

## LGBT Community Shares Dignity While Building A Habitat House

TUCSON - Empowerment was the goal, as more than 130 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) and allied volunteers joined forces with Habitat for Humanity Tucson (HFHT) Saturday, February 26, 2005 to raise the walls of the Rainbow Build house for a deserving low-income family.

The day highlighted Habitat's philosophy of a "hand up, not a hand out" as members of the LGBT community came out en masse to build for those in need, while celebrating the importance of family.

Excitement was in the air as Kathy Altman, member of the Board of Directors of Wingspan, opened up the morning with warm greetings and special thanks. Cheers were shared as Kathy acknowledged all Coalition members and partners in the effort.

"This is a memorable day and an important day," said Rubio, the Habitat homeowner, who was on site to help celebrate the day. Rubio will move with his wife and their hearing impaired daughter into the house when it's complete.

The program ended as Desert Voices pleased the crowd with several performances, playing to an audience of enthusiastic construction volunteers ready to get to work.

Walls were raised and the structure was built by 3pm, as the day closed with happy faces for both the Habitat family who will ultimately reside in the house and the volunteers that helped build.

As the first in the nation, the Rainbow Build Coalition has attracted 36 local organizations that want to help build. Members include: Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF), Boys R Us, Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE), City of Tucson GLBT Commission, Cornerstone Fellowship, Democracy for America/Tucson, Desert Voices, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network (GLSEN), Intuit Inc., LGBT&S Alliance Fund, Meandering Dykes, Men's Social Network (MSN), Mighty Mouse Computer Consulting, Inc., No Longer Silent, Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), PrideLaw Alliance, Rainbow Families, Rainbow Interfaith Community, Raytheon GLBT Alliance, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, Rubyfruit,

St. Francis in the Foothills, UMC, St. Michael's Ecumenical Catholic Church, St. Philip's Episcopal Church LGBT Phamily, Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA), Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats, Tucson GLBT Chamber of Commerce, The Tucson Observer, Tucson-Pima Public Library, Tucson Pride, Inc., UA LGBT Studies, UA OUTReach, Water of Life MCC, White Space Design and Wingspan.

Habitat homeowners are chosen by a selection committee according to a variety of income, current housing, employment and credit criteria. They provide a modest down payment, and make monthly mortgage payments to Habitat. In addition, each Habitat family must devote 400 hours of "sweat equity," by working on their home's construction or through other Habitat for Humanity Tucson volunteer activities.

Habitat for Humanity Tucson was organized in 1980, Habitat for Humanity Tucson builds affordable housing for qualified families, with the goal of eliminating poverty housing in the Tucson area. Since its inception, Habitat has completed 230 such homes; 24 in 2004 alone. There are currently 21 more Habitat homes under construction.

## Experts Differ On HIV 'Supervirus' Case

BOSTON - Two weeks after New York City health officials warned of an HIV strain that developed into full-blown AIDS in months, experts at the nation's leading scientific conference on AIDS could not agree Thursday, February 24, on what the case represents, the PlanetOut Network reported.

During the 12th Annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Boston, Dr. David Ho, director of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center in New York, reviewed details of the patient with the unusual HIV infection.

The patient, an unidentified 46-year-old Gay man, was reported to have had hundreds of unprotected sexual encounters, often under the influence of crystal methamphetamine. The patient was diagnosed in December with HIV and lost 10 pounds during the next several weeks. While AIDS takes an average of 10

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## U.S. Report Shows High Cost Of Military Ban

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A government report out shows "don't ask, don't tell," the military's ban on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual personnel, has cost the Pentagon hundreds of millions of dollars to implement, prompting members of Congress to announce new plans to repeal the measure, the PlanetOut Network reported.

"Don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) was adopted by Congress in 1993 and signed into law by President Bill Clinton. Under the law, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual military personnel cannot reveal their sexual orientations without risking expulsion from the armed forces.

Approximately 10,000 service members have been discharged under the policy, according to the Government Accountability Office (GAO), a non-partisan congressional accounting agency.

Analysis by the GAO found the Pentagon has spent nearly \$200 million to recruit and train replacements of enlisted personnel discharged under the policy.

The cost is likely much higher because the Defense Department does not track specific costs of investigating or discharging Gay service members or for handling legal challenges and reviews of dismissals, according to the GAO report.

"DADT is both a waste of human and material resources which any nation can ill afford during a time of war," said Ken Sholes, vice president of American Veterans for Equal Rights.

The report also did not include costs associated with discharging officers or trained specialists. Among the nearly 800 specialists with critical skills who were discharged, 322 were linguists, including 54 who specialized in Arabic.

Sholes told the PlanetOut Network that training a linguist can take up to a year or more.

The GAO report was done at the request of a bipartisan group of 22 members of Congress.

Rep. Marty Meehan, D-Mass, the ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Terrorism, Conventional Threats and Capabilities, has drafted the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, a proposal that would end the ban on Gay and Lesbian military personnel.

Meehan plans to introduce the measure next week, with support from a coalition of congressional representatives, including Reps. John Conyers, D-Mich. and Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y.

Meehan called DADT "counter-productive." "Now we have the numbers to prove that the policy itself is undermining our military readiness," he told the Boston Globe.

Many U.S. allies have abandoned policies that discriminate against Gays in the military, including Britain, which is now actively courting Gays as recruits for the Royal Navy.

## Alliance Fund Grants Over \$26,000 To Community Groups

TUCSON - At a reception held on January 20, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Straight (LGBT&S) Alliance Fund awarded over \$26,000 to six local organizations. The event represented the culmination of the Alliance Fund's fundraising and outreach efforts during 2004.

"We were pleased with the quality of the proposals we received," said Noel Matkin, Alliance Fund Advisory Board Chair and member of the grants panel. "Unfortunately, we didn't have the funds to support all the worthy initiatives. Although the grants panel had some difficult choices to make, we feel confident that our investment will help to launch or continue several important projects in Tucson that will bear fruit for years to come. Most importantly, we would like to thank the many generous

donors in our community who made the Alliance Fund's 2004 grant round possible."

Projects, as varied as Tucson's LGBT community, were selected for funding. Those who received grants were:

\$5,000 for Wingspan Aging with Pride Volunteer Project, an existing program to address the unique needs of elderly LGBT individuals in the community.

\$5,000 for Wingspan Freedom Task Force, a new project taking advantage of the political climate to reach voters on issues such as Gay marriage and human rights.

\$2,940 to send two Southern  
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# UPDATE

## Arizona Coalition For Fairness Meeting March 5 Community Urged To Attend and Take Part

TUCSON - The Arizona Coalition for Fairness (ACF) is an alliance of community members and organizations interested in protecting and expanding civil rights for LGBT and Allied people in Arizona.

Though the ACF are forming in response to the proposed 2006 anti-LGBT ballot measure, the vision for the coalition also includes working for social justice beyond the 2006 election.

Organizers said people are invited to join ACF for a Strategic Planning Day on Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. Sixth St.

Dr. Cindi Gilliland, who teaches at the UA Eller College of Business, has generously offered to facilitate the strategic planning day. If you want to help defeat anti-LGBT legislation, protect your relationship and family, and meet other great people, this day is for you! Get involved now so the day after the election - November 7, 2006-you won't ask yourself, "Was there more I could have done?"

Strategic Planning is when a group of people come together to do some visioning work and goal-setting, and then put some concrete plans to their collective vision and goals. At the end of the Strategic Planning Day, we will have a one-year work plan, and meeting dates and times for all sub-committees of the ACF.

If you are able to attend the free Strategic Planning Day, please RSVP to <mailto:cathy@wingspan.org>. When you RSVP, please let Cathy know what committee(s) you are interested in serving on (click here to view subcommittees: [http://www.wingspan.org/content/news\\_wingspan\\_details.php?story\\_id=180](http://www.wingspan.org/content/news_wingspan_details.php?story_id=180)). Please bring your lunch. Thank you so much for your commitment to fairness for all Arizonans.

## KXCI Marks 'International Women's Day' March 8

TUCSON - On Tuesday, March 8, 6 a.m. till 10 p.m., Community Radio 91.3 FM KXCI will present a very special day of programming to celebrate International

Women's Day.

This important day has been celebrated on KXCI for nearly 20 years in a row and the station will highlight the many ways that women work together and support one another, featuring 16 hours of music by female artists, interviews, Herstories, women's views, and information on local organizations that nurture and support women and girls.

Eighteen female volunteer DJ's and staff of KXCI have come together to produce a full day of programming honoring and celebrating International Women's Day.

Throughout the day, hear about the achievements of amazing women with short "Herstories" honoring their lives, and important information from Local Service Organizations whose mission is to educate, shelter, protect and empower women or girls. Interviews with prominent women in politics and the arts, as well as the voices and views of women around Tucson, will round out this incredible broadcast collaboration.

In addition to the on-air celebration, we will feature more information on International Women's

## Help Desert Voices; Win A 'Tucson'

TUCSON - Time is running out on a terrific opportunity to win a brand-new 2005 Tucson, while helping out your local LGBT&S chorus.

Desert Voices - Tucson's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and straight/supportive others chorus still has raffle tickets available from the Tucson for Tucson campaign, sponsored by Jim Click.

While the grand prize is a 2005 Hyundai Tucson, ticket buyers could also walk away with two UA Season Basketball Tickets for the 2005-06 season, four tickets to the 2005 Notre Dame vs. USC game in South Bend (including airfare and hotel accommodations), two tickets to the 2006 Fiesta Bowl, or a cruise for two to the Mexican Riviera! In addition, each ticket has six coupons on the back for discounts to Metro Restaurants, a \$30 value.

Chorus members will be selling the tickets through March 14 for \$25 each, and 100% of the proceeds go to the non-profit organization. If you would

## IN MEMORIAM



Mark Allen Landsfeld

Mark Landsfeld died peacefully in the desert near Tucson on Tuesday afternoon, February 15. He left behind many who love him and felt his love. His family and friends will miss his sharp eye, skilled hands, generous heart and beautiful smile. We will miss Mark in the winter when the aroma of woodsmoke hangs in the air and we remember the warmth of his fireplace and home. We will miss him in the spring when the wildflowers bloom and we recall his long, slow drives into the desert. We will miss Mark in summer when the cicadas sing and he waded (and sometimes swam) in the warm monsoon runoff. We will miss Mark when the merciful cool returns in the fall evenings and we can again enjoy steaming pots of soup on the stove and remember the wonderful meals that we shared with him. His passing leaves an unfillable hole in our hearts, but his spirit and the memory of his laugh will stay with us always.

Mark was preceded in death by his mother, Darleen Esther, and is survived by his father, James of Chappleau, Ontario Canada and Sault Sainte Marie Michigan; and brothers Gregory of Manistee Michigan and Daniel of Sault Sainte Marie Michigan as well as many friends, neighbors and clients in Tucson. Mark graduated from the University of Arizona in Landscape Architecture and was the owner of Landmark Landscaping. He was 40.

There will be a memorial at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 6 at Catalina United Methodist Church, 2700 E Speedway, Tucson. Desert Rose Cremation. Forever loved and forever at peace.

like to help Desert Voices continue to make a difference in the Tucson community through their songs, please contact their office at (520) 791-9662 to purchase a raffle ticket today!

Desert Voices will present their Spring show titled "Our True Colors" on April 16, at The Muse Community Arts center, 516 N. 5th Avenue in Tucson. The chorus will also be holding their annual silent auction fundraiser that evening, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. for shopping and the concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The show includes an entertaining variety of songs ranging from "True Colors" to "De Colores," as well as a few totally silly and colorful numbers like "Purple People Eater." All of the songs were selected by chorus members to showcase the true spirit, talent, pride and beauty of the LGBT community in all its marvelous color and diversity.

For more information about the chorus, their upcoming show, or anything else you'd like to know about Desert Voices and their mission, check out their website at [www.desertvoices.org](http://www.desertvoices.org), or call their office at (520)791-9662.

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



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

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

Sign up today!

Contact Jess Pabón at 628-7223 or [jpabon@saaf.org](mailto:jpabon@saaf.org)



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**COMMENTARY . . .** by AZ State Representative Phil Lopes

## 'A Sad History'

PHOENIX - [The following were remarks delivered by House Democratic Leader, Phil Lopes of Tucson after the Arizona House had voted to approve HCM 2005 on February 21. HCM 2005 is the legislative "postcard" urging the U.S. Congress to approve a constitutional amendment banning the recognition of same-sex marriage.]

"Mr. Speaker, I would like to explain my vote.

"When it comes to civil rights, Arizona has a sad history of being on the wrong side of the issue.

"In 1865, the territorial legislature passed a statute banning inter-racial marriage. That was the law in this state until 1962.

"In 1909, the territorial legislature passed a segregated schools statute, even though it had to override a veto by Governor Kibbey.

"In 1950, the state legislature reaffirmed that stance, passing a law that required all school districts to segregate pupils of the African race from Caucasian students.

"In 1956, two years after Brown vs Board of Education, this legislature refused to prohibit discrimination in public accommodations, such as restaurants and hotels. It refused repeatedly to outlaw such discrimination throughout the 1950s, despite countless legislative efforts.

"It was wrong to deny people's civil rights then, and it is wrong now.

"Once again, this legislature is poised to place itself on the wrong side of a civil rights issue by denying Gay and Lesbian people the right to earn legal recognition for their families.

"Make no mistake. This is nothing less than a civil rights issue, one that has profound ramifications.

"People are being denied a right to care for their loved ones; to raise children; to pass on their property and to simply live in peace, without government interference.

"In passing this, we are seeking to deny basic constitutional rights to citizens who pay their taxes, obey the law and want to be responsible.

"This is wrong, and it saddens me greatly. Once again, we are choosing to be on the side of denying Americans their fundamental rights.

"Once again, we are choosing to stand in the schoolhouse door, constitutional rights notwithstanding.

"Once again, we are taking the wrong side, and we must await the day when history renders its judgment.

"For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I must vote no."



## California Considers Ban On Anti-LGBT Political Campaigns

BSAN FRANCISCO - Legislation has been introduced in the California Assembly to prevent discrimination against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) individuals in political campaigns, 365Gay.com reported.

If passed it would prohibit the use of any negative appeal based on prejudice against LGBT people by candidates or campaign committees who sign the voluntary pledge provided for in the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

Currently, existing law establishes a Code of Fair Campaign Practices to which a candidate may voluntarily subscribe and provides a pledge by which the candidate declares that he or she will not use or permit any appeal to negative prejudice based on race, sex, religion, national origin, physical health status, or age.

"In the politically divisive debate over the rights of LGBT people, there are many instances of candidates and campaigns using a negative appeal for support using anti-Gay rhetoric," said Speaker pro tem Leland Yee (D-San Francisco/Daly City) who introduced the measure.

"These negative appeals are potentially dangerous to the LGBT community, and in some campaigns have led to an atmosphere of fear, intimidation, and instances of violence. AB 866 will hopefully put an end to this type of victimization and discrimination against the LGBT community."

Anti-Gay rhetoric, which often comes in the form of political hate messages, is directly connected to violence against Gay and Lesbian

individuals, said Equality California, the state's largest LGBT civil rights organization.

Incidents of violence against LGBT people have peaked in national elections years, such as in 2004 during the presidential campaign, in which Lesbian and Gay issues played an unprecedented role at both the national and local levels, the group noted in a statement. In 2003, when San Francisco became ground zero in the struggle over same-sex marriage rights, incidents of violence rose over 14 percent in the city.

"Civil discourse is the solid foundation of our democracy," said Steve Hansen, EQCA's Legislative Advocate.

"This legislation puts candidates and campaign committees on notice that using anti-Gay rhetoric and campaign tactics is not acceptable."

In 1996, then Assemblymember Shelia Kuehl, introduced nearly identical legislation, which failed in its first hearing in a 3-4 vote.

The Registrar of Voters is required to provide the candidate a blank form on which to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices, and a copy of the Elections Code provisions at the time a declaration of candidacy, nomination papers, or any other paper evidencing an intention to be a candidate for public office are issued.

Subscription to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is voluntary. Completed forms are to be filed with the Registrar of Voters, and are retained for public inspection until 30 days after the election.

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## Come Out And Watch The 10th Annual Wingspan FilmFest

PTUCSON - The Wingspan FilmFest is 10 years old! To celebrate, we've planned three evenings of classic films and three full days of the best new documentary, feature, and short films. It's Southern Arizona's premier showcase for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender film.

The FilmFest begins on March 8 at The Screening Room, 127 W. Congress, with a look back at LGBT life in the mid-20th century, through the lens of two documentaries—Before Stonewall and Gay Pioneers.

On March 09, continues with the retrospective with two films at the vanguard of "new queer cinema"—Desert Hearts and Swoon.

On March 10, the Festival moves to The Loft Cinema, 3233 E. Speedway, to wrap up the retrospective with a special guest, producer Christine Vachon. Ms. Vachon's filmography is impressive, ranging from classic films Poison (1991), Swoon (1992), Go Fish (1994), and I Shot Andy Warhol (1996) to more recent projects Hedwig and the Angry Inch (2001), One Hour Photo (2002), Far from Heaven (2002), Party Monster (2003), and A Dirty Shame (2004). She'll share her views on queer cinema new and old, and the future of LGBT indie film.

The new films begin on March 11, with multiple Gay, Lesbian, and documentary features, and shorts. All in all, it's a jam-packed festival—so c'mon out and watch.

Advance tickets will be available for purchase online, [www.wingspan.org/filmfest](http://www.wingspan.org/filmfest), through March 10. Tickets and passes are non-refundable. No physical ticket will be issued in advance; your name will be placed on will-call list for the screening. Bring your e-mail receipt to the theater. For more information, call (520) 624-1779.

## KUAT Airs 'Postcards From Buster' Episode

TUCSON - Earlier this month the nation's new education secretary, Margaret Spellings denounced PBS for spending public money on a cartoon with Lesbian characters, saying many parents would not want their children exposed to such lifestyles.

The episode of "Postcards From Buster" shows the title character, an animated bunny named Buster, on a trip to Vermont—a state known for recognizing same-sex civil unions. The episode features two Lesbian couples, although the focus is on farm life and maple sugaring.

PBS subsequently decided not to distribute the episode, named "Sugartime" to its 349 affiliate stations. However, the Boston public television station that produces the show, WGBH, made the "Sugartime!" episode available to other stations. Local PBS station KUAT aired the episode Thursday, February 24.

The general plot of "Postcards from Buster", according to WGBH, is that the animated bunny "discovers new cultures and communities" and "creates live action postcards to send to his friends and family back home [in order to] understand life in different places." The show has introduced American children to a Muslim family, a Latino family, and a Mormon family, among others. To exclude families with parents of the same sex is to further marginalize and make invisible the LGBT community.

KUAT also airs national LGBT news magazine "In the Life" on the last Friday of every month at 11:00 p.m.

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# GENESIS

March 5, 2005

[www.pulsetucson.org](http://www.pulsetucson.org)

Pulse is a collaboration effort with Wingspan, Pima County Health Department, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation and ADHS.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Media Matters for America reported that author and media critic Eric Alterman noted that, despite its obvious newsworthiness, the Jeff Gannon/James Guckert story has been essentially ignored by several major media organizations:

All sorts of interesting, and damning, nuggets continue to tumble out of the Gannon story. Yet according to LexisNexis, neither ABC, CBS, Los Angeles Times, nor Miami Herald (just to name a few) have reported on the \$200-an-hour male escort who, with no journalism experience and using an alias while working for a phony news organization, was allowed into White House press briefings without having to submit to a full background security check. Move along folks, nothing of interest here.

Since then, the Los Angeles Times ran an article downplaying the oddity of Gannon's presence in White House press briefings; the Times equated Gannon with two other well-known figures:

The White House press corps has since attracted an array of unusual personalities. ... Lester Kinsolving, conservative radio commentator, wore a clerical collar to White House briefings in the Reagan years. His loud voice and off-beat, argumentative questions often provoked laughter. President Clinton, to lighten up the proceedings, often called on Sarah McLendon, who worked for a string of small newspapers in Texas and called herself a citizen journalist unafraid to blast government bureaucrats.

But Kinsolving and McLendon have little in common with Gannon. Gannon has no journalism experience and attended press briefings as a representa-

## Gannongate: Fake News Update

tive of a partisan organization, GOPUSA.com. By contrast, Kinsolving is a radio host, has worked as a nationally-syndicated columnist, and was twice nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, by the San Francisco Chronicle and the San Francisco Examiner. Kinsolving is a conservative, to be sure, and perhaps, as the Times noted, "off-beat" — but that is where the similarities to Jeff Gannon seem to end.

Nor does Sarah McLendon belong in the same conversation as Jeff Gannon. To wit:

McLendon attended the University of Missouri's Pulitzer School of Journalism; Gannon paid \$50 to attend a two-day seminar at the conservative Leadership Institute.

McLendon's journalism experience included a stint at the Washington bureau of the Philadelphia Daily News and running a news service that provided content for local papers in Texas. Gannon's "experience" included a stint at GOPUSA.com and serving as "Washington bureau chief" for a "news service" that acted as a front for ... GOPUSA.com.

Apparently, we can't say this often enough: the problem with Jeff Gannon isn't that he's conservative, that he wrote for an obscure online publication, or that he's "off-beat." It's that he is not a reporter; he isn't a journalist by any stretch of the imagination. He's a political activist who represented a company called GOPUSA.com, which is run by a delegate to the Republican National Convention. To compare him to Sarah McLendon or Les Kinsolving is to miss the point — badly.

Syndicated columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. certainly hasn't missed that point;

he wrote:

[I]t's ... deplorable that he [Gannon] was ever seated in the White House briefing room. As to how that happened, Bush spokesman Scott McClellan has pleaded ignorance, saying that, "In this day and age, when you have a changing media, it's not an easy issue to decide, to try to pick and choose who is a journalist."

Which is patently ridiculous. Contrary to the press secretary's Hamletlike agonizing, it's not all that hard to know who is and is not a reporter. If an individual reports for a recognized media outlet that observes customary standards of journalistic integrity - even if it tends to view the world through a conservative or liberal editorial prism - that person is a reporter.

But if the person works for an outlet that simply promotes, or advocates for, one political party or another, then the line between reporter and shill has been well and truly crossed.

It's not brain surgery. So you'll have to forgive me for not extending the benefit of doubt to McClellan. My problem is that he speaks for an administration with a long record of manipulating truth and propagandizing the public. [...]

Frankly, the only thing more galling than the brazenness with which the White House abrogates the public's right to know is the sheeplike docility with which we accept it, with which we become complicit in our own hoodwinking.

When the history of this era is written, people will wonder why we didn't

challenge its excesses, why we didn't know the things we should have. If you're still around, remember the uproar you do not hear right this moment and tell them the truth. Ignorance was easier.

Senators Harry Reid (D-NV), Richard Durbin (D-IL), John Kerry (D-MA), Edward Kennedy (D-MA), and Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) have written a letter to President Bush putting the Gannon matter in context and demanding an investigation:

Another reason the Gannon/Guckert affair is disturbing is because of what we have recently learned about apparent efforts by some in your Administration to try to "buy" favorable news coverage. These other efforts include paying news personalities Armstrong Williams and Maggie Gallagher large sums of money to promote your Administration's education and marriage initiatives, and using taxpayer dollars to produce video news releases promoting the new prescription drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries and other policies the Administration regards as accomplishments. A recent report by the General Accountability Office called such video news releases illegal uses of public funds. More recently, we have heard troubling reports that Social Security Administration officials may be using public funds and pressuring public employees to promote your goal of privatizing Social Security.

As you know, concerns that government officials may be trying to deceive the public by manipulating the media can be extremely corrosive to public trust. For that reason, we respectfully request that you order an immediate and thorough investigation into the Gannon/Guckert matter. How is it possible that a man using a fake name, with dubious journalism credentials, was

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## Miss Gay Western States America Pageant

Open Regional Preliminary to Miss Gay America



Featuring  
Raquel Chevallier  
Miss Gay America 2005



Pre-Pageant Show March 25th at  
Woody's  
3710 N. Oracle  
8:30 pm

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## Dean Faces Challenges

### As DNC Chairman

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A year ago, an activist group from the Seattle area gave Howard Dean a thin golden statue of a backbone, the PlanetOut Network reported.

The Oscar-like award honored the former Democratic presidential candidate and Vermont governor for standing up against the Iraq war and other Bush administration actions.

Now, as the pro-Gay Dean settles into his new role as head of the Democratic Party, that golden spine has come to represent, for many liberal Democrats, Dean's potential to develop a tougher, take-no-prisoners attitude among the party faithful.

"There's no gut-check required for Dean. Dean just needs to be Dean," said Dal LaMagna, founder of the Progressive Government Institute. "He's the kind of person who's a collaborator, a facilitator. He's not someone who has a clique or who will talk only to people in his clique."

In an e-mail sent to supporters Thursday, February 24, Dean said he has received an overwhelming response from "grassroots Democrats" offering input on the party's agenda. "So many Democrats can't wait to get started. They want to grow our party from the ground up. And that's exactly what we're going to do," Dean said.

Dean was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee two weeks ago on a platform that he would rebuild state parties, take the offensive against Republicans, and do a better job explaining the party's positions on issues. He replaces outgoing party chief Terry McAuliffe.

As chairman, the normally blunt Dean appears to be trying to shift from flamboyant presidential candidate to cautious party spokesman. The antiwar Dean has sidestepped questions about the Iraq war and given tame descriptions of the party's position on abortion and Gay marriage.

Jodie Evans, a founder of the women's peace group Code Pink, said she's watching to see if Dean maintains his grassroots connection or becomes part of the Democratic establishment in Washington. "He had the courage to step into a position where he can break the Democratic Party out of its stagnation," she said. "Does he have the leadership capacity to do that?"

It's this balancing act of pleasing the more liberal parts of the party while also appealing to middle-of-the-road voters that will be Dean's biggest challenge, said Charles Franklin, a political scientist from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Howard Dean almost certainly has to disappoint his strongest liberal supporters simply because he's going to have to serve a broader Democratic Party," Franklin said. "So it's almost inevitable that there will be charges of sellout."

Democratic leaders, initially wary of a Dean chairmanship, started embracing his leadership after several high-profile Democrats vying for the position backed out of the race. But activist groups such as the Progressive Democrats of America, made up of many former Dean and Kucinich campaign volunteers, and TrueMajority, a Vermont group founded by Ben & Jerry's owner Ben Cohen, supported his chairmanship from the beginning.

Progressive Democrats launched a "Draft Dean for DNC Chair" campaign, and TrueMajority urged supporters to

send 13,500 letters to Democratic leaders on Dean's behalf. "He saw the power of grassroots activism," said Duane Peterson, director of TrueMajority ACTION. "That's how he got in there as chairman, so there would be no reason for him to turn his back on it. It worked."

## Experts Differ On HIV

Continued from Page One

years to develop after the initial infection, this patient developed AIDS in a matter of months.

When Ho turned the data on the new patient over to New York health authorities two weeks ago, it led to a public alert about the possibility of a new strain of HIV.

While Ho has been criticized for his actions, he refused to apologize. "That is a decision that we stand by today," he said in a quote published by The New York Times.

Martin Delaney, founder of San Francisco's Project Inform, who attended the session on Thursday, noted that some of the details in Ho's presentation differed from what New York authorities had released.

"Ho was no longer claiming the patient was 'untreatable' or even 'resistant' to three classes of HIV medications," Delaney wrote in a dispatch to the PlanetOut Network. "Instead he mentioned, as had critics, that the patient was readily treatable with at least two major high-potency drugs, Fuzeon and Sustiva. Moreover, he now described the 'resistance' as primarily affecting protease inhibitors, while there was 'reduced sensitivity' to some nucleoside drugs."

Reports of similar drug-resistant strains have been reported in Boston and San Diego, but this particular strain has been spotted only once. Furthermore, no evidence exists that the virus is readily transmissible.

"These kinds of cases have been reported before," Delaney told the San Francisco Chronicle. "A lot of clinicians see this stuff, and they don't call press conferences."

San Francisco AIDS physician Steven Deeks told reporters that he believes several factors led to the patient's rapid deterioration.

"All the media attention has brought to the forefront what is currently driving this epidemic: out-of-control methamphetamine use in young, Gay men," he added. "We see this in San Francisco. Twenty percent of patients with highly resistant HIV are having sex with men known to be HIV-negative or whose serostatus is unknown."

Dr. Harold Jaffe, who headed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's AIDS programs during the height of the AIDS crisis in the 1980s, said he doesn't think such cases should be used "to scare people" into safer sexual practices, but that it is correct to make them public.

"The important thing is to put out the facts," he told the Chronicle. "If the facts are scary, then people will be scared."

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# Congressional Legislation Would Repeal 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressional lawmakers on Thursday, February 24, announced legislation to repeal "don't ask, don't tell," the military's ban on openly Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual personnel, Advocate.com reported.

The Military Readiness Enhancement Act is scheduled to be introduced in the House of Representatives by Democrat Marty Meehan of Massachusetts on March 2. The proposal is already supported by a bipartisan coalition of congressional representatives, including Michigan's John Conyers and New York's Jerrold Nadler.

Announcement of the bill follows release of a new Government Accounting Office report analyzing "don't ask, don't tell."

The GAO report conservatively estimates that the Gay ban has cost at least \$191 million since its inception in 1993. The report's financial estimate, however, includes only costs associated with recruiting and training enlistees to replace those discharged under the ban. The GAO analysis does not include costs associated with discharging officers or the nearly 800 specialists with critical skills who have been fired because of their sexual orientation. Administrative costs associated with discharges are also not included in the GAO analysis.

"Our homeland is more secure when every qualified, capable American who wants to serve is allowed to do so," said C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an advocacy group for Gay military personnel. "The choice we now face is clear: Spend \$191 million on firing patriotic Americans, or spend the same amount on a dozen Blackhawk helicopters or 800 sidewinder missiles. Our priority should always be defense and security. The Military Readiness Enhancement Act is the best proposal to do just that."

According to GAO, the Pentagon has fired 322 language specialists who "had skills in a foreign language that DoD had considered to be especially important."

SLDN reported in 2004 that at least three dozen of those linguists spoke Arabic, Farsi, or Korean, languages the Pentagon acknowledges are underrepresented. Nearly 800 specialists, including intelligence analysts, divers, and combat controllers, were fired despite having "some training in an occupation identified as 'critical.'" Since 1993, more than 10,000 service members have been fired under the ban. During that same time period, many of the United States' closest military allies, including the United Kingdom and Canada, repealed their prohibitions on Gay service personnel.

"Congress and the American people now have the benefit of more than a decade of evidence indicting 'don't ask, don't tell,'" said Osburn. "Every American in every community benefits from the talents and skills of the more than 65,000 Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual service members on duty in our armed forces."

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy was adopted by Congress in 1993. Under the law, military personnel cannot reveal their sexual orientation to anyone,

including family members, without risking expulsion from the armed forces.

The GAO analysis was requested in 2004 by a bipartisan group of 22 members of Congress.

## Gannongate:

Continued from Page Five

able to clear the White House's extensive security screening process and gain such close access to you and your staff for such an extended period of time? Have there been other, similar breaches of security and journalism standards?

Reporters eager to shed what Pitts called their "sheeplike docility" and begin trying to find answers to some of the questions raised by Senators Reid, Durbin, et al., might start by examining Karl Rove's relationship with Talon News/GOPUSA.

Salon.com's Eric Boehlert reported this week that Talon/GOPUSA head Bobby Eberle "thanked Karl Rove for his 'assistance, guidance, and friendship'" in a "personal posting on GOPUSA" last year.

Eberle was a delegate to the 2000 Republican National Convention that nominated George W. Bush for president, was a delegate to the 1996, 1998 and 2000 Republican Party of Texas state conventions (then-Governor George W. Bush ran for reelection in 1998), and was "recognized with a unanimously approved resolution of commendation by the Republican Party of Texas for service and dedication to the Republican cause" in 1999, according to the biography of Eberle that used to be posted at GOPUSA.com.

What precisely is the relationship between Rove, who owes his position in the White House to his work in Texas Republican politics in the 1990s, and Texas Republican activist Bobby Eberle, who thanked Rove for his "assistance, guidance and friendship"? Does their relationship explain how Gannon was able to attend White House press briefings?

Does it explain why Gannon sent FOX News host Sean Hannity an E-mail in September 2004 boasting that, according to Hannity, "he's about to break a story in an exclusive about these CBS documents"? Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) recently suggested that Rove and the Bush White House may have planted the apparently fake CBS documents in order to divert attention from Mr. Bush's spotty National Guard record. While Hinchey didn't offer direct evidence, he noted the Bush administration's history of manipulating the media. Rove has been the subject of similar speculation in the past: he is widely thought to have bugged his own office in 1996 in order to suggest that the campaign he was working against was responsible for the act; and Austin, Texas, reporters suspected that in 2000, Rove arranged the mailing of a Bush debate practice tape to Al Gore's campaign to disrupt the Gore debate preparation efforts.

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# Massachusetts High Court Takes Non-Resident Bias Case

BOSTON - Massachusetts' highest court has agreed to take direct review of a challenge to state policies that presently block nonresident same-sex couples from getting married in Massachusetts, the PlanetOut Network reported.

the nonresidents. At the same time, Judge Carol Ball also expressed concern that the sudden reappearance of the statute was indeed hostile to the spirit of the top court's marriage ruling.

Just before same-sex marriages went into effect last May, state officials dusted off a 1913 law that had originally been drafted to keep interracial couples from marrying in the Bay State. The law, which had never been enforced, stated that any marriage that could not be legally conducted in the couple's home state would be void from the start if conducted in Massachusetts.

Because of the Supreme Judicial Court's announcement on Wednesday, February 23, marriage advocates will be able to skip an intermediate level of court review and get the question of residency resolved more quickly. Briefs are due May 27, and oral arguments will follow at an undetermined date. The Supreme Judicial Court usually rules within three months of oral arguments, but not always. The Goodridge challenge to the state marriage law was argued in March of 2003 and decided in November.

Marriage activists cried foul when the statute was restored just in time to keep same-sex couples from taking advantage of the right to wed in Massachusetts. And although several localities attempted to circumvent the law, out-of-state couples were put in the position of having to sign false or disingenuous affidavits in order to proceed with their weddings.

In June, the Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders challenged the law in state court on behalf of eight same-sex couples from outside Massachusetts. The New England lawyers specifically objected to the way in which the law uniquely targeted Gay couples and the way it was being used as a tool to undermine the Supreme Judicial Court's own ruling in favor of marriage equality.

Last August, a lower court refused to grant a restraining order against the state, ruling that applying the law was not violating the equal protection rights of

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*Ideal Man* (David Gilmore and Hess Rose DeRooy, 2004, USA, 18 minutes)  
*Lucky Bugger* (Matthew Fox, 2001, UK, 3 minutes)  
*Tongues Untied* (Marlon Riggs, 1990, USA, 55 minutes)

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film descriptions / showtimes / ticket information

LOS ANGELES - The 77th annual Academy Awards seemed mostly dedicated to biopics and boxing, but there were some triumphs for openly Gay film makers, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

Out Spanish director Alejandro Amenábar took home Best Foreign Film for the true-story euthanasia drama *The Sea Inside*, while work and life partners Robert Hudson and Bobby Houston were honored with Best Documentary Short for *Mighty Times: The Children's March*. The winner of the Best Animated Short Oscar, *Ryan*, was a film about bisexual Canadian animator Ryan Larkin.

While none of this might have been obvious to the average viewer, Robin Williams's comic bit briefly put the spotlight directly on Gays and media censorship. Before presenting the award for Best Animated Feature, he paused to rip a large piece of white tape off his mouth, then proceeded to mock those who connect cartoon characters with pro-Gay messages.

The stunt appeared to confirm reports that producers had censored his gags. The Los Angeles Times reported, "Censors of ABC...objected to numerous lyrics in a cheeky song to be performed by Robin Williams [which] mocked the concerns of some Christian conservatives about alleged Gay characters and influences in animated films." Williams did not end up singing at all, but after lighting on well-worn comic targets such as Viagra, Joan Rivers, and Botox, he took on the culture wars: "They tell me now that *SpongeBob* is Gay. *SquarePants* is not Gay. *TightPants* maybe. *SpongeBob HotPants*? You go, girl!"

Nickelodeon's *SpongeBob*

# Gay Film Makers Take Home Oscars

*SquarePants* was among cartoon characters featured in a pro-diversity initiative of the We Are Family Foundation. James Dobson, founder of the religious conservative group Focus on the Family, complained that the motive for using *SpongeBob* was "to desensitize very young children to homosexual and bisexual behavior." Williams suggested that other cartoon characters through history also might have been Gay—and he didn't spare Disney icons, although Disney-owned ABC was airing the awards show. "What about Donald Duck? Sailor top, no pants. Hello?" Williams said. "Bugs Bunny. More dresses than J. Edgar Hoover at Mardi Gras. Hello?" Williams concluded. He then presented the Best Animated Feature Oscar to *The Incredibles*, which also won the award for sound editing.

But the big winner Sunday was boxing saga *Million Dollar Baby*, claiming Best Picture and three other trophies: honors for director Clint Eastwood, lead actress Hilary Swank, and supporting actor Morgan Freeman. Swank had won five years ago for playing real-life transgender man Brandon Teena in *Boys Don't Cry*.

Swank once again beat out main rival Annette Bening, nominated for the theater comedy *Being Julia*. Bening had been the front-runner for *American Beauty* in 2000. "I don't know what I did in this life to deserve all this. I'm just a girl from a trailer park who had a dream," said Swank, who played an indomitable boxer. Swank joined Vivien Leigh, Helen Hayes, Sally Field, and Luise Rainer as the only actresses with a perfect track record at the Oscars:

two nominations and two wins.

Eastwood, who at 74 became the oldest directing winner ever, noted his mother was with him when his *Western Unforgiven* won the 1992 Best Picture and directing Oscars. "She's here with me again tonight, so at 96, I'm thanking her for her genes," Eastwood said. "I figure I'm just a kid. I've got a lot of stuff to do yet." The 77th Oscars were another heartbreak for Martin Scorsese, the man behind *The Aviator*, who lost the directing race for the fifth time—the second time to Eastwood. Scorsese matched the record of Oscar futility held by a handful of legendary filmmakers such as Alfred Hitchcock and Robert Altman, who also went 0-for-5 in the directing category.

The *Aviator* came away with the most Oscars, its five awards including the supporting actress prize for Cate Blanchett. Playing Katharine Hepburn in *The Aviator*, Blanchett had the spirit of the Oscars' most-honored actress on her side. Hepburn, the love of Howard Hughes's life in the 1930s before she began her long romance with Spencer Tracy, earned 12 nominations and won a record four Oscars. "Thank you, of course, to Miss Hepburn. The longevity of her career, I think, is inspiring to everyone," said Blanchett. She added thanks to *Aviator* director Scorsese, saying, "I hope my son will marry your daughter." Oscar host Chris Rock said Blanchett was so convincing that Sidney Poitier, Hepburn's costar in *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, showed up at Blanchett's house for supper.

Jamie Foxx took lead actor for his uncanny emulation of Ray Charles in *Ray*. As he had at earlier awards triumphs, Foxx

led the Oscar audience in a rendition of the call-and-response chant from Charles's 1959 hit "What'd I Say," whose funky electric-piano grooves play over the opening credits of *Ray*. "Give it up for Ray Charles and his beautiful legacy. And thank you, Ray Charles, for living," said Foxx, who climbed to Oscar glory after an early career built mainly on comedy, including his TV series *The Jamie Foxx Show* and the raunchy sex flick *Booty Call*. Foxx had been a double Oscar nominee, also picked in the supporting category for the hit-man thriller *Collateral*.

The wins by Freeman and Foxx marked only the second time two African-Americans had won acting kudos in the same year, following Denzel Washington's and Halle Berry's triumphs three years ago for *Training Day* and *Monster's Ball*. "It means that Hollywood is continuing to make history," Freeman said backstage. "We're evolving with the rest of the world."

Winning the animated-feature prize, *The Incredibles* made it two Oscars in a row for Pixar Animation, which won in 2004 for *Finding Nemo*. "I don't know what's more frightening: being watched by millions of people or the hundreds of people that are going to be annoyed with me tomorrow for not mentioning them," said Brad Bird, writer-director of the *The Incredibles*. The latest win dabs salt on the Walt Disney Co.'s wounds over the looming expiration of its distribution deal for Pixar films, which ends after next year's *Cars*. The back-to-back Oscars underscore Pixar's growing ascendance and the weakening position of animation pioneer Disney, which has yet to win the animated feature Oscar with any of its

Continued on Page Twenty One

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## POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

### Arizona Legislative Update: Domestic Partnerships

During the House Human Services Committee meeting of Thursday, February 24, state Representative Pete Hershberger, R-Tucson, the Committee Chair, said disappointedly that HB 2710, entitled "Domestic Partnerships; Responsibilities and Benefits," was "no longer in its jurisdiction."

If approved, HB 2710 would grant specified responsibilities and benefits to registered domestic partners, in areas such as: community property, right to inherit in the absence of a will, right of one partner to insure the life of the other and right to be guardian or conservator of a disabled partner, and second parent adoption rights.

According to sources, Wednesday, February 23, Arizona House Speaker, Jim Weiers, R-Phoenix, pulled HB 2710 from the House Human Services Committee, threatening to not let any bills that come from the committee advance in the process.

Weiers action was, sources said, against the wishes of Hershberger, who was a cosponsor, as well as the prime sponsor of HB 2710, state Representative Kyrsten Sinema, D-Phoenix.

"I am disappointed that the bill was pulled from the Human Services Committee," Sinema said.

Going on, Sinema added, "The bill was placed on the agenda over a week

ago, and the chair of the committee, Pete Hershberger had committed that he'd hear the bill. Mr. Hershberger held to his promise to me, and refused to pull the bill from the committee agenda, so the Speaker pulled the bill from the committee entirely. I was surprised, because I've never heard of the Speaker pulling a bill off a Committee agenda after the committee chair agreed to hear it."

Indeed, since Arizona House Rules 9-C Section 3: "The committee chairman (presiding officer) other than the chairman of the Committee on Rules shall prepare an agenda and distribute copies to committee members, the Information Desk and the Chief Clerk's Office by 4:00 p.m. each Wednesday for all standing committees meeting on Monday of the following week and by 4:00 p.m. each Thursday for all standing committees meeting on any day except Monday of the following week. Except by unanimous consent of the committee, the committee chairman may add a legislative measure to a distributed agenda by distributing a revised agenda to committee members, the Information Desk and the Chief Clerk's Office no later than 4:00 p.m. on the second previous working day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, before the committee meeting."

Under Arizona House Rules 8 - Section K, "On First Reading, all bills, resolutions or memorials shall be referred by the Speaker to appropriate committees.

Each committee shall report each measure it carefully considers back to the House with such recommendations as may be deemed proper. ...." posing the question whether the action taken was legal, under the House Rules.

Weiers wasn't finished with HB 2710 though, and pulled it from the calendar of the House Public Institutions and Retirement Committee, who's Chair, state Representative Marion McClure, R-Tucson, was another co-sponsor and who had scheduled it to be heard Monday, February 28.

Sinema had a "card up her sleeve," and had a strike-everything amendment planned for another bill, HB 2616, that was also on the schedule for February 28, so that the issue would be brought up during the Arizona Human Rights Fund lobby day, but the wingnuts that are currently in control of the Arizona House, threatened McClure's other measures so HB 2616 was held.

"It seems clear to me that some people are very upset that there's a bill granting seven responsibilities and rights to Gay and Lesbian couples," Sinema said. "Who knew that a tiny step towards equality would enrage so many?"

## Alliance Fnd Grants

Continued from Page One

Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) staff to a national conference in New York City, where they will present the Alexander John Goodrum Mental Health Advocacy Project model to the transgender community.

\$4,000 to partially fund the position of Executive Director of SAGA.

\$4,000 to Habitat for Humanity Tucson for the Rainbow Build project, a first-of-its-kind effort by Tucson LGBT groups to construct a house for a disadvantaged family.

\$2,100 to the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) to provide snacks and meals for meetings of the Allied Association of Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs), where students from Tucson GSAs get together to discuss LGBT issues and promote the creation of hate-free zones in the schools.

\$2,000 to the Tucson Metropolitan Chorus, also known as Desert Voices, a popular LGBT chorus, for a new sound system.

\$1,000 to Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) to produce video testimony of parents who have benefitted from their services.

Although the Alliance Fund works on raising money throughout the year, the primary fundraiser was an evening of music with Lisa Otey and Kathleen Williamson in November. This single event raised over \$7,000 for the Fund. The event proved so popular that the Alliance Fund plans to make the evening an annual signature event.

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# Razzies Keep Hollywood In Check

LOS ANGELES - Hoisting her Academy Award in one hand and newly won Razzie in the other, Halle Berry reveled in a career low point, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

"Omigosh, oh my God," Berry gasped Saturday night, February 26, feigning excitement. "I never in my life thought that I would be here, winning a Razzie. It's not like I ever aspired to be here, but thank you."

Berry was named worst actress for 2004's action bomb "Catwoman," which also took the prize for worst film at the 25th annual Razzies, an Oscar spoof that trashes Hollywood's worst.

President Bush won the worst-actor award for his appearance in news and archival footage of Michael Moore's satiric documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11." Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was voted worst supporting-actor for "Fahrenheit 9/11," while Britney Spears' fleeting cameo in the documentary brought her the worst supporting-actress award.

Razzies founder John Wilson said the prizes were not meant to mock Moore's film, only the statements Bush and the others make while "putting their highly paid, highly skilled feet in their mouths repeatedly and sucking on them."

Berry, one of several Oscar-winning actors to be dishonored by the Golden Raspberry Award Foundation, was the first actor to accept a Razzie in person since Tom Green did so for his part in 2001's "Freddy Got Fingered."

Berry, who wore a simple black dress, explained why she showed up at the ceremony.

"When I was a kid, my mother told me that if you could not be a good loser, then there's no way you could be a good winner," she said.

However, she added, "I hope to God I never see these people again!"

Schwarzenegger, who gave up Hollywood to become California governor, was chosen worst Razzie loser of the first 25 years, a special prize given to actors who received the most nominations without ever winning a Razzie. His latest loss also came Saturday, to Rumsfeld in the supporting category, in which Schwarzenegger was nominated for "Around the World in 80 Days."

Chosen by about 675 voters, Razzies also were awarded for worst films of the group's first 25 years: Drama, "Battlefield Earth"; comedy, "Gigli"; and musical, "From Justin to Kelly."

Other 2004 Razzies went to "Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed" for worst sequel and "Catwoman" for worst director (Pitof) and screenplay.

Wilson relishes savaging perpetual winners such as Sylvester Stallone and Madonna. In the case of Berry, Wilson felt sympathy, saying "Catwoman" was simply the result of a misguided career move.

"Don't get us wrong. She's a very talented actress, a very beautiful woman, who just made a mistake," he said. "We're not trashing Halle Berry as a human being. We're only saying, we're so sorry you chose to do this."

## School Bans Picture Of Lesbian In Tux From Yearbook

CLAY COUNTY - The picture of a Lesbian student dressed in a tuxedo will not be permitted in her school's yearbook, school officials in Clay County, Fla., have decided, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Principal Sam Ward of Fleming

Island High School made the initial decision to pull Kelli Davis's picture from the yearbook, saying he did so because Davis, was dressed in boys clothes.

The county school board and its superintendent backed the decision, which was debated at a Thursday night, February 24, school board meeting attended by about 200 people. However, 15 of the 24 people who spoke at the meeting were in favor of Davis, and nine supported the principal's decision.

Kelli's mother, Cindi Davis, asked the board to reverse Ward's decision. "This is not to be treated as a Gay rights issue," her mother said. "Rather, it's a human rights issue."

Some applauded Ward's decision, including Karen Gordon, who said, "When uniformity is compromised, then authority no longer holds." School officials have maintained that sexual preference is not the issue, it is gender. They said that since Davis did not follow the rules on dress, she will not be in the yearbook.

Bruce Bickner, an attorney representing the school board, said that while there is no written dress code for senior pictures, the district gives principals the authority to set standards. The board took no action to reverse Ward's decision, and Superintendent David Owens said the decision will stand.

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# Gay Teen Gets Accolades For Inspiring Peers

MIAMI - Two years ago, at age 15 and living in his 15th Miami-area foster home, Steven Alicea came out of the closet, reported the Associated Press via the Miami Herald on Advocate.com. His foster parents at the time, both pastors, said he would go to hell. "I thought of suicide—just taking my life. That it was worthless," Steven says. "Thank God I didn't."

Today, instead of wanting to end his life, Steven is beginning to live it. He's in a stable home with two loving foster mothers. He plans to study dance at Florida International University. This holiday season he is celebrating two honors: a national courage award and a local "Do the Right Thing" community service award that includes a prize trip to London. "I was shocked," Steven says. "It's an encouragement for me to continue doing what I'm doing. To help people and continue helping myself."

When he was 7 months old Steven moved with his mother from Puerto Rico to Miami's Wynwood neighborhood. Later, she and an abusive spouse got involved with drugs. The state eventually put Steven and his younger brother and sister into foster care. In his 17 years Steven has lived in 17 foster homes, group homes, and shelters—some of them physically and emotionally abusive environments, he said. "Being in the foster-care system really sucks, especially for a young child," he says. "It's hard to move into other people's homes.... It's hard to not be with your loved ones and be with someone who is being paid for it. Being Gay makes it worse."

When he told his foster parents

he is Gay, they reacted with disbelief. "If I liked a guy, I was told I was going to hell, that you're not supposed to like boys, that it's wrong," he says. "I've been baptized I don't know how many times trying to please my foster parents. It never helped, obviously." He "felt horrible," often skipped school, and thought of killing himself. Gays account for 30% of all teen suicides, 28% of all dropouts, and 40% of homeless teens, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Steven found solace at Gay-oriented Pridelines Youth Services near downtown Miami, where he became close to the group's executive director, Denise Hueso. "She was very cool and down-to-earth," Steven says. "I started spending a lot of time at Pridelines, doing a lot of community service. That was the turning point of my life." Hueso and her partner, Sandra Newson, wanted children, and they decided to become Steven's foster parents. Florida prohibits Gays and Lesbians from adopting but not from becoming foster parents. "We talked about it for months," Hueso says. "We talked to a lot of people and then said, 'What the hell, we're going to do it.'"

In February 2003, Steven moved into their home in Little Gables. "Now he's got two people who care a lot about him. He calls them his moms," says Michael Guthrie, program director at the School for Applied Technology in northeast Miami, a dropout prevention academy where Steven is a senior with a B grade average. He no longer cuts school.

"With a little effort on our part, we've had so much impact on his life,"

says Newson, 40, a social worker who is being treated for breast cancer. "Yes, our schedule has changed, and we don't have the extra bedroom, and there are kids in our house when we don't want them to be. "[But] having Steven at home put some structure in our lives. It has taught me so much about how I communicated, how I see things."

Hueso, 38, recently left Pridelines after four years to become a social worker at Charlee Homes for Children in Coral Gables. "The hardest part for us, for Sandra and I to learn, is that this is a kid who survived all his life without us and did a pretty good job," Hueso says. "We can offer him our life experience."

Steven works 24 hours a week at Care Resource, Florida's largest AIDS service agency. "I'm a peer educator to get people to get tested for HIV," he says. "I'm the youngest employee. They treat me with respect, like any regular coworker." He also counsels other Gay teens at Pridelines. "I tell them I've been where you're at, and it's a horrible feeling; but we have to move on, that positive things are going to come, but you have to work at it."

Good things came twice last month. First, the national Colin Higgins Foundation honored Steven with its annual Courage Award after Newson nominated him. Higgins, who died of AIDS complications in 1988, was a writer-director of hit films including *Foul Play* and *Nine to Five*. "Steven epitomizes resilience and a willingness to speak out for traditionally underserved communities," the foundation's manager, Catalina Ruiz-Healy, said in a statement. "He has endured

overwhelming hate and hostility, yet has handled himself with honor and grace as he educates and enlightens others." Steven received \$5,000.

Then, Do the Right Thing—a program sponsored by the Miami Police Department, British Airways, The Miami Herald, and WTVJ-NBC 6—named Steven one of October's top 10 Miami-Dade County students. They cited him for raising his grades from F's to A's, his AIDS activism, and achieving "success despite adversity." "He impressed me ever since I met him," says Candy Hertsch, Steven's high school guidance counselor, who nominated him for Do the Right Thing. "He has drive, ambition, he's respectful and kind."



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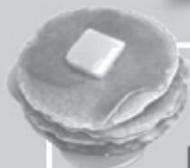
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## HIV Discrimination Suit Goes To Trial

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The United States Department of State illegally prohibits anyone with HIV from being hired as a Foreign Service Officer, regardless of the applicant's qualifications or health status, Lambda Legal argued in court Friday, February 25, reported 365Gay.com.

In Lambda Legal's federal lawsuit seeking to remove the ban on Foreign Service applicants with HIV, leading health experts have filed papers supporting a medically justified approach for assessing Foreign Service applicants.

Lambda represents Lorenzo Taylor, who speaks three languages, holds a Foreign Service degree from Georgetown University and easily passed the tough entrance exams required to be a Foreign Service Officer but who was rejected by the State Department because he has HIV.

Taylor, a 48-year-old federal government employee who lives in the Washington, DC, area, appealed that decision, saying his HIV is a completely manageable condition, but he was again rejected.

Lambda Legal filed an administrative complaint on his behalf with the State Department two years ago, but that was denied as well. In September 2003, Lambda Legal filed a federal lawsuit on behalf of Taylor. A federal judge in Washington, DC, will hear arguments in the case Friday.

Lambda Legal charges that the State Department is violating the federal Rehabilitation Act, which prohibits the federal government from discriminating against people with disabilities. Since 1986, when the State Department initially adopted this policy, the agency has been clear and consistent that people with HIV will not be allowed to work in the Foreign Service.

A 1992 Department Procedures Memo noted that "[a]pplicants testing positive for HIV will be medically disqualified" for employment. In a media release dated August 23, 2001, the Department said "pre-employment HIV testing is still required" for all Foreign Service applicants and that "those testing positive [for HIV] are not offered employment in the Foreign Service." More recently, in April 2003, another memo signed by the Director General of the Foreign Service was titled, "Why HIV Positive Individuals Are Not Eligible to Join the Foreign Service."

Lambda Legal said the policy clearly violates federal law.

"Lorenzo Taylor is extraordinarily qualified to do this work, and he wants to serve his country. But simply because he has HIV, the federal government won't even evaluate his qualifications or health status," said Jonathan Givner, Lambda Legal's HIV Project Director. "The State Department's ban on people with HIV in the Foreign Service isn't just bad policy — it's also illegal."

In papers filed last month supporting Taylor's case, health experts said people with HIV should not be ruled out from global travel and foreign work assignments simply because of their HIV status. Extensive evidence submitted to the court shows that because of the rapid rise in availability of HIV care in developing nations in recent years, physicians qualified to monitor and treat HIV-positive patients are now available at more than 95 percent of the State Department's 263 overseas posts.

Taylor, who has been living with HIV for 19 years, has never had long-term illnesses or opportunistic infections. His medical needs are limited to two or three routine check-ups a year and a regular

regimen of prescription medication taken twice daily. The doctor he has been seeing for 15 years says he is in "excellent" health.

Several thousand Americans are Foreign Service Officers, assigned by the State Department to serve in embassies, consulates and other diplomatic posts in 180 countries. The State Department prohibits the Foreign Service from hiring people with HIV in these positions, claiming that they may require medical treatment that isn't available in some of the less-developed countries where they might be stationed.

According to Lambda Legal, applicants should be assessed case-by-case to determine their individual medical status. Other than the military, the Foreign Service is the only type of federal employment where people with HIV are broadly blocked from consideration.

Foreign Service Officers who test positive for HIV while they're already employed are allowed to keep their jobs, which Lambda Legal says clearly demonstrates that the State Department is equipped to address employees' medical needs on a case-by-case basis.

"There are people with HIV who are serving their country honorably and without any added hardship because of their medical status. The State Department already assesses some people with HIV based on their individual health status and treats them fairly — that's all we're asking for Lorenzo Taylor and other qualified applicants," Givner said.

### 20 Years In Kentucky Gay Slaying

ELIZABETH - A Kentucky man who murdered and stuffed the body of a Gay man into a suitcase before tossing it into a lake was sentenced Tuesday, March 1, to 20 years behind bars, 365Gay.com reported.

Joshua Cottrell, 23, had confessed to the killing but claimed it was the result of Gay rage after Richie Phillips, 36, "came on to him" in Cottrell's motel room.

The suitcase containing Phillip's body was found floating in Rough River Lake last June by two fishermen.

Earlier this month a jury found Cottrell guilty of manslaughter not murder as the prosecution had sought.

The jury recommended that Cottrell be sentenced to 30 years in prison - 20 for the manslaughter conviction and another 10 for theft and evidence tampering, but state law limited Hardin County Circuit Judge Kelly Easton to sentencing Cottrell to a maximum of 20 years on the convictions.

Throughout the trial Cottrell's defense painted the accused as being the real victim in the case. "This kid is not a killer," defense attorney Scott Drabenstadt said in closing arguments. "This kid is not a robber. Yes, he did some very inappropriate things with the body. ... But what set it all in motion, he was privileged to do. What set it in motion were the actions of a 36-year-old man."

But, prosecutor Chris Shaw said in his closing statements that Cottrell harbored a "steaming anger" toward Gay men and lured Phillips to his motel room to kill him. Shaw said Cottrell's "intent all along was to kill," and dispose of the body in a "cold, calculated" scheme to "get away with murder."

During the trial Cottrell's adoptive aunt, Wendy Cottrell McAnly testified that Cottrell confessed to her that he had planned Phillips' murder. McAnly said her nephew told her that he killed Phillips on purpose and that he had lured Phillips into his motel room where he hit him, and then strangled him.

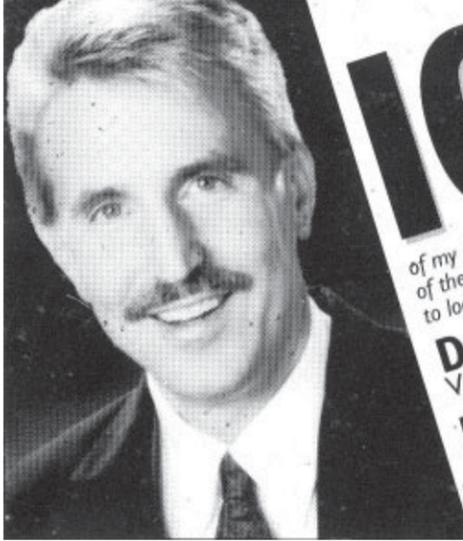
Cottrell will be eligible for parole in 2 1/2 years.

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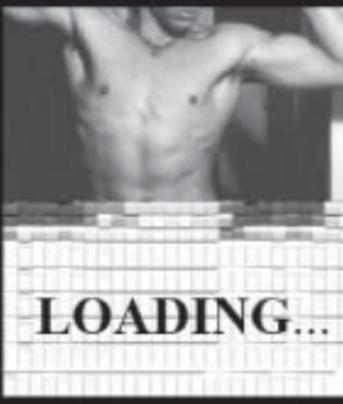
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# HOROSCOPES

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We know the saying, "March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb" is not really true. In reality, March comes out loud and proud not meek and mild. Amen! Start the festivities this week as the Jupiter and Neptune trine packs a bit of oomph to every lavender dream. Hey anyone we know?

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APRIL 20)**

Take a stand and face the fact that you are no longer satisfied with just trotting along with the usual herd and subscribing to the same old group think. Changes are afoot in all your relationships thanks to Neptune and Jupiter. Come out to the world on your own terms. Gay Rams are pioneering when they set their mind to it. Your mind is now set. March forth by the 21st.

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**

Neptune and Jupiter force you to choose between a "career" track or just a "job". Dreams of glory can catch fire if you decide to put in the effort. And yet, queer Bulls seem to be content to drift along the political tide, getting tossed, turned and jostled along the way. Do you feel like a piece of driftwood? Perhaps sometimes feeling like any old piece of wood will do.

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**

Bring on March madness with feverish Jupiter trine Neptune. Pink Twins are off on a tear! It's time to embark on a world experience; any activity that takes you beyond familiar surroundings will be especially fun and frantic. Who knows what adventures are available beyond your front door? There are so many that they fuel your home fires years from now. Ouch!

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**

Most of your time may be spent grappling with latent family issues now. Oh goody. Thank you Jupiter and Neptune. Untangle the knot so you can hang loose. Or you can bag the drama, get off the couch and get into other mischief instead. Remember, sex can be an avenue of enlightenment or escape as much as a psychological assessment. Hey, assess this!

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**

Proud Lions hate to roam the plains alone. You yearn for a strong and stable partnership throughout March and will love to talk about it.... ad nauseam. Make

the effort to strengthen current relationships or seek new ones. My advice, let Jupiter and Neptune conjure your dream. Then go out and make it a reality. Actions speak louder and prouder than words, lover.

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**

Money is honey my queer Virgin and now, as Jupiter tickles Neptune, you can collect, bottle and bathe in it. Keep your eye on your assets and debits. Be prepared to work for what you get. The payoff will be fast, substantial... and fleeting. That is because you spend as fast as you earn. By next month it could be the same old, same old. Ah but what memories!

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**

Can you have too much of a good thing this week? I hope not! Gay Libras are propelled with a combo of Jupiter luck and Neptune fog. Fun knows no limits nor does your ability to grab and harness the limelight. Brilliance, charisma and popularity are yours for the taking. Make a "take" a "grab". Even if you bump into a few things, they rub you the right way. Lucky you!

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**

Even itchy proud Scorps won't mind hanging around the house. They can use this time to entertain their various fans or redecorate to create a new, cozy feel. Or maybe you want to avoid the crowds? Your Pandoras Box blasts opens and releases spirits, secrets and more than a few embarrassing tidbits for the pundit to chew on. Don't hide. Serve them a blue plate special.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**

Gay Archers with hoof-in-mouth tendencies should avoid airing any inflammatory opinions now. Jupiter and Neptune blog every musing into Outer space. These mad theories gain traction especially after the 21st. Friends encourage you to go to extremes because they find your raw rantings amusing. How rare do you like yourself? At least go for medium if not well done.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**

Can you be bought? It seems so through March. Jupiter and Neptune make you ready to do almost anything for money. The overwhelming lure of lucre may, on one hand, goad you to work harder than ever or, on the other hand, encourage you to go for easy but compromising dough. If you can wait until after the 21st, corporate dominance may be right around the corner.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**

You make an unusual and delightful first impression, especially when Jupiter trines Neptune now. What a nice change of pace Aqueerius! How can you use all this attention to your advantage? Launch new projects and explore new directions especially after the 21st. Fairly soon your name will become a household word. Are you new and improved or Brand X? Both!

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**

Guppies happily travel on a plane of higher consciousness when Jupiter trines Neptune. Your imagination runs "Wilde" and so should you. Try to maintain some logical sense of reality. Careful assessments of current situations saves you confusion or complications later on. Yet there is something tempting about taking that total leap of faith. Pack a pillow in case.



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## NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

### Dixon At UA

Maynard Dixon, an American artist of the early 20th century, has by now been well established as a major painter. It's not within my power to add or detract from his reputation. Even the appraisers on ANTIQUES ROADSHOW get excited over his stuff. He's best known for his landscapes of the Southwest.

But I've always been a little skeptical about Dixon. Not skeptical about the economic and sociological realities that make him big. Only skeptical about there being any considerable aesthetic accomplishment behind the indisputable sales prices of his works.

It's hard to have much confidence in your judgments about an artist when you only see one or two works at a time on ANTIQUES ROADSHOW. Fortunately for any Tucsonan interested in Dixon, several dozen of his works are currently on exhibit at the University of Arizona's Museum of Art. The show runs through April 3rd and confirms my skepticism by virtue of containing nothing of exceptional artistic merit. It is composed of a few dozen landscapes paintings and a roughly equal number of portraits in pencil and pencil with chalk.

Regarding the portraits, mostly drawings of American Indians, a blurb by UA curators tells us that Dixon had been "a professional artist for nearly a decade, producing illustrations for OVERLAND MONTHLY, LAND OF SUNSHINE, the SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER" and others before he made them. The style of these works could well be described as "early 20th century illustrator." They are exactly what you'd expect from that phrase -- perfectly competent, completely predictable, and devoid of artistic interest.

The style of the landscapes could be called "impressionistic" in that paint was applied in little daubs that are bigger than the points of Seurat and smaller than the globs of van Gogh. The problem with calling the style impressionistic is that it invites comparison with the French impressionists whose paintings, whether of country gardens or church facades, made light seem to dance across the surfaces of their canvases. Dixon has the daubs but not a hint of the dancing. The best one-word description of his treatment of light would be "static."

But if it's not his im-ressionist-manque style, what makes Dixon work stand out? I find it hard to figure. His compositions are balanced and conventional to a fault. The draftsmanship is completely unremarkable. The subject matter, mostly earth and sky with an occasional building or beast, is not treated in any new way. Most of the stuff is too dull to be even calendar pretty.

These landscapes remind me of the truism that Nature is always more daring than nature painters because She doesn't have to justify Herself. You don't look up at a cloud of an unbelievable color and yell, "Nature, you've made a mistake!" The illustrator mentality is not equal to depicting raw nature and Dixon's works could be the textbook evidence for making that case.

One of the weakest in the show is "Morning on the San Joaquin Plain" (1921). You really wonder what the artist's purpose was here. Some uninteresting cows stand on an expansively uninteresting flat with a thin line of mountains in the distance. The light is flat and even. The coloration is bland. Why, Maynard, why?

There are three paintings in the show that are pleasant to look at because of their use of light, but that use is far from novel. "Cottage in Carson" (1935) has a

dark foreground, light mountains in the middle, and a dark background. "Oasis" (1935) repeats the dark-light-dark pattern. "Sasebe" (1941) reverses the pattern, giving us light, dark, and just a tiny bit of light background. Again, a mildly interesting use of light to produce a pleasant effect, but nothing to write home about.

In shows of recent years, UA curators have often written little blurbs that tried to explain what an artist was doing that was original. If they attempted to do so this time, I failed to find such blurbs. For once I'm really curious about what they might have said.

As is always the case, in addition to the main exhibit there are several other simultaneous exhibits going on at the Museum. Your chances of seeing something you'll like are good.

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

## BOOK REPORT

by Richard DiRusso

At Ease: Navy Men of World War II by Evan Bachner. If you're like me and are really bored with the current spate of Gay-male-model photography books (I feel that there is something distinctly un-masculine about them, the pretty boy staged types just don't work for me), you will love At Ease.

This book is chock full of pictures taken about sixty years ago during World War II. The young sailors and marines are pictured here in all types of settings; in their bunks, taking showers, shooting the breeze, you get the idea. I appreciated that the photographs show them engaged in guy things like smoking, drinking and popping each other's zits. Some of the most intimate shots are of men curled up sleeping with the crew's pup or on each other. You can read whatever you want into these photographs. I am not going to wax philosophical on what the images mean. All I can really say is, "Gosh, but the average American guy was really something back then."

Wouter Deruytter: Cowboy Code by Wouter Deruytter; text by John Wood. This is a book highlighting the work of Belgian photographer Wouter Deruytter and his fascination with the American cowboy.

These photographs of real cowboys, taken at various rodeos in Montana, are wonderfully expressive. A friend of mine viewing it stated that it was, "the Gayest book he has seen in a long time." I'd have to concur; the images presented here are just plain homoerotic. There are great shots of guys adjusting their gear, getting thrown from bulls, and more reflective ones as well, capturing the moments of solitude both before and after the ride. In addition to rodeo, there are some beautiful landscapes and still-life images tied all together in a celebration of the West.

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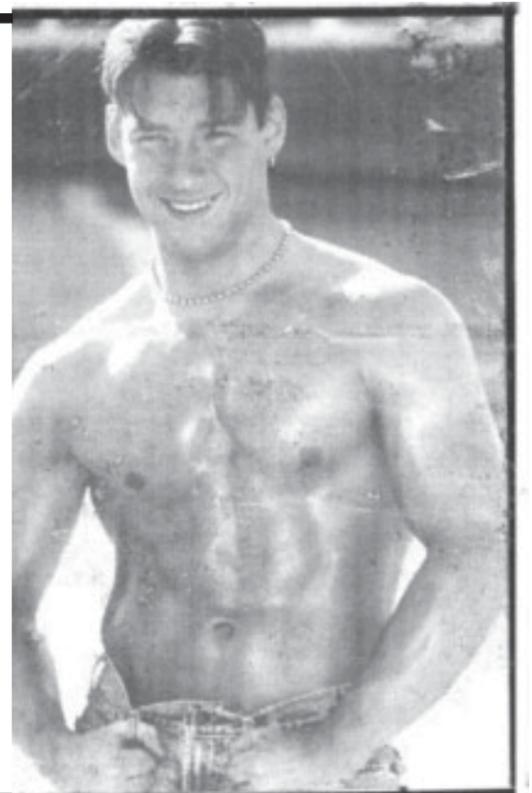
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Dear Dr. X,

I've always known I was Gay, and have been OK with it. My family has been great, and everything seemed perfect. Now that I am in my mid twenties, I'm starting to be more attracted to girls. My friends are dogging me about it, and making me feel like a traitor. Was I wrong this whole time, and being Gay really was "just a phase?" Am I growing out of it?

Signed, Curious-er and Curious-er

Dear Curious,

Don't let your friends give you a hard time about it. Most people, both men and women, will go through several "phases" in their lives. In these phases or stages, not only can what turns someone on change dramatically, but also who. Think of your sexuality as if it were the graphic equalizer on your stereo. There are several different columns (turn-ons), and the buttons on each one can be set at a different level independent of the others, to produce a different overall sound (your sex life). One of these columns is how you feel about your gender and your body. Another column is about the gender that you are attracted to,

and maybe a separate one for their physical attributes. There is one column for memories of past sexual experiences, and one for fantasies. There is still another column for your fetishes (those odd little things that are not usually sexual in and of themselves, but that you as an individual have sexualized). The settings of these columns are never permanent, and the buttons move up and down all throughout your life.

Many different things contribute to where these buttons are set at any given time. Changes in desire occur from experiences, both good and bad. Changes also come from feelings you might have for (or against) a certain person. And often, these settings change as changes occur in our age and physical ability/desire. What's important to remember is that these settings will change several times in our life, and that's OK. If you are able to embrace the fact that change is normal, then you will be better to understand what is behind each change. And with more understanding of the reasons for change comes the ability to better accept and embrace more change later.

Do not let your friends, or anyone else, give you a hard time about this. As your friends, they should be able to accept you for who you are, no matter who you

love or choose to have sex with. Isn't that what we all want? Isn't that the basis for "unconditional love?"

Be who you are right now, and don't let anyone else tell you who that is. And when it changes, be that. If you don't, you're living a lie, and that's not really living.

Dear Dr. X,

I tricked with this guy the other night who said he was allergic to latex, and so couldn't use condoms. We only had oral, but I want to know if he's telling the truth. Can guys be allergic to latex?

Signed, Skeptic

Dear Skeptic,

Good for you for not playing in the mud without your rubbers! Your trick may have been telling the truth, but he was not entirely correct. There are indeed many people that are allergic to latex, and cannot use most of the condoms on the market. That does not mean that he can't use condoms though. There are condoms out there that are made of polyurethane, which is a synthetic plastic instead of a natural derivative like latex. These condoms are more expensive, but are a far

better option than not using any. There are also other condoms on the market that are not latex, but are made of other natural materials like animal membrane (sounds sexy, huh?). These are not suitable for the prevention of HIV or other STD's, since they are a porous material that will allow the virus to pass right through.

You can avoid these uncomfortable situations by not always leaving it up to the other guy to be prepared. Have an assortment of condoms ready for any occasion: polyurethane, large and extra-large, and maybe even some female condoms (worn by the bottom). Then you will always be prepared, and will never have to settle for less.

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

## Scientists Claim Discovery Of HIV Immune System Booster

SYDNEY - Scientists in Australia say they have discovered a way to boost the body's immune system to fight HIV, 365Gay.com reported.

The research was done at the University of Melbourne and the Australian National University's John Curtin School of Medical Research. The results appear in the March issue of the Journal of Virology.

The scientists said Monday, February 28, that the discovery was made while they were developing a test to see how well certain animals' immune system's could fight HIV.

The team extracted blood from laboratory animals and coated the cells with HIV peptide markers, a substance which tells the body's immune system that a cell is infected by the virus.

When the scientists injected the coated blood back into the animals to create the illusion the cells were infected by HIV, it triggered a dramatic immune response, said Stephen Kent, of the University of Melbourne.

Kent said that they have successfully tested the procedure on mice and monkeys. He said the technique was also found to work in cases of drug-resistant forms of disease.

Kent said they hoped to begin human trials within two years.

He said that the treatment would involve injecting patients with their own blood cells after they had been coated with the peptides found on the surface of HIV-infected cells.

The injections would then dramatically boost the patient's immune system against the virus, Kent said.

Kent also said that the new therapy had also shown promise as a treatment for other chronic infections like Hepatitis C.

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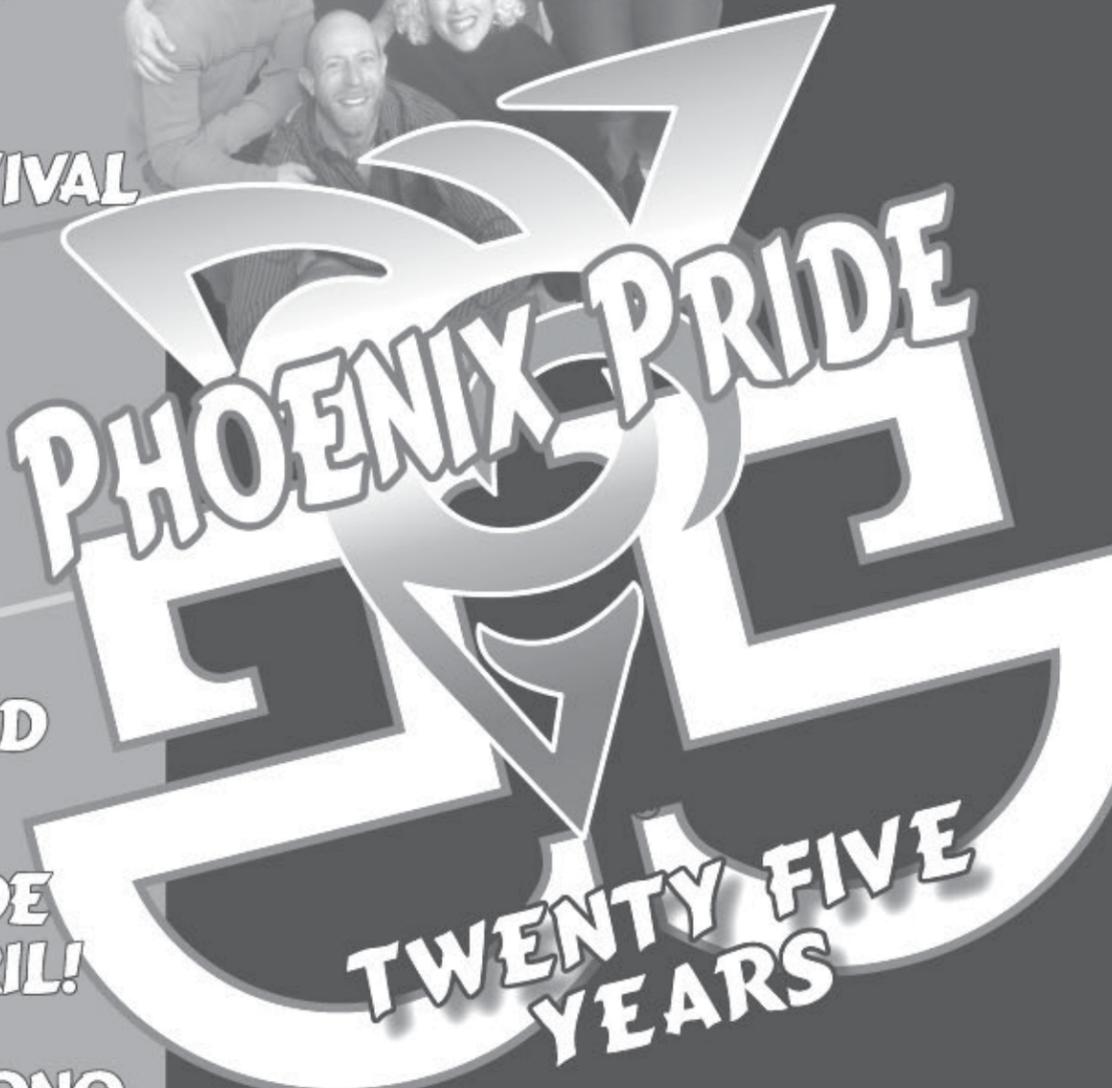
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## Prostate Cancer Treatment Shows Promise

SAN FRANCISCO - Doctors are reporting their first success at improving survival in men with advanced prostate cancer by using a treatment that trains the immune system to fight tumors. The approach is called a cancer vaccine although, unlike traditional vaccines, it treats the disease rather than prevents it, the Associated Press reported on Advocate.com.

In a study of 127 men with advanced prostate cancer, those who got the vaccine lived an average of 4.5 months longer than those who were given a placebo. After three years, survival was 34% in the vaccine group and only 11% in the other. "That's a huge difference. These are people who have relatively few options, with limited survival," said Eric Small of the University of California, San Francisco, who led the study and gave results at a first-of-its-kind prostate cancer research meeting that opened Thursday in Orlando. The meeting is intended to bring more muscle to fighting the disease, which is the most common non-skin cancer in American men. About 230,000 new cases and 30,000 deaths from it are expected this year.

The vaccine, called Provenge, doesn't work like chemotherapy, and its side effects typically are limited to a couple days of fevers and chills, like what people feel when they are fighting off a cold. The vaccine combines a protein found in most prostate cancers with a substance that helps specialized immune

system cells recognize cancer as a threat, just as they recognize and confront germs that enter the body. The treatment is customized for each patient. Doctors collect these cells from a patient's blood, mix them with the vaccine, and then give the concoction back to the patient in three infusions over a month.

In the study, men treated with Provenge survived an average of 26 months, compared with 21.4 months for those who received a dummy vaccine. After three years, 28 of the 82 men who got vaccine were alive while only five of the 45 in the placebo group were.

Philip Kantoff, a Harvard Medical School professor who heads prostate cancer treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, and other specialists note that the study didn't achieve its primary goal of delaying the time when the disease worsened—something that could be expected if the vaccine were truly helping men live longer. "Time to progression is interesting but it isn't the gold standard. The gold standard is survival. We've improved survival," Small countered.

If a second study in about 100 men gives similar results later this year, Dendreon will seek Food and Drug Administration approval for Provenge, which already is being fast-tracked by the agency, said the company's president, Mitchell Gold. Dendreon also is testing Provenge for less serious cases of prostate cancer.

## Turkish Gays Plead For More European Union Support

ANKARA - Turkey's Gay community has called on the European Union to offer it more support, as the debate over whether the country should be included in the next batch of new member states gears up, Gay.com UK reported.

Representatives of the LGBT population say that while the EU has flagged up queries over Turkey's human rights record the issue of sexual diversity is often overlooked.

"When it concerns homosexuals, the issues are passed over in silence, maybe because there is no penalty for homosexuality in Turkish law," Ali Erol of KAOS GL told a conference earlier this week, according to AFP news agency.

He says that the government's decision to drop laws protecting Lesbians and Gay men from discrimination was not picked up on by Brussels officials, who are currently considering whether the country should join the Union.

"While everything is being questioned in the EU, no one bothered to ask where the (article on) sexual orientation vaporized," Erol said.

This is not the first time the issue of sexual diversity has been raised in the debate on Turkey, which is set to be formally considered later this year.

The International Lesbian and Gay Association has previously called for more work to be done in the country to ensure it promotes tolerance and equality among communities.

Although the country does not criminalize homosexuality, despite its strong Muslim faith, ILGA says it must

face its problems with sexual diversity if it is to join the EU.

Currently, Turkish legislation does not provide protection from discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, ILGA reports.

Additionally, it is the only European NATO state that still bans LGBT people from joining the army, claiming that same-sex attraction is a "psychological disorder."

ILGA-Europe's Executive Director Patricia Prendiville says she hopes the process of joining the EU will help push Turkey in the right direction of LGBT equality.

"I hope that the negotiations will stimulate the Turkish authorities to comply with the EU standards on LGBT rights and adopt necessary laws banning discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity," Prendiville said in a statement.

However, she added that the EU must consider the country's current human rights record before committing itself to accession.

"I also hope the EU will pay serious attention to the human rights situation generally and to the human rights of LGBT people in particular when negotiating Turkey's accession to the EU," she said.

After holding discussions last year, Turkish officials will meet with EU representatives in October this year to discuss signing on to the union.



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Since when is  
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a moral virtue?

Back in 1906, a leading American theologian published a best-selling book justifying discrimination against African Americans, saying they were creatures of uncontrollable "sensuality." Similar racist theories were spouted by politicians like the notorious "Pitchfork" Ben Tillman who toured the country under the banner, "Negro equality in politics means social equality, mongrelization, hellfire and damnation!" Belief in the innate immorality of black people, buttressed by selected scriptural references, formed the basis for slavery, segregation and lynchings.

Now come the homophobes, spouting the same hate-filled rhetoric about a different minority group. "Homosexuality is immoral, unscriptural and unhealthy," we are told. It is a "sin," like theft and drunkenness, according to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott.

The Pitchfork Tillmans of today warn that the "homosexual lobby" wants to bring about the destruction of the American family. Just like their racist antecedents, they are trying to whip up hatred and intolerance in order to build public support for anti-gay laws.

Sure, they can try to hide behind morality, but we all know a bigot when we see one. Think about it.

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**Gay Film Makers**

Continued from Page Nine  
homegrown films and whose biggest recent cartoon hits have all been made by Pixar.

Unlike last year, when The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King dominated the awards as expected and flat-out front-runners took all four acting prizes, the 77th Oscars shaped up as a mixed bag, with only Foxx a virtual lock to win. "Boy, am I glad there wasn't a fourth episode of Lord of the Rings," said John Dykstra, who shared the visual-effects Oscar for Spider-Man 2.

With no huge hits among top nominees, Oscar organizers worried that TV ratings could dwindle for the live ABC broadcast. Organizers also tried to spice up the show with new presentation tactics, including herding all nominees onstage at the same time, beauty-pageant style, for some awards. The first prize of the night, for art direction, was awarded that way, with a total of nine nominees from five films spread across the stage behind presenter Berry. The Oscar went to The Aviator, whose awards also included cinematography, film editing, and costume design.

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind took the original screenplay award for Charlie Kaufman. Sideways won the adapted screenplay prize for director Alexander Payne and his writing partner, Jim Taylor. "My mother taught me to write, and she died before she could see any of this, so this is for you, mom," Taylor said. Born Into Brothels, which examines the lives of children of prostitutes in Calcutta, received the Oscar for feature-length documentary.

## NON-BAR CALENDAR

### Groups / Clubs / Organizations /

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 1

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

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Richard & T. Jay for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call T. Jay and Richard at 881-7919.  
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 3

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

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 4

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 11:30 a.m. Join Karol for a morning of Miniature Golf at Funtasticks. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.  
#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Karol hosts a Lunch Out at Super A China Buffet. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 5

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:30 am. Join Jack & Mike and Ed & Marcus for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Mike/Jack at 881-5733 or Marcus/Ed at 407-5733.  
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Help us celebrate our 10th Anniversary- we invite you to dinner (on us) and to get to know the nice guys of MSN. It's a nice, safe setting in which to meet new men and greet old friends. Reservations are limited to the first 125 who sign up, so please call Karol at 744-9017 to reserve your spot as well as for time and location

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

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Steve and Marvin for the MSN premiere of "Polyester", starring the one and only Divine. The movie will be shown with its original Odorama gimmick-scratch and sniff cards will be provided. For reservations and directions, please call Marvin and Steve at 745-0304.

#### MONDAY, MARCH 7

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): - 7:00 pm Join us for an evening of Mexican Train Dominoes. It's easy to learn; we'll teach you. For details and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017

Tucson Prime Timers Bowling - 10:30 a.m. Call: 888-7264. Lunch -12:30 p.m. The Wildcat House. 1800 N. Stone Ave.

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 8

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Perry hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Perry at 321-4387.  
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jack for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Jack at 887-3736.  
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages;

newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 10

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of

## BAR CALENDAR

### Of Upcoming Events

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 5

YARD DOG SALOON - Breakfast is being served starting at 10:00 a.m..

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 6

YARD DOG SALOON - Steak Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

WOODY'S - Gay Men's Health Project 'Underwear/Sarong Party' from 9:00 p.m. until closing. \$50 First Prize in a contest for the most innovative Sarong. Limited number of sarongs available. Tropical drink specials for those in their sarongs.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 10

YARD DOG SALOON - It's Merlin's Birthday. Come watch him grow older. 7:00 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 17

VENTURE-N - St. Patrick's Day celebrated here with a steak dinner from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Then, a 'Locker Room Party' from 9:00 p.m. to closing featuring massages by Jacob and other good things. Check it out!

Woody's - Mark your calendars for A Big St. Paddy's Day Party here. Including Rodger's Corned Beef and Cabbage.

#### FRI.- SAT. - SUN. MARCH 18-19-20

VENTURE-N - Hides of March!!! Mark your calendars. Special dinner, drink specials, prizes, Bucky's Omelettes. And a whole lot more. Watch for details. Always a big event each year.

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 27

WOODY'S - Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Party here. Watch for details.

## DAILY BAR CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY

COLORS - Fabulous Brunch 11am - 2pm with complimentary mimosa. Dinner 5-10pm..

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, includes Bloody Mary or Mimosa. \$2 Smirnoff Sunday. Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points. Great chance to learn the hottest game around

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

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

WOODY'S - Open 11am. Sunday Brunch 11:30 - 2:30. Eggs and meat du jour plus BMs, Mims or Screws \$5. \$1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm. Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Beach Volleyball games 5-7. \$2.50 sirloin burger w/salad 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

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

#### MONDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5pm for dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Domestic beer and well cocktails \$2.25

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

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

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

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1  
YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch

until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

#### TUESDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch, 5pm dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Domestic beers and well cocktails \$2.25. Karaoke 10:30pm to close w/Johnny DJ.

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

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

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

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

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

#### WEDNESDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5pm dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm Domestic Beers or Well cocktails \$2.25.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Free Pool all day. Draught Beer Specials all day. Beginning couples dance lessons with Amanda 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Country DJ Jake plays 8:30 - close

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

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

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

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

#### THURSDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch, 5pm dinner. 4-7pm Happy Hour Domestic Beers or Well cocktails \$2.25. Karaoke 10:30 - close with Johnny DJ.

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

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

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

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

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

#### FRIDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch. Dinner 5-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm domestic beers or well cocktails \$2.25.

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

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

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

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

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

#### SATURDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5-10pm full dinner.

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

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

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

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

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

# NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

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

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

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

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

**P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays -** is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

#### YOUNG AND GAY?

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 529-2269, leave name and phone number. [Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org](mailto:Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org)

#### TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

**GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN** in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

**GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGLCC)** P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: [webmaster@gpglcc.org](mailto:webmaster@gpglcc.org) or call (602)225-8444.

**SOURCES UNLIMITED,** a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave msg. [TucsonSources@aol.com](mailto:TucsonSources@aol.com)

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

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

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

**BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO** — a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men

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

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

**LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON -** Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP -** Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 893, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

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

**T-SQUARES** Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

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

**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, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 16 seasons. Check out our website at [www.desertvoices.org](http://www.desertvoices.org), or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

**AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus,** Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 739 N. 4th Ave. All alcoholics welcome.

**MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK:** Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 690-9565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

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

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS** and updates on Gay Games 2002, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: [teamarizona.org](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA),** Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business

networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info.

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

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

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

**ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING** is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7676.

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

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

**AZdykes** is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail [tyan@theriver.com](mailto:tyan@theriver.com) and request guidelines.

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

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

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

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

**ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA)** seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 6523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4805.

**DESERT DOMINION,** whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Web: <http://www.desertdominion.org> or call (520)792-6424

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

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

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

**TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY.** Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at SS Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Fiedler in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6624.

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

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

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

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

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

#### "OUT ON THE TRAILS - EQUESTRIAN FUN!"

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

#### LIKE TO READ?

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

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

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

#### LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF

Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Lori at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 20. Services are free.

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

**MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP** (Open to all who identify as male and are 118 or older). 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map at [www.desertdominion.org](http://www.desertdominion.org)) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required

**GET NAKED with TNTucson MEN!** We're a social and recreational club. Have you ever longed to camp, swim, hike or play with others who enjoy the same, dropping all the masks, pretensions? [TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com](mailto:TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com) P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

## DESERT PRIDE - Your store for Gay Pride and more!

611 N. Fourth Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85705 (Across from IBT's, Next to Magpies. Come See Us!) (520)388-9829

# WINGSPAN

# FilmFest

# March 08-13



**C'mon  
out  
and  
watch...**

**Here are just a few of this year's films**

All films on March 08-09 will be shown at The Screening Room, 127 E Congress St. Tucson, Arizona. All films on March 10-13 will be shown at The Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd. Tucson, Arizona. For a full list of films, complete descriptions, up-to-date schedules, and prices please see the FilmFest website at [www.wingspan.org/FilmFest](http://www.wingspan.org/FilmFest). Programs are subject to change.

March 10, 7 pm

**Classic IV: Go Fish** In 1994, *Go Fish* won acclaim because of its irreverence in gazing at the lives of a group of young lesbians. In celebration of the Wingspan FilmFest 10th anniversary, we're bringing this modern classic back to the screen.

March 10, 8:30 pm

**Q&A with Christine Vachon** Free with ticket to either March 10 screening. Film producer Christine Vachon will be our special guest, to discuss her work, "queer cinema" old and new, and the future of LGBT indie film.

March 10, 10 pm

**Classic V: I Shot Andy Warhol** You only get one shot at fame but you can see a near-classic film again and again. See this one, directed by Mary Harron and produced by Christine Vachon, as it should be seen — on the big screen.

March 11, 12:30 pm, co-sponsored by Bears of the Old Pueblo and Puertas Abiertas

**Men's Feature I: Bear Cub (Cachorro)** Parenthood is about to get a little hairier.

March 11, 7 pm, co-sponsored by *Rubyfruit*

**Women's Feature I: Girl Play** Based on the lives of the screenwriters Robin Greenspan and Lacie Harmon, this painfully funny and sexy love story raises the complicated question: Is this relationship created for the sake of the 'girl play' or is it, 'true love' requiring major personal choices and life altering changes?

March 12, 2:30 pm

**Women's Feature II: April's Shower** Come out for the shower of all wedding showers! *April's Shower* is a comedy about love, romance and expectation. Alex, the disgruntled maid-of-honor, carries a secret that affects not just the course of her life, but that of almost everyone at the shower.

March 12, 7:00 pm

**Men's Feature II: Straight Jacket** In 1950s Hollywood, Guy Stone is at the top of the sex symbol list. He has fame, money, girls... What's his secret?

March 12, 9:15 pm, co-sponsored by KXCI Broad Perspectives and Lesbian Looks

**Women's Feature III: DEBS** If you wished last year's popular FilmFest short, *DEBS*, was a little longer... wish no more. Don't miss Angela Robinson's full-length feature by the same name. The plaid-skirted schoolgirl spies are back to take down the super-gorgeous, super-villain, Lucy Diamond — done with a little romance thrown in!

March 12, 11:30 pm

**Midnight Classic: The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert** Come in drag for a special screening of this classic, voted favorite film in our FilmFest online poll.

March 13, 7:15 pm co-sponsored by GLSEN

**Men's Feature III: Cowboys & Angels** A film about experiencing life, finding love, and discovering your path.

**[www.wingspan.org/FilmFest](http://www.wingspan.org/FilmFest)**

film descriptions / showtimes / ticket information