Olivia ad will make a comeback appearance in 2000. And if marketers continue to do research as American Express and Subaru have, marketers may increasingly learn that Lesbians are a force all their own.

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 C. DESERT PRIDE - Gifts, Videos, etc.  
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 E. S.A.A.F. - 375 S. Euclid Ave. - 628-7223  
 F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE  
606 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. - 620-1770  
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250 W. Grant Rd. - 620-6485  
 H. TUCSON TRUNK - Gifts, Cards, etc.  
5605 E. River Road. - 529-8309

**CHECK THE BAR CALENDAR FOR  
DAILY SPECIALS**

# Entertainment Briefs . . . . .

One of two special lifetime achievement awards distributed at the British Comedy Awards went to Barry Humphries, better known for his comic drag persona Dame Edna Everage. ...

'Tis the season to hand out awards, albeit to the same people:

The International Press Academy announced the finalists for its Golden Satellite Awards. Openly Gay Spanish director Pedro Almodovar's "All About My Mother" is a candidate for Best Foreign Language Film and its star Cecilia Roth for Best Actress - Comedy. "Boys Don't Cry," based on the life of murdered Nebraska Transgender Brandon Teena, has a chance at Best Drama, Best Actress - Drama for Hilary Swank and Best Director for Kimberly Peirce. Gay roles could mean Best Actor - Comedy trophies for Steve Zahn in "Happy, Texas" or Philip Seymour Hoffman in "Flawless". The homoerotic "The Talented Mr. Ripley" was noted for Best Drama and for Best Director for Anthony

Mighella. "Being John Malkovich" with its Gay elements got a Best Comedy nod. Scoring big was "American Beauty," with nominations for Best Drama, Kevin Spacey as Best Actor - Drama, Annette Bening as Best Actress - Drama, and Sam Mendes as Best Director.

The Toronto Film Critics Association announced its picks. Best Screenplay was a three-way tie among open Gay Alan Ball's "American Beauty," what the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation calls the "sexually fluid" "Being John Malkovich," and "Magnolia". Best Film went to "Magnolia," which has Gay roles for William H. Macy and Henry Gibson. Hilary Swank picked up another Best Actress for her work as murdered Nebraska Transgender Brandon Teena in the reality-based "Boys Don't Cry," edging out Cecilia Roth, the star of Gay director Pedro Almodovar's "All About My Mother". "American Beauty" also brought a Best Actor award to Kevin Spacey.

The 64-year-old New York Film Critics Circle announced its annual winners; the prizes will be distributed at a gala on January 9. They were enchanted by a film almost no one else has had a chance to see yet, Mike Leigh's "Topsy-Turvy" co-starring openly Gay Briton Alan Cumming, giving it Best Film and Leigh Best Director. Openly Gay Spanish director Pedro Almodovar's sexually diverse "All About My Mother" took yet another Best Foreign Film Prize. "Boys Don't Cry," based on the life of murdered Nebraska Transgender Brandon Teena, brought still more brass to its Best Actress star Hilary Swank. "Being John Malkovich," the one-of-a-kind film with its own peculiar Gay bits, won Best First Film for director Spike Jonze and Best Supporting Actor and Actress for John Malkovich himself (talk about your type-casting) and Catherine Keener. The NYFCC's first-ever Best Animated Film award went to "South Park: Bigger, Longer, Uncut," which features a Gay bedroom scene between Satan and Saddam Hussein. ...

Sometimes the problem isn't getting the award, but hanging on to it afterwards. A fire did major damage to the Hollywood building where Lily Tomlin has her office — and two of the three Emmy awards she won for her TV specials of the 1970's. Firefighters took care to preserve them, waving them out the window so onlookers would know they were all right (no humans were injured either). Tomlin, last seen as the butch archaeologist of "Tea with Mussolini," told KABC-TV, "I'm just sort of overcome with that kind of generosity, really, that kind of sensitivity." ...

ABC has put the kibosh on its freshman sitcom Oh Grow Up, adding to the list of new shows with Gay characters that have been axed this season (the others being Fox's Action and ABC's Kevin Williamson-created Wasteland, which reportedly may be revived at another network or cable venue). Oh Grow Up included a Gay man among its three leads and was created by Alan Ball, the openly Gay scribe who just nabbed a Golden Globe nomination for the film American Beauty. Oh Grow Up's producers, clearly disappointed by ABC's decision, seemed to toss around Ball's new clout in chastising the network. "Alan Ball was mistreated in all of this," one of the show's helmers huffed. ....

Toodles for now from Tinseltown!

## Gore Trumpets Support Of G/L Rights Issues

Continued from Page One

for an end to unfair, non-conduct based limitations on Gay service in the military and promised support for passage of the Employment Non Discrimination Act which would add prohibitions against anti-Gay bias in the workplace to federal statutes. Gore also renewed his support for national hate crimes legislation, saying the new millennium is time to usher in a "new wave of thinking" in America.

"We are poised to expand the circle of human dignity yet again, to say that it will no longer be permissible to discriminate against someone because of who he or she falls in love with or because of that person's sexual orientation."

"I do believe now is the time to be a part of an appeal to the political conscience of America, to say that this change is in the American tradition," Gore said. He said every American should be free to express his or her "authenticity."

"I want you to know that I will stand for you. I will speak for you," Gore concluded over applause. "A president who is willing to wage that fight can make all the difference."

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**VIEWPOINT**

**Gay Union Ruling Does Not Affect Straight Marriages**

By Tom Teepen

My wife and I have been married 25 years. We have three kids, six grandchildren. And for the life of me I don't see how my marriage, or the marriages of our kids, would be demeaned or diminished, much less invalidated, if Gays and Lesbians are permitted to marry.

Yet in a reaction typical of the religious right, Jay Sekulow, of the conservative American Center for Law and Justice, denounced a recent ruling by the Vermont Supreme Court as "a slap in the face for marriage between a man and a woman."

The court ruled that, under Vermont's constitution, the state must give homosexual couples the same protections and benefits it gives heterosexual couples. Somehow, I don't feel slapped.

The early guessing is that the Vermont Legislature will choose to establish legal domestic partnerships for Gay and Lesbian couples rather than sanctioning marriage outright.

Either way, the ruling can have only informal impact outside Vermont, at least in the near term.

Based on the state constitution, the decision can't be appealed to federal courts, so no national precedent will result from it.

Still, it likely will encourage similar challenges under other state constitutions, and it further energizes the argument, and dramatizes the split, over the issue.

Public policy is simultaneously being pulled in opposite directions.

Congress, egged on by the regrettable Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., passed the gratuitously titled Defense of Marriage Act in 1996, and President Clinton regrettably signed it.

It permits states to refuse, if they wish, to recognize same-sex unions performed in other states. About 30 states have barred same-sex marriage by statute.

At the same time, however, major companies in increasing numbers are extending the same benefits to domestic partnerships that they provide to married couples.

About 3,000 employers offer domestic-partner insurance coverage. A number of cities have recognized domestic-partnership rights, too.

The case for such recognition is compelling.

The three couples that filed the Vermont lawsuit identified more than 300 state, and 1,000 federal, benefits earmarked for married couples - inheritance rights, access to insurance, hospital visitation and tax considerations among them.

Forget legal arguments and constitutional niceties. We cannot fairly reserve exclusively for heterosexual couples an array of benefits and privileges from which others are excluded by their very nature. The inequity is both harmful and offensive.

If the political system is unready for Gay and Lesbian marriage, then lawful same-sex partnerships, with all marriage-like privileges, would provide a reasonable stopgap until folks become familiar and comfortable enough with the prospect to make that last step politically possible.

Polls show Americans split over Gay marriage but overwhelmingly opposed to acts of discrimination against homosexuals. The Vermont ruling points a way to end some of the most embedded of those discriminations.

[Tom Teepen is national correspondent for Cox Newspapers, based in Atlanta, Ga. This article was reprinted from the Arizona Daily Star.]

**Naked Man Chained To Tractor Recants Kidnapping Claim**

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL (FSS) - A man who was found naked and chained to a bulldozer has recanted his original claim that he was kidnapped.

The man is now telling detectives that he consented to sex and the chains, adding that he will not press charges. A construction foreman found the man. The chain linking him to the dozer had to be cut with a bolt cutter. At first the man said an abductor whom he had met at a Gay bar had drugged him, chained him to the bulldozer, and then scrawled sexual obscenities on his back with a black marker. Now he says both the sex and the chains were consensual.

"As far as we're concerned, there was no crime," said police spokesman detective Jim Wright.



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# Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:00 p.m. Worship Kickoff for the New Millennium at Water of Life MCC at 3269 N. Mountain.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Les & Jerry as they ring in the New Year by hosting Game Night. It's a safe, fun alternative. Whether it's card games or board games, you'll be able to find someone willing to have fun. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Potluck & Social Gathering as we sit down to eat with some of the nicest Gay guys in town (like you!). This month's gathering is special, so you need to call for details. Please call Jerry at 690-9565 for directions and any questions you may have.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for the MSN Premiere of "Boys Life". This acclaimed movie is really 3 shorts about young men in the early stages of coming out. For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill as he hosts Pinochle Night. If you're a fan of the game, this is the place to go. If you don't know how to play, but want to learn, we'll help you out. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 297-3569.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who want to refresh their bridge skills (or just have fun); table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call John at 743-8138.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill for Dinner Out as we go to Gandhi's for fine Indian food. Please phone in your reservation to Bill as soon as possible so we can notify the restaurant of the number of men attending. For directions and reservations, please contact Bill at 546-7539.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our Topic of Discussion as we look at coming out. Where are you at in the coming out process? For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill for the MSN Premiere of "Execution of Justice"-a film about Dan White and the killings of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. For directions and reservations, please call Bill at 546-7539.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Pizza Party held at Jerry & Les' home. Simply bring \$4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565. Please note: reservations should be made by Thursday, January 18 at noon so we can order the proper number of pizzas (but we do order a couple of extra pizzas just in case this isn't read until the day of the event).

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill as he hosts Pinochle Night. If you're a fan of the game, this is the place to go. If you don't know how to play, but want to learn, we'll help you out. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 297-3569.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

## MONDAY, JANUARY 24

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night is devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes are provided. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

# Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

## NOTICE: Stars has closed as a Gay Establishment.

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

IBTS - The Girlie Special End Of The Millennium Show Featuring Lucinda Holiday, Aja Simone, Mr. Kenneth Blake and Faith Michaels.

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, NEW YEARS EVE

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZ - New Years celebration here begins at 6:00 p.m. Cover includes Hors d'oeuvres, First Drink, Champagne at Midnight. Party favors. DJ all night. Bring in the new Millennium at the Biz!

IBTS - Millennium Party! Join your friends and family at IBT's for New Year's Eve. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Tickets for 5:00 p.m. dinner and early show in concert with Greg Slickroth and Peter Lara, \$25.00 per person. Tickets for 8:30 p.m. entry to see "Madame" and comedian Mark Peters from Palm Springs and at 10:30 p.m. the hottest Go Go Boys in town. \$15.00 per person. Tickets available at IBT's. Also party favors, champagne at midnight and a commemorative etched champagne flute.

STONEWALL LTD. - The club will unveil their new look - sounds - lights, tonight. No Cover. Free chances all night for free roundtrip air fare. (Drawing January 1, 2000 at 12:30 p.m. Must be present to win). Free champagne toast at the turn of the century. New DJ "Marquis".

VALENTINA'S - Celebrate here with a 'Millennium Blast'. No cover. Show from 9:00 to 10:00 p.m. Dancing, and complimentary food, favors, with champagne at Midnight. Toast the Millennium.

VENTURE-N - New Year's Even Fetish Ball. Bring in the Millennium with a Bang! Balloon Buster's Ball 2000. Get here early

WOODY'S - Spend an intimate evening with friends here. Open 1 noon with Party Favors, Champagne and food later in the evening.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

IBTS - Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. to benefit Gay Men's Health Project. Karaoke on the patio with Billy Dee 4:30 to 7:30. Then at 9:00 p.m., a special benefit show for SAAF's Food Pantry hosted by Bunny FuFu with special friends.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. The Girlie Show hosted by Lucinda Holiday featuring Bunny FuFu, Barbra Seville and Deora La Blanc.

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# Daily Bar Calendar

## Sunday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers. Latin Music with DJ Hal 9-1. Shot specials all night.  
 IBT's - Open 11am-1am. Happy Hour 11-4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee on the patio 4:30-7:30. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Special drink prices Noon til 7pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee 9pm til close.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. \$1.25 Tomato Juice Cocktails, Bolemakers. Beer Bust, BBQ and Drink Specials. Football on big screen.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm 75¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee (pot matched). Boss Burgers 5-7pm Hides Leather Goods opens at 4pm.  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball Court is Open. Check in with bartender.

## Monday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZ - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free pool 2-4. \$1.50 Well & Domestic.  
 IBT's - Open 10am. Martini Monday all day all call martinis \$2.50. Happy Hour 10am-4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well and domestic beer 4-9pm. 9pm to closing. \$1.50 / 32oz pitchers. Karaoke Billy Dee 7:00-9:30pm Retro 80's dance 9:30pm to closing. All drink specials not available during special events.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Happy Hour Prices til 7pm.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: \$1.50 Well or Domestic. Football on big screen. Food & Drink Specials.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Blue Monday! \$2 Well and Longnecks 6am-12:30pm. Skyy shots \$2 (w/ juice \$2.25). Dart Tournament 8pm.  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Karaoke w/Billy Dee 9pm to close following Football. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

## Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7pm. Pool journey 7:30pm \$3 entry, pot matched. \$1 longnecks for pool players. Funky disco w/DJ Starzee & DJ Busta Fly 9-1.  
 IBT's - Open 10am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer & well \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. 9pm to close \$1.75 well. Wear an IBT's T-shirt get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for \$5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi-Nergy Dance 9pm to closing.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Happy Hour Prices til 7pm.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: \$1.50 Well or Domestic.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$2 Well drinks and longnecks 6am-12:30pm; Makers Mark \$2 shot. 1st Tuesday TKO Spaghetti Feed  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Trivia Party 8pm-close. Top score on NTN per game wins special prizes. Skyy's the limit \$2.25

## Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7pm. Free Pool 2-4. \$1.50 Longnecks 8-midnight. Dance with DJ Stephanie 9-close.  
 IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am to 4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer & well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. \$1.75 Bud Products 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Special drink prices noon til 7pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee 9pm til close.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7pm: \$1.50 Well or Domestic. Free Pool 9pm-12:45am. Dance Mix.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Salsa Morning! \$2 Well & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm. Cueno Gold \$2 and Cueno 1800 \$2.25 Open to close. Western Nite Drink specials til in Cowboy attire.  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball on demand 7 days a week. See bartender.

## Thursday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7pm, 2for1 Free pool 2-4. Karaoke with Melissa 9pm to close. W/creamy cowgirls & \$2.50 Tequila Rose.  
 IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 Well & domestic 4-9. Underwear Nite. \$1.50 well and \$1.75 domestic beer to those in their underwear (part check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Happy Hour Prices til 7pm.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: \$1.50 Well or Domestic. Free Pool 9pm-12:45am. Dance Mix.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 6am \$2 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm. Patio Bar open 8pm. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-1st. \$3 entry. Hides Leather shop opens at 8pm.  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

## Friday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free pool 2-4. Free food at 5:30pm. Dance music 9-1 w/ DJ Hal. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.  
 IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well & domestic 4-9. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan & Tracey 5:30-8:30pm. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Happy Hour Prices til 7pm.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: \$1.50 Well or Domestic. Variety Dance Mix.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$2 Well & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm. Snacks served at 5pm. Patio Bar open 5pm. Hides Leather Store opens 8pm.  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Martini Party - Well Martinis \$2. Call Martinis \$3 from 4pm to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

## Saturday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Drink specials all day. Pool Tournament 5:30pm \$3 entry. Pot matched. Dance music w/DJ Hal 9-close. Drink specials every half hour.  
 IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. Patio bar 9-1. Dance 9-1. All drink specials not available during special events.  
 STONEWALL LTD. - Open Noon. Happy Hour Prices til 7pm.  
 VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: \$1.50 Well or Domestic. Drag Shows. Dance.  
 VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Patio Beer Bust with 50¢ drafts. \$1.50 pitchers. Hides Leather Store opens at 8pm. Cricket Dart Tournament 9pm.  
 WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

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NOTICES

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

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 43. Call the church at Davey at 886-1208 or Brian at 882-4726 for information.

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

LESBIAN SOCIAL DISCUSSION GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7 to 8:30 pm. Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Come Chat!

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX. For information and membership write: CBPA at P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

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

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

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all - Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-G, Cortaro, AZ 85652.

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

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (520)432-5591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events.

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)327-1820 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

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

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 681-8650 or Ronn 888-2384.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 883, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-6789.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9488 or Ray at 749-5247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 888-7299.

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Philippe in the Hills Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7843 for more information.

LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS: Workshop at 7:00 p.m. third Wednesday of every month. Read and critique current projects. Network and support. For info call 325-4737.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 8:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9882.

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 890-9565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call Greg Hoffman 529-7542 for more info.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 622-3200.

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 694-7063.

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NOTICES

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.O.S.A., please contact Mary 770-9979 or Bertie 318-3415.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-6647.

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

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 628-7223.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 828-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saaaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet every Sunday morning and some weeknights for fun runs. For more information call Mitch at 328-3555 or e-mail mandmtiaz@worldnet.att.net

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36284, Tucson, AZ 85740-8284. All replies confidential.

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Al-Anon 881-1794 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 584-0280, leave name and phone number.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL. For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

AIDS HOTLINE - 328-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-8977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 8523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4605.

TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. Call us at (520)617-4861, or http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/5088

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA. Local chapter of the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian Republican organization. Meets the first Tuesday evening of each month. For information, call Patrick at 815-1887.

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

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS - a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-8219 (Phoenix)

NOTICES

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-8878 or 327-4293.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7878.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Eddie Betrano 888-4595.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-9920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (eveiten@ix.netcom.com)

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 6:03 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. The show "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show is aired at 5:30 pm every Wednesday.

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

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

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

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL VETERANS meet at Wingspan every fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. For more info call Miguel Guzman, 889-4076 or pager 448-5123.

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at SS Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Fiedler in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-8624.

WOMEN'S OUT OF THE CLOSET GROUP. Welcome to women in all stages of the coming-out process. We are here to support the Lesbians, Bisexuals and straight women of all races, religions and ages. Meeting times are the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, 1:30 - 3:30pm at Wingspan at 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779. Call Wendy Bailey at 235-1893 after 5pm for more information.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED - FORMING CHAPTER FOR GAY/LESBIAN LUTHERANS. Write LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730

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

GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED Young Adults Support Group for people ages 20 to 30 meets for sharing, support and information. Meetings are every Saturday from 11am to 12:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779.

GAY SUICIDE PREVENTION. P.O. Box 84685, Tucson, AZ 85718-9998. Tele 520-577-3780. 1-888-774-9200, Fax 520-677-7443

REVELLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Have any history/experience singing? Join us! Call 881-1369 to audition. 617-3100 for more info.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2BR, 2BA, YARD, WASHER/DRYER, FRIG. Private, secure, 5-plex near Mountain/Ft Lowell. \$495/mo. 822-7039. 806

1BR, 1BA, PRIVATE YARD W/PATIO. Washer/dryer. Frig. Newly remodeled near Ft Lowell and Mountain. \$425/mo. 822-7039. 806

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ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE WANTED. 3BR, 2BA. Pool, garage. Call Tom 235-0789 806

PROFESSIONAL relocating to Tucson February 15th seeks to share. Neat, clean, quiet, nice guy. 607/1608,40s. Non-sexual. Call 1-888-852-2542 toll free. 807

ROOMMATE WANTED. \$315.00 includes all utilities, phone, pool, big screen TV, DW. On bus line. Call 889-7875 or 237-5188. 808

ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE large two bedroom. Available now. Speedway/Alverson area. On three bus lines. \$260 + 1/2 utilities. Call Stan @ 327-8372 806

HOUSEMATE WANTED - 2bedroom duplex near the U to share with an older gentleman. \$285/mo. including utilities except phone. First and last months rent, non-smoker. W/D, off-street parking. Will prepare a Continental breakfast and Dinner for an extra \$65/mo. Not looking for a sex partner. Call Bob 903-1800. 806.

EMPLOYMENT

TUCSON'S OLDEST/NEWEST GAY BAR now accepting employment applications. Immediate opening for door man position. Apply in person, 2921 N. 1st Ave. M-F - Noon to 5 806

PERSONALS

CONTESTANTS WANTED FOR MR. PADLOCK 2000 IN PHOENIX. Entry deadline Jan. 16, 2000. Winner receives hotel accommodations and air fare to Chicago's International Mr. Leather 2000 Contest. Applications available at the padlock or call (602)268-5640. 807

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.mova.com 805

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a extender y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista estrictamente confidencial al 828-7223, ext. 248 y pregunta por Ernesto. 805

If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 828-7223 ext 248 and ask for Ernie. 805

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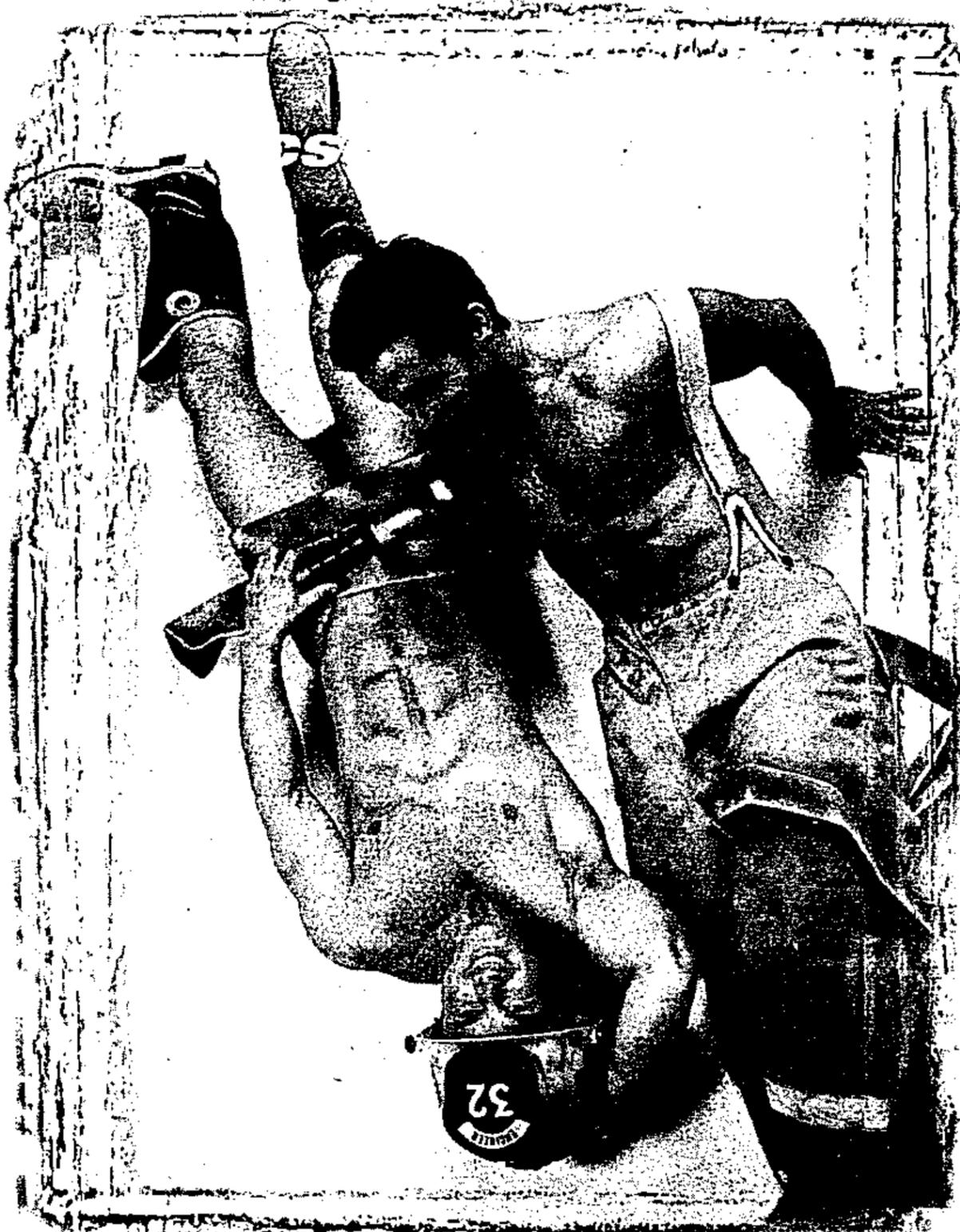
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# JANUARY



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