



Right Groups Condemn Joint Chief's Chairman And Demands Apology For Remarks About L/G Personnel



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Peter Pace

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) strongly condemned the remarks by General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, calling Lesbian and Gay personnel "immoral."

In an interview with The Chicago Tribune, Pace said that "I believe homosexual acts between two individuals are immoral and that we should not condone immoral acts." He went on to reiterate his support for "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" by saying that "I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is OK to be immoral in any way." SLDN demanded that General Pace apologize for his remarks.

"General Pace's comments are outrageous, insensitive and disrespectful to the 65,000 Lesbian and Gay troops now serving in our armed forces," said C. Dixon Osburn, the group's executive director. "Our men and women in uniform make tremendous sacrifices for our country, and deserve General Pace's praise, not his condemnation. As a Marine and a military leader, General Pace knows that prejudice should not dictate policy. It is inappropriate for the

Chairman to condemn those who serve our country because of his own personal bias. He should immediately apologize for his remarks."

General Pace likened homosexuality to adultery, which he said was also immoral. The Tribune reported on its Web site. He also announced his opposition to Congressional legislation to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

The Williams Project at the University of California-Los Angeles estimates at least 65,000 Lesbian and Gay Americans are currently serving on active duty and the reserves. Another one million Gay Americans, the group has estimated, are veterans of the armed forces.

"Regardless of one's opinion about 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,' every service member deserves respect," said Osburn. "Secretary of Defense Gates should immediately condemn Pace's remarks. Their apologies should be swift and sincere."

Louis Vizcaino, spokesman for Human Rights Campaign (HRC), said Pace's comments were "insulting

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G/L Villages Disappearing

SAN FRANCISCO - Even on a weekday in winter, the Castro district vibrates with energy, most of it male, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Men holding hands, walking dogs and lounging at cafes have long been the main attraction in a neighborhood known as a Gay mecca the world over.

Yet where visitors see a living monument to Gay pride, longtime community leader Brian Basinger sees a cultural enclave at risk of becoming a faded museum piece, or worse, a place where men who love men may one day feel like they don't belong.

"When I see a stroller now, I see it as someone who evicted a person with AIDS, right or wrong," said Basinger, president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transsexual Democratic Club.

For more than 30 years, most big cities have had a district either explicitly or implicitly understood to be the place to go if you were Gay, the West Village and Chelsea in New York City, Washington's Dupont Circle, Boston's South End.

But as Gays and Lesbians win legal rights and greater social acceptance, community activists worry these so-called "Gayborhoods" are losing their relevance. Like the bedsheet-sized rainbow flag rippling majestically at the intersection marking the entrance to the Castro, they are at a historical crossroads.

"What I've heard from some people is, 'We don't need the Castro anymore because essentially San Francisco is our Castro,'" said Don Romesburg, who co-chairs the GLBT Historical Society.

Don Reuter, a New York writer who is researching a book on the rise and fall of a dozen Gay neighborhoods in the U.S., has observed the same trend in cities as far-flung as New Orleans, Philadelphia and Seattle. He found "Disneyfied" places boasting chain stores, restaurants catering to a diverse clientele and "cleared of any reference to sex."

"What makes these neighborhoods Gay? Not much," concluded Reuter, who predicts that outside New York, San Francisco and a handful of other cities, neighborhoods with a significant Gay presence will not survive.

In the early 1970s, an atmosphere of wild abandon prevailed in districts often referred to as "Gay ghettos." Men who had kept their sexual orientations hidden revealed in the freedom of leading openly Gay lives for the first time. The nonstop party dragged to a painful halt in the 1980s with the onset of AIDS, Reuter said, but the crisis also solidified Gay communities even as it decimated them.

Now, as the fear of AIDS has abated, the neighborhoods have become attractive to developers and investors trying to encourage families and empty-nesters to return to city centers, said Reuter.

Besides the brigades of baby strollers in the Castro, ominous signs include the security gates installed last year by a local hotel to discourage "cruising," and the recent closings of two longtime stores, one that sold leather goods and the other bath products. National retail chains like Pottery Barn and Diesel now occupy prominent Castro locations.

Several nonprofit agencies serving the Gay community have also moved out due to rising rents. Meanwhile, 500 new apartments and condominiums are planned for the area, half of which have been designated as "family housing."

But no one is suggesting that the Castro has been overrun by heterosexuals just yet.

After the Cape Cod resort of Provincetown, Mass., the neighborhood has the nation's highest concentration of same-sex couples, according to 2005 census estimates. And San Francisco as a whole ranks first among cities, with Gay and Lesbian residents making up 15 percent of the population.

"I think people are looking for something to worry about," said Betty Sullivan, a writer and event producer who lives in the Castro. "I take the fact that some straight people want to live here as a compliment."

But some activists point to cities with less-established Gay districts as a sign of what could happen.

Honolulu's Kuhio district stands vacant after its Gay bars were dispersed in the late 1980s. In Atlanta's Midtown, once the Gayest area of that city, Gay nightclubs recently have given way to condominiums.

When Basinger walks through the Castro these days, he sees the apartment building where he watched friends with AIDS die, too pricey these days for someone young, old or sick to afford. Or the corner where his efforts at community organizing are met with yawns. Up the street, the raunchy window displays at sex toy shops have brought complaints from parents, both Gay and straight.

"We have Chinatown and Japantown and so forth, and that's important for minority communities in this country, to have a place where they can get a sense of being the majority," said Joe Curtin, an architect who serves as president of Castro Area Planning Action. "But if you took those away, you would still have China and Japan. If the Castro goes away as a Gay neighborhood, there is

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UPDATE

Spring Into Volunteering At Wingspan March 17

TUCSON - There has never been a more exciting time to get involved with Wingspan, and to help it to continue to grow and serve the community is with the help of the volunteers.

The first step to getting started is to attend the Wingspan general volunteer orientation, Saturday, Mar. 17, noon at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. This orientation lasts about an hour and is geared for new and potential Wingspan volunteers, and is open to anyone wanting to learn about Wingspan's history, organizational structure, and the many opportunities to volunteer. Whether you want to volunteer intermittently, on a regular basis, or for a specific project or committee, Wingspan can accommodate most levels of commitment and have front desk shift openings and are ready to train you to be an informed, educated & welcoming member of our dynamic and diverse front desk volunteer team!

To continue commitment to diversity, Wingspan strongly urges people of color, Lesbian and Bi women, Gay and Bi men, people with disabilities, bilingual and bi-cultural folks, Transmen and Transwomen, sign language interpreters, people living with HIV/AIDS, youth, older adults, and straight allies to volunteer. If you would like to attend the orientation, please RSVP to Luanne Withee, Wingspan's Community Center Coordinator, (520) 624-1779 ext 19 or luanne@wingspan.org.

PFLAG & MSN To Award Scholarships

TUCSON - PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) - Tucson and MSN, (the Men's Social Network) will be giving out a total of ten scholarships to worthwhile students. These two organizations will be awarding seven Gene Moore \$1,000 scholarships, a \$1,000 memorial scholarship in the name of the sister of Richard Sours and two Jerry Curl \$1,000 scholarships.

PFLAG and MSN encourage all LGBT students to apply who are

currently high school seniors headed for college, undergraduates, or graduate students. PFLAG typically receives fewer than 20 applications for these scholarships, which increases the likelihood of winning one.

Applicants can download application forms at pflagtucson.org/scholarship. If you cannot obtain the forms this way, you may call PFLAG, (520) 360-3795 or E-mail PFLAG at pflagtuc@pflagtucson.org, and PFLAG will send you a copy. The application consists of (1) personal information; (2) an essay about the applicant's plan for higher education, any LGBT community activities that he or she is or has been involved in, and why PFLAG/MSN should award a scholarship to them; (3) two letters of recommendation (at least one from a non-family member); and (4) a copy of the student's admission acceptance letter or, if a current student, a copy of the student's most recent grade report.

The application must be postmarked by March 31 and sent to PFLAG - Tucson, P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264.

Holy Spirit On Grand Avenue. March 29 - April 29

TUCSON - Live Theatre Workshop is presenting the west coast premiere of "Holy Spirit on Grand Avenue, by Toni Press-Coffman, Mar. 22 through Apr. 29 at the Live Theatre Workshop, 5317 E. Speedway.

Local award-winning playwright, Toni Press-Coffman, spins a tale of memory, friendship and acceptance in this psychological thriller. Friends since grade school, three women gather for the weekend to catch up on their now hectic lives. Their reminisces about their young classmate, Diana, stir up emotions and memories that can no longer be denied. Dens, clever and rich in mystery...the plot will have you on the edge of your seat. Starring Amy Erbe as Celeste, Suzanne Darrell as Stephanie, Carrie Hill as Barbara, David Johnston as Nathan, Paul Matlock as Bobby, and introducing Molly Howard as Diana.

The show opens on Saturday,

Mar. 24 and runs through Apr. 29. Show times are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30, Sunday matinee at 3:00. Tickets range from \$17 - \$14 (Cash discounts available). There will be two preview performances, Thursday Mar. 22 and Friday Mar. 23 - only \$11. Call (520) 327-4242 for tickets.

Wrestlers Needed For Extravagaza

TUCSON - The 20th Anniversary of the Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling and Live Auction Extravaganza will be held on Sunday May 6, at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle, to raise funds for the programs and services th Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) offers.

Teams of wrestlers raise funds to wrestle in a pit of Jell-O, often with extraordinary costumes and characters.

Between wrestling matches, Hostesses run a Live Auction of a variety of unique items selected to please the crowd. SAAF and the Jell-O committee are currently seeking wrestlers who want to flaunt their creative talents to put on a great show for the audience while raising funds through sponsorships for their wrestling match.

Each wrestler is asked to raise a minimum of \$150 and this year wrestlers will again be able to solicit donations online by creating their own web page and emailing it to potential supporters.

For more information go online to jello-wrestling.org, or contact Mae at (520) 628-7223 or E-mail at events@saaf.org.

Tryshe Dhevney At S.H.A.R.E. March 27

TUCSON - The featured guest speaker at the March 27th S.H.A.R.E meeting will be Tryshe Dhevney. Tryshe will discuss SoundShifting, a unique body/voice integration system that uses the power of the voice to consciously create optimal health and physical, emotional and spiritual attunement.

Tryshe is widely recognized and has held workshops at Canyon Ranch, Miraval and the Institute of Noetic Science. Her work has also been featured on CBS News and PBS.

S.H.A.R.E is a self healing group that explores and addresses core issues (shame, abandonment, trust). The group shares positive thought and tools such as self evaluation, discussion, education (guest speakers), journaling, bodywork, nutrition, meditation, peer to peer counseling/motivation and group activities to strengthen and empower each other to a life of joy and purpose. S.H.A.R.E meets at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., 7- 9 p.m. on the first, third and fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information please contact Lee at leepoffaith@comcast.net or visit soundshifting.com.

Brincando El Charco, Mar. 22

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By Libby Post

Isaiah Washington, Tim Hardaway and Ann Coulter—together they have done what Lesbian and Gay organizations have tried to do for decades—shine a bright light on the verbal abuse LGBT people have to deal with every day.

The old school house adage—sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me—just doesn't cut it anymore. Washington and Coulter calling their targets faggots and Hardaway's invective that he "hates all Gay people" is fuel for the homophobic fire of those who consider Gay bashing—verbal and physical—an acceptable, even enjoyable, past time. But shining such a bright light on homophobic hate speak has had consequences for each of them.

Washington came close to losing his job on the ABC hit "Grey's Anatomy" and had to enter rehab to deal with his anger management and hate issues. He met with Gay leaders to discuss his outburst and find some redemption. It remains to be seen how well he'll do. It is interesting to note that he's hired nationally known Gay publicist, Howard Bragman, to help rehabilitate his image. Expertly spinning the whole affair, Bragman's office says Washington is "uniquely positioned to be the catalyst" for a national dialogue on diversity. That remains to be seen.

During a Valentine's Day radio interview, Hardaway, a retired professional basketball player, showed the hate, not the love, and went on a homophobic verbal rampage. In response to a question of how he'd deal with a Gay teammate he said "You know, I hate Gay people. So, I let it be known. I don't like Gay people and I don't like to be around Gay people. I am homophobic. It shouldn't be in the

COMMENTARY . . .

Their Truth, Our Consequences

world or in the United States." Hardaway paid for his harsh words—NBA commissioner David Stern banished Hardaway from All-Star Game activities the following weekend in Las Vegas saying "It is inappropriate for him to be representing us given the disparity between his views and ours."

First Washington, then Hardaway—add in Ann Coulter and you have a perfect homophobic storm that can no longer be ignored. Caustic, conservative commentator, Ann Coulter—the one with long legs, blonde hair and a mouth that spews hateful, headline grabbing harangues—speaking before the national neo-conservative lovefest called the Conservative Political Action Committee, called Democratic Presidential candidate, John Edwards, a faggot. Then she went on Fox News and said the word has nothing to do with Gays and that it's a school yard taunt. Then she tells The New York Times it was a joke and that "I would never insult Gays by suggesting that they are like John Edwards—that would be mean."

Ann, Ann, Ann—and you call yourself a commentator? Someone who keeps her finger on the pulse of American politics and culture? Who are you trying to kid? We're not as dumb as you think we are—Democrat or Republican.

In all of my 49 years, faggot has been a slur used against Gay men. The two are synonymous. Yes, Ann, it is a school yard taunt that

degrades and dehumanizes—because being a faggot—or a dyke, for that matter—in our country is being a second class citizen. But Ann, don't compound your miscue. Calling John Edwards a faggot is not insulting to Gays. Calling John Edwards a faggot is insulting to the nation, insulting to the national political discourse, insulting to anyone who thinks. While Ann may think she's above having to answer for her words, she, like Washington and Hardaway, is suffering consequences.

So far, seven newspapers and have dropped Coulter's column. Major American corporations, such as Verizon, Sallie Mae and the Georgia-based NetBank—have pulled their ads from Coulter's web site. The Human Rights Campaign is organizing an effort to get United Press Syndicate to drop Coulter's column from its offerings. Over 20,000 people have e-mailed the company which maintains that since Coulter didn't write faggot in a column but said it in a speech, they're not responsible. So HRC is taking the next step and asking people to write to the papers that continue to carry her column.

And John Edwards is capitalizing on the situation asking people to donate "Coulter Cash" to his campaign to keep his effort alive and to "fight back against the politics of bigotry?" Perhaps we owe Isaiah, Tim and Ann our thanks. Without

them, calling someone a faggot would still be just a benign little joke. Not anymore.

(Libby Post is President of Communication Services, an Albany, New York-based full-service marketing firm serving the not-for-profit, health care, tourism and small business sectors. She has just launched a new firm, outmarketing.biz, which provides marketing services to companies that want to reach the Gay and Lesbian market. Post is a Founding Chair of the Empire State (New York) Pride Agenda, and this op-ed was reprinted from 365Gay.com.)

Artist Selected To Create Harvey Milk Commemorative Sculpture

SAN FRANCISCO - The Daub Firmin Hendrickson Sculpture Group won a national competition to create a commemorative sculpture of the late Harvey Milk for permanent exhibition in San Francisco City Hall, advocate.com reported.

Milk was one of the first openly Gay elected officials in the world and was a pioneer for the LGBT civil rights movement as a city supervisor in San Francisco. Milk and San Francisco mayor George Moscone were assassinated on Nov. 27, 1978, at City Hall.

The winning artists were selected from among 40 entries in a national competition by a panel comprising community representatives and arts professionals. The team of artists will have a year to complete the sculpture, which will be 75 inches in height. The sculpture will most likely be displayed in the Ceremonial Rotunda adjacent to the Board of Supervisors' Chamber and will be unveiled on Milk's birthday—May 22—next year.



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G/L Villages Disappearing

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nowhere else."

From 2000 to 2005, the 10 states with the biggest increases in the percentage of Gay couples were all in the Midwest, says Gary Gates, a demographer for the Williams Institute, a think tank at UCLA that specializes in sexual orientation and the law.

"Thirty years ago, if I lived in the Midwest and I was Gay, my thought was I would go to San Francisco or New York," Gates said. "Now, a person can go to Kansas City and find a fairly active and open Gay community."

Sandy Sachs, a nightclub owner in Gay-friendly West Hollywood, has started promoting special dance nights for straight Iranians, Israelis and Russians because her Gay clientele has fallen off. Club owners in other cities told her they are doing the same.

"I still maintain Gay nights at my club, but I'm not solely Gay," said Sachs, who noted that many Gay men

and Lesbians now prefer to meet potential partners on the Internet. "The community doesn't support that kind of thing anymore."

Another factor contributing to what Reuter calls the "devolution" of Gay neighborhoods is the attitude of young Gays and Lesbians who feel comfortable mixing with people of different genders and sexual orientations.

"We don't want to ostracize ourselves," said Matty Lamos, 20, who moved to San Francisco from nearby Petaluma three years ago.

Basinger, Curtin and other San Francisco activists agree it's a good thing that Gay people no longer feel restricted to the Castro, but fear younger generations will overlook the struggles that went into building the neighborhood.

"When you are a minority, you have to be the wedge, and the Castro is it," he said. "The people who are coming in here and colonizing the Castro, they are exercising their priorities. Whether they are heterosexual priorities or economic priorities, they are not our priorities."

Ford: It Wasn't Pushed To Drop LGBT Ties

POMONA, California -Two political scientists who analyzed two decades worth of Field Polls on the subject found that age was the strongest factor influencing whether someone opposed Gay unions, with people born in the 1970s and '80s more than twice as likely to support them as those born before 1940, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network.

"Californians born in each decade tend to be more accepting of Gay relationships and more willing to grant them legal recognition than those born the decade before," said the study's authors, Gregory Lewis of Georgia State University and Charles Gossett of California State Polytechnic University.

The findings suggest that same-sex couples will one day be allowed to wed in California, if not the rest of the country, as older generations die off, said Mark DiCamillo, director of the Field Poll. "It's just a matter of time before a majority of California will be supportive of same-sex marriage," DiCamillo said. "It may take 10 years to replace another decade within the age cohorts, but it's clear every younger generation seems to be more accepting of that."

Gossett and Lewis said that while differing opinions among generations accounted for two-thirds of the state's increased support for Gay marriage since 1985, the strong link between age and attitudes did not mean that Californians became more homophobic as they aged. Even the oldest group surveyed demonstrated a small shift in opinion over the last 20 years. One-fourth of those born before 1940 supported same-sex marriage in 2006 compared to one-fifth in 1985, they found.

The researchers said their "generational replacement" theory also may explain why California tends to be more tolerant of same-sex couples than other states: It has a comparatively young population. The state ranks sixth in the nation in the percentage of residents under 18.

The California analysis mirrors a national Pew Research Center study released in January that found

the younger people were, the more likely they were to support marriage rights for Gay men and Lesbians. In that poll, 47 percent of those age 18 to 25 favored allowing Gays and Lesbians to marry, compared to 30 percent of those 26 and older. Besides age, politics and religion became increasingly strong predictors of whether survey respondents were likely to support Gay marriage during the last 20 years, Lewis and Gossett said. Because the study relied on long-term data instead of a one-time survey, it did not have a sampling margin of error, according to DiCamillo.

Rights Groups Demand Apology

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and offensive to the men and women ... who are serving in the military honorably."

"Right now there are men and women that are in the battle lines, that are in the trenches, they're serving their country," Vizcaino said. "Their sexual orientation has nothing to do with their capability to serve in the U.S. military."

"Judging gay men and women in the military for factors unrelated to their fitness to serve undermines our military's effectiveness. Certain leaders' bigotry should not be a rational basis for discrimination. This kind of prejudice is going to continue to have a direct impact on our national security as we allow qualified gay men and women to lose their jobs for no good reason. This policy — and General Pace's bigotry — is outdated, unnecessary and counter to the same American values our soldiers are giving their lives for each and every day," said retired Marine Staff Sgt. Eric Alva, spokesperson for the HRC effort to repeal "Don't Ask, don't Tell."

"Don't ask, don't tell" was passed by Congress in 1993 after a firestorm of debate in which advocates argued that allowing homosexuals to serve openly would hurt troop morale and recruitment and undermine the cohesion of combat units.

Guys & Dolls STARRING **Lucinda Holliday**

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NEW YORK CITY - Right-wing TV guest Marine Cpl. Matt Sanchez, aka former Gay porn stars "Rod Majors" and "Pierre LaBranche," fielded questions from bloggers Wednesday (Mar. 7) on his deeply nonconservative past and appeared eager for more media attention to follow, reported advocate.com. Sanchez told blogger Joe.My.God he was "relieved" at the revelation, which led MSNBC's "Countdown" show on Wednesday night.

"I've moved forward a lot and this past stuff is not something I want to drag into my future," Sanchez, 36 and a student at Columbia University, told Joe.My.God in an email interview. "I don't like porn, it reduces the mind, flattens the soul," he said on his own blog and on Salon.com. "That's not hypocrisy talking, that's experience. . . . I can tell you that by the time I finished my summer tour of the major studios, I was pretty disgusted with myself." Not only is his porn past behind him, Sanchez said, but also any putative Gayness: "Boy-friends: 0 Fiance: 2 Wife: 1. I'd say I'm pretty bad at being Gay," he said.

MSNBC had fun with the story, juxtaposing highly censored stills from Sanchez's adult oeuvre with his appearances on such right-wing shows as "The O'Reilly Factor" — whose host later excoriated the city of San Francisco for honoring a successful local porn firm with "Colt Studio Day." The Nation's Max Blumenthal found Sanchez's past less relevant than his role in a so-called "Gay Republican underground railroad" that hitches a message of hate to hapless but telegenic butch-looking people like Sanchez or Jeff Gannon. "It doesn't matter, inherently, that he was a Gay

Matt Sanchez: 'I'm Bad At Being Gay'



Former Gay porn star / Gay hooker, Matt Sanchez, with notorious homophobe Ann Coulter

porn star," Blumenthal told MSNBC. "What matters is that he's a hypocrite who's advancing the ideological homophobia of the right and helping them exploit this homophobia for political gain."

Sanchez, for his part, told Joe.My.God that "There's something about the beleaguered Gay psyche that wants to prove to the world that everyone is just as messed up as they are. "So they start off with the term 'hypocrite' and work their way backwards looking for signs of deviant behavior in hopes of discovering some type of bastard kinship. That's why I've had the term 'self-loathing' thrown at me so often. The Gay community eats its own in a frenzied hope of self-serving fulfillment." And yes, he said, he's writing a book. While many right-wingers

were silent on the story Thursday (Mar. 8), O'Reilly's Fox colleague Michelle Malkin stood up for Sanchez, slamming the "hate-filled liberals on MSNBC" who "attempted to smear" him while ignoring the "pernicious effects of the pornography industry on the soul."

The Marine reservist was outed by Gay bloggers after his appearance at the Conservative Political Action Conference, where he was honored for his efforts to foster military recruiting at Columbia and posed with Ann Coulter, who shocked America by calling former U.S. Sen. John Edwards a "faggot" at the event. "I, personally, wouldn't have used the word 'faggot' in public like that," Sanchez told Joe.My.God. "That said, Ann made a joke and that's just what she does. I wouldn't want her right to speak

breached in any way." He said he was surprised at the conference to meet folks more conservative than himself, an unusual occurrence in his home of New York City. Perhaps the biggest shocker of all: Sanchez told Joe.My.God that after 9/11 he voted for Hillary Clinton.

While Sanchez says he has put his Gay porn past behind him, the Marine Corps hasn't. Homosexual behavior is prohibited by an article of the Uniform Code of Military Justice that forbids "sodomy," reported the Marine Corps Times. As a member of the IRR (Individual Ready Reserve), Sanchez falls under the authority of Marine Corps Mobilization Command in Kansas City, Mo., where the commanding general's staff judge advocate, Lt. Col. Michael Blessing, has begun an inquiry into the revelations about his past, according to command spokesman Shane Darbonne. "We're looking into it and we're going to verify facts and determine if any further action is warranted," Darbonne said.

As of Friday afternoon (Mar. 9), officials at Marine Forces Reserve in New Orleans were unable to confirm whether Sanchez had enlisted prior to the end of his film career or if Reserve Marines were prohibited from doing porn when not in a drilling status. Sanchez has not returned phone calls seeking comment. He joined the Corps May 14, 2003 and is a refrigeration mechanic. Officials at Marine Corps Recruiting Command were unable to say whether past participation in Gay porn disqualifies a potential enlistee because it was unclear how the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy might apply.

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Amaechi Signs First Mainstream Endorsement Deal

LOS ANGELES - Former NBA player John Amaechi became the first openly Gay male athlete to sign an endorsement deal with a mainstream company, reported the Associated Press. HeadBlade Inc., creators of a popular head-shaving razor, announced Monday (Mar. 12) it had signed Amaechi to a multiyear deal. Financial terms were undisclosed.

"I think it's fantastic that HeadBlade has approached me to endorse the brand," said Amaechi in a statement. Amaechi became the first NBA player to acknowledge his homosexuality with the release of his memoir, "Man in the Middle" in February. The book is currently on The New York Times Best Seller List.

Concern about endorsement deals is one reason some male athletes stay in the closet during their careers. "John Amaechi is the newest face of the



brand because he embodies many of the qualities representative of a HeadBlader," HeadBlade chief executive Todd Greene said. "He is a man comfortable in his own skin and he's not afraid to go against the grain." Amaechi grew up in England and played over five seasons for Cleveland, Orlando and Utah. He retired in 2004.

UPDATE

Brincando El Charco, Mar. 22

Continued from Page Two

characters.

Between wrestling matches, Hostesses run a Live Auction of a variety of unique items selected to please the crowd. SAAF and the Jell-O committee are currently seeking wrestlers who want to flaunt their creative talents to put on a great show for the audience while raising funds through sponsorships for their wrestling match.

Each wrestler is asked to raise a minimum of \$150 and this year wrestlers will again be able to solicit donations online by creating their own web page and emailing it to potential supporters.

For more information go online to jello-wrestling.org, or contact Mae at (520) 628-7223 or E-mail at events@saaf.org.

CU Students Accused In Attack On Gay Man

BOULDER, Colorado - Two University of Colorado students were arrested following an attack on a Gay man near Pearl Street. Eric Schorling and Adam Perez, both 21, were arrested early Sunday for alleged assault and bias-motivated crimes, the Rocky Mountain News reported.

The suspects are accused of making derogatory remarks to a Gay couple who were walking in front of them. The 21-year-old victim was walking with his arm around a 19-year-old man near 10th and Pearl streets around 12:30 a.m. Sunday (Mar. 11). There was a brief verbal exchange before Schorling, Perez and the victim began fighting, police said. The victim was able to punch one of his attackers and free himself shortly before police arrived. The victim's name was not released. Boulder police are labeling the attack a bias-motivated crime. According to CU's Web site, Perez is a senior, biological sciences major, and Schorling is listed as a junior, anthropology student. The two are listed as living at the same address.

The attack comes less than a month after another hate crime that involved a 21-year-old Lesbian student at Naropa University. The

woman, who has not been identified publicly, said she was assaulted by two men after they made sexual passes at her. She refused them and told them she was a Lesbian, which police believe prompted the assault. The suspects in the February case were not CU students.

University of Colorado officials released a statement after the Naropa attack reminding the university community that hate crimes will not be tolerated. "Homophobia and violence have no place in our community - or any community - and run counter to the human values represented by both CU-Boulder and Naropa University," the Feb. 22 news release said.

No Communion For Lesbian Couple Who Spoke Out Against Marriage Ban

GILLETTE, Wyoming - A Lesbian couple have been told they can't receive communion at the church they've attended since 1998, in part because they publicly opposed a bill that would have barred Wyoming from recognizing Gay marriages, reported the Associated Press on kotatv.com.

Leah Vader and Lynne Huskinson have attended Saint Matthew's Catholic Church since 1998, and were married two years ago in Canada. Earlier this year, when the Legislature considered a bill that would have barred Wyoming from recognizing such marriages, the two said the bill amounted to discrimination. They received a letter from the Reverend Cliff Jacobson of Saint Matthew's, telling them they can no longer receive communion, in part because of their public position. Jacobson says the church reaches out to homosexuals, but that it must do so within its own moral structure. He says the Cheyenne Diocese played a role in the decision to bar the women from receiving communion.

Vader says it's an act of discrimination. And she says it's particularly hard coming just before Lent and Easter.



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Trailblazing Gay Actor John Inman Dies



LONDON - Actor John Inman, popular for his memorably camp role of Mr. Humphries in the '70s sitcom "Are You Being Served?", died Thursday (Mar. 8). He was 71, reported Gay.com U.K. Inman died in St Mary's Hospital in Paddington after suffering a hepatitis A infection.

His character's catchphrase, "I'm free," and suggestive sexual humor made Inman a star, and he starred in more than 40 pantos — traditional Yuletide family entertainments that include double entendres and male and female drag as well as lots of jokes for the kiddies. Named BBC personality of the year and "Funniest Man On Television" by TVTimes in 1976, Inman remained popular long after the show ended in 1985. He went on to star in an Australian version of the show in the early 1980s, and also appeared on BBC's 2004 show "Revolver." The show, about a stuffy department store staffed by lovable eccentrics, reached the United States in the late 1980s, where it became a cult hit.

When publicly questioned about his sexuality, Inman remained coy for many years, but admitted that he could be Bisexual. However, in late 2005, Inman made his sexuality public when he entered into a civil partnership with his partner of 33 years, Ron Lynch. Lynch is said to be "devastated" by his death.

Although Mr. Humphries was widely criticized as a Gay stereotype, actress Rula Lenska, who worked with Inman, defended the Gay undertones of the character. "It was

suggestive, but never in-your-face or aggressive. It had an innocent quality that you rarely find today," she told the BBC. Inman "was a joy to work with and even after an exhausting day in pantomime he would have time for the fans who crowded round the stage door," Lenska said. Wendy Richard, who played shop assistant Miss Brahm in the series, told BBC Radio 4's Today program: "John was one of the wittiest and most inventive actors I've ever worked with." Richard added, "He was a brilliant, brilliant pantomime dame and he was a very good all-round actor, really. He was a true professional."

Inman's manager, Phil Dale said, "John was known and loved throughout the world. He was one of the best and finest pantomime dames working to capacity audiences throughout Britain." "John was known for his comedy plays and farces, which were enjoyed from London's West End throughout the country and as far as Australia, Canada and the USA."

George Broadhead, secretary of the Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association, told Gay.com that at the time of the show, "Inman became a bit of a bete noir for the Gay community for promoting stereotypes of Gay men as effeminate." However, he said, "the Gay community has grown up since then and has come to appreciate its trailblazers. Inman fits into the same mold as Larry Grayson and Frankie Howard. We can actually see reruns of "Are You Being Served" and appreciate their zaniness now, rather than cringing at stereotypes."

Baptist Figure Acquitted Of Gay Sex Charge

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma - A former Baptist minister in Oklahoma who had spoken out against homosexuality was acquitted Wednesday (Mar. 7) of propositioning an undercover male police officer, reported advocate.com. A judge found Lonnie Latham not guilty of the misdemeanor charge of offering to engage in an act of lewdness. If convicted, he would have faced up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500.

Latham, 61, was arrested Jan. 3, 2006, outside the Habana Inn in Oklahoma City. Police had accused Latham of asking the undercover officer for oral sex, which Latham denied. Latham's attorney, Mack Martin, argued during the trial that it is not illegal for consenting adults to engage in private homosexual acts, so a request to participate in such an act is not illegal. District Attorney David Prater said the state has a legitimate interest in regulating such requests. "In no way are we wanting to get involved in people's personal lives and sex lives outside of commercial prostitution," Prater said.

Latham has spoken out against same-sex marriage and in support of a directive urging the Southern Baptist Convention's 42,000 churches to try to convince Gays and Lesbians they can become heterosexual "if they accept Jesus Christ as their savior and reject their 'sinful, destructive lifestyle.'" Latham resigned as pastor of the South Tulsa Baptist Church after his arrest and stepped down from the board of directors of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma and from the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. Martin said Latham was ecstatic that the judge found him not guilty and said he holds no bitterness about the case.



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Brokeback Mountain, Other Films Listed By U.S. As Human Rights Victims

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Fictional Gay cowboys and a faux reporter from Kazakhstan suffered human rights abuses in 2006 as crackdowns on flesh and blood victims were extended to the Internet, award-winning films, and noted plays worldwide, the State Department says, reported the Associated Press on advocate.com. From the movies Borat to Brokeback Mountain, foreign governments banned or restricted access to a variety of big and little screen entertainment as well as live events, the State Department says.

British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen, creator of Borat, the crass Kazakh chronicler of the American condition, and the Gay cowboy love story that won three Oscars were hit with what it deemed violations of freedoms of speech and expression. So were the The Da Vinci Code, The Vagina Monologues, and even the popular Google Earth Web site, according to the department's annual survey of global human rights practices released. Amid a litany of deadly crackdowns on dissent, extrajudicial killings, torture, and arrests, the report suggests that traditional censorship of overtly political works of art, literature, and film may be entering new territory.

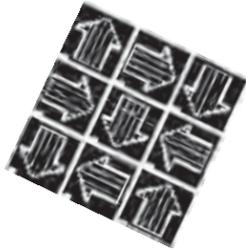
Baron Cohen, who has vexed the authoritarian Kazakh government with his mocking and rocketed to fame in the film Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan, became a victim when Kazakhstan moved against his satirical Web site. Specifically, it took control of the registration of .kz Internet domains in 2005 and then revoked Baron Cohen's Borat domain, since relocated, because it deemed his site offensive, the report said.

The movie depicting Borat's pseudo-documentary wanderings across the U.S. became an unlikely hit and earned Baron Cohen a Golden Globe award. It also generated complaints that he duped his American subjects into making racist and sexist remarks and portrayed Kazakhs in an unflattering light. Borat, for example, asserted that Kazakhs are addicted to horse urine, enjoy shooting dogs, view rape and incest as respectable hobbies, and are fond of "running of the Jew" festivals. Baron Cohen is an observant Jew. The State Department report made no mention of the contents of the film or the Web site but said Baron Cohen's banishment was symptomatic of repression in Kazakhstan, a former Soviet republic in central Asia. It accused the government of monitoring dissident e-mail and Internet activity, blocking or

slowing access to opposition sites and planting propaganda in Internet chat rooms.

While Borat came under fire in Kazakhstan, Ang Lee's Brokeback Mountain was banned in the Bahamas, where censors said it lacked public value and depicted extreme homosexuality, nudity, and profanity, the report said. Eve Ensler's acclaimed feminist play The Vagina Monologues failed to pass censors' muster in Uganda, which claimed it promoted "unnatural sex acts, homosexuality, and prostitution," the department said. The film version of Dan Brown's best-selling novel The Da Vinci Code sparked action by government officials in at least two countries, Egypt and Samoa, who felt its assertions of a centuries-old cover-up of Jesus' alleged bloodline could prompt religious unrest. The report said Morocco, embroiled in a long dispute with Algeria over a neighboring former Spanish colony, blocked access to the "Google Earth" directory of satellite imagery in 2006, apparently because it identified Western Sahara as an autonomous entity.

Among other cultural rights violations, the State Department cited: Algeria, for forcing the cancellation of performances by French humorist Djamel Debbouze, allegedly because of his position on the Western Sahara. Belarus, for forcing a dissident theater group into an underground venue to stage a production of Techniques of Breathing in a Closed Space, a drama based on accounts of torture of detainees based on testimony from the wives of missing government foes. Myanmar, for barring a locally renowned comedian and critic of the military regime, Zargana, from giving public performances or publicizing or screening a new satirical film. Poland, for a court's failure to act on an appeal by artist Dorota Nieznalska, who was convicted in 2004 of offending religious beliefs and sentenced to six months of "restricted freedom" and community service for putting a photo of male genitals on a Christian cross.



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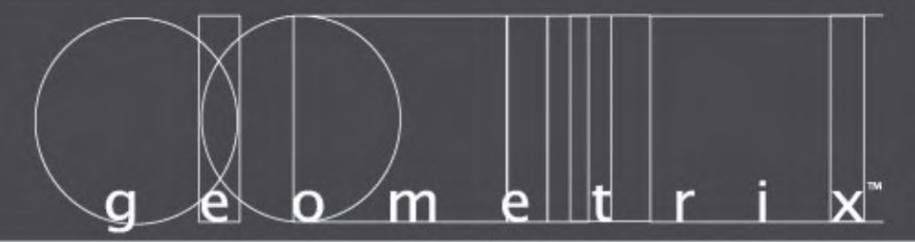
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POLITICS 2007

by Mark R. Kerr

‘Apologies From Moralists’

In an interview with The Chicago Tribune Monday (Mar. 12), General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that “I believe homosexual acts between two individuals are immoral and that we should not condone immoral acts.” General Pace expressed his support of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” but added “I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is okay to be immoral in any way.”

Several rights groups, including the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) and the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), condemned the remarks and called for an apology from Pace, which senior aides said Tuesday (Mar. 13), the general was expressing his personal opinion and had no intention of apologizing.

“As an individual, I would not want (acceptance of Gay behavior) to be our policy, just like I would not want it to be our policy that if we were to find out that so-and-so was sleeping with somebody else’s wife, that we would just look the other way, which we do not. We prosecute that kind of immoral behavior,” Pace went on to say in the interview.

Immoral behavior is allegedly prosecuted but what about crimes dealing with serious misdemeanors or felonious offenses such as drug possession or dealing, assault, kidnapping and murder?

According to data obtained from the Pentagon and Department of Defense through the Freedom of Information Act, by the Michael D. Palm Center, a research institute at the University of California, Santa Barbara, from 2003 through 2006, the military allowed 4,230 convicted felons to enlist under the “moral waiver” program, which enables otherwise unqualified candidates to serve.

A total of 43,977 individuals convicted of serious misdemeanors such as assault was permitted to enlist under the moral waiver’s program during that period, as were 58,561 illegal drug abusers. In the Army, allowable offenses include making terrorist threats, murder, and kidnapping.

During the same time, the Pentagon discharged more than 700 people a year, who are determined to be homosexuals and who in nearly every case have performed their service honorably on behalf of their country and uniformed service.

Since 1993, the Department of Defense (DoD) has fired more than 11,000 service members under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” On average, two to three people are dismissed under the law every day. According to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) at least 800 of those had skills deemed “mission-critical” by DoD, including more than 300 linguists, of which at least 55 were proficient in Arabic.

So in General Pace’s military services, criminals such as Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney, convicted of brutally murdering out University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard, are “moral” and preferable to fill the ranks than people like Eric Alva, now retired and decorated (Purple Heart) Marine Staff Sergeant who was the first U.S. military personnel wounded (Mar. 21, 2003) in the second Iraq conflict who came out as a Gay man and is currently serving as HRC’s national

spokesperson in the effort to repeal the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. ...

As previously reported, in the wake of the (Mar. 2) comments made by “columnist” Ann Coulter (anncoulter.com) calling former North Carolina Senator and current Democratic presidential candidate, John Edwards, a “faggot” and subsequently defending the statement. An effort for a financial boycott, led by a Daily Kos (dailykos.com) blogger, to hold Coulter accountable for her remarks was started, successfully, as of this writing, with many national businesses and firms pulling their advertisements from her website. For more information, go online to: volvodrivingliberal.dailykos.com/.

Coulter’s remarks weren’t the first statements uttered by her and yet she continued to be booked on mainstream television news programs to espouse her bigoted, irresponsible and reprehensible remarks.

A recent example was on the July 27 2006 edition of MSNBC’s Hardball, when the host Chris Matthews asked Coulter, “How do you know that [former President] Bill Clinton is gay?” – referring to her comment the night before (July 26, 2006) on CNBC’s The Big Idea with Donny Deutsch that Clinton “show[s] some level of latent homosexuality.” Coulter responded, “I don’t know if he’s gay. But [former Vice President] Al Gore – total fag.” She went on to defend her theory about Clinton’s sexuality by stating that “everyone has always known, widely promiscuous heterosexual men have, as I say, a whiff of the bathhouse about them.” Coulter claimed she was “just kidding” about Gore, but said of her theory about Clinton, “It’s not only not a joke, it’s not even surprising.”

Television wasn’t the only outlet for Coulter’s remarks. In her Apr. 26, 2006 column, Coulter called Gore “clinically insane,” and wrote that, “in 1993, Gore ‘seemed kind of gay.’ . . . And mind you, this was before we knew Gore was clinically insane. Back then we thought he was just a double-talking stuffed shirt who seemed kind of Gay.” In her Aug 2, 2005, Coulter suggested that Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) was a Lesbian, writing, “I’d say that’s about even money” on Sen. Clinton [c]oming out of the closet’ in 2008.”

Three additional online efforts, by Media Matters for America, HRC and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation have been launched to combat Coulter. For more information go to: mediamatters.org/items/200703130001, hrcactioncenter.org/campaign/coulter2, hrcactioncenter.org/campaign/coulter2 and glaad.org/action/calls_detail.php?id=3984.



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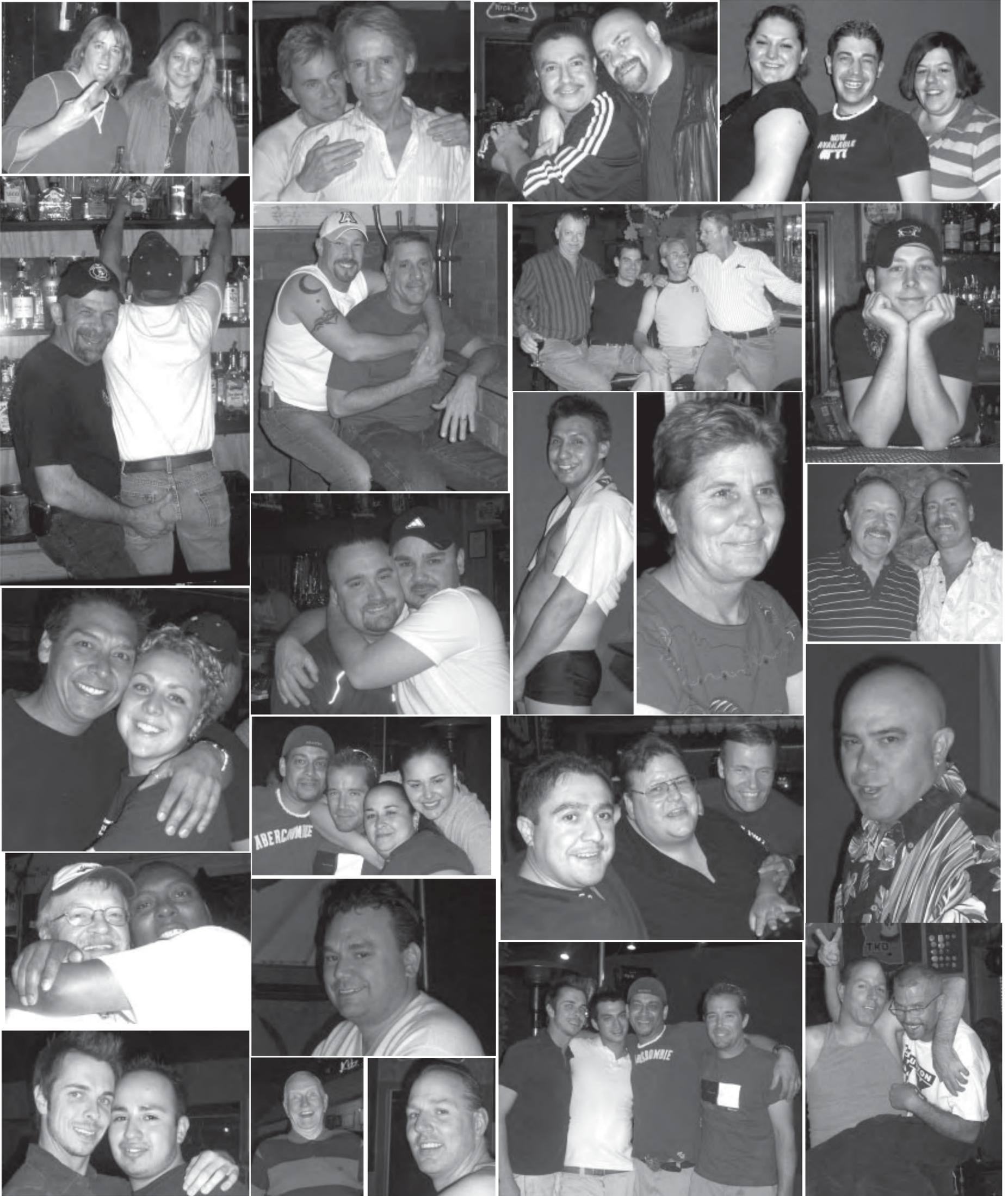
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COMMENTARY...

The Real Eleven Inches Of Pure Hypocrisy

By Matt Foreman

U.S. Marine reservist Matt Sanchez was given an Academic Freedom Award at the last week's Conservative Political Action Conference, where Ann Coulter hurled her "faggot" slur against Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards. Sanchez, who attends Columbia University, also recently appeared on conservative talk shows where he criticized "radical anti-military students" he met during campus recruiting. Reports have since surfaced that Sanchez has allegedly worked as a Gay porn star, prompting silence from his (now former) right-wing cheerleaders and charges of hypocrisy lobbed at Sanchez by Gay bloggers.

While it may be delicious to watch our opponents twist and squirm after honoring and embracing a larger-than-life Gay porn star, I don't see any hypocrisy in U.S. Marine reservist Matt Sanchez's actions. As is his right, he spoke out against what he believed was bad treatment by Columbia's "radical anti-military students" (Sanchez's words). Right-wing pundits and organizations pounced on the handsome Latino Marine and showered him with praise and media exposure. Now, they're scrambling for cover.

Porn - Gay or straight - has no ideology. Porn stars and porn consumers are Republicans and Democrats, liberals and conservatives, atheists and evangelicals. There's no inherent

contradiction between Matt Sanchez being pro-military and being part of the "adult film" industry. The real hypocrisy expresses itself in two different and important ways. First, the failed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law requires Matt Sanchez and thousands of other loyal Americans to hide their sexual orientation to serve their country in the military. Second, Ann Coulter and her ilk lift a man to hero and spokesperson status until - gasp! - he is found out to be a "faggot" (Coulter's word).

The important 11 inches in this story? That is the approximate distance between berths on U.S. naval submarines, so defamatorily measured in front of TV cameras by then-Sen. Sam Nunn in 1993, who immorally intimated that openly Gay service members could not be permitted to bunk next to straight service members. From that shameful episode, Nunn led Congress to adopt the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, which should now be repealed. Let's be done with officially enforced closets.

(Matt Foreman is the Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.)



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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Bukowski's Letters

by Lee Thorn

I've just finished reading **SCREAMS FROM THE BALCONY: SELECTED LETTERS 1960-1970** by the American poet and fiction writer Charles Bukowski (1920-1994). The book put me in mind of the letters of English novelist and essayist Virginia Woolf (1882-1941). It also put me in mind of Donald Duck spewing an enraged duck tirade. The Buk-Woolf comparison might strike some as odd in view of the class difference reflected in their dictions, his lower class, hers aristocratic. But they seem to have had a lot in common when they sat down to write a letter.

We read their letters primarily because of their styles – frothy, zesty, peppery, ebullient, crackling. We also read them to find little gems of expression, in her case elegant imaginative phrases and sentences that seem lighter and purer than air, in his case solid imaginative little paragraphs that seem as sturdy as a cutting horse: "it is 5 a.m. as I write this yet the woman snores over and through Mozart. I cannot help thinking that snoring is an infirmity of the soul, a true voice speaking through sleep. my father was the most vile beast I ever met and he snored louder and with more ugliness than anybody I have ever heard." (210)

In terms of content, perhaps the biggest attraction of both letter writers is that they both really hated being told what to think or how to feel. This certainly puts them in the minority, but it's a minority that loves to read books. Like most autodidacts they both lacked the conceptual tools for the formal rigorous analysis of discourse, but, unlike many autodidacts, there was nothing wrong with their BS detectors. Buk: "Mumford said...there wouldn't be any atomic war...how in the hell can (he) say that? how does he know? as long as there isn't an atomic war he sounds right. when one happens nobody will care whether he is right or not." (15)

While they were both undiagnosed bipolars, she believed that her depression was indicative of a psychiatric problem that wasn't yet understood. But when Buk referred to himself as crazy, he was doubting his reasoning and/or judgment. He didn't suspect that his chronic disgust with the world and with himself might be rooted in an abnormality of brain chemistry.

It's interesting that the letters in this volume, written in the 1960s, were composed in the very last decade before it became generally known that severe chronic depression can be caused by chemical malfunc-

tions in the brain and can be very successfully treated with something as simple as the naturally occurring element called lithium. Bukowski lived on until 1994 and it would be interesting to find out if he ever got his depression treated and, if so, how successful the treatment was.

There's a great body of literature, including Buk's, that tries to make sense of depression in terms other than the post-1970 psychiatry that's now generally accepted. Great writers have created massive cosmic schemes – moral, aesthetic, religious, philosophical, whatever – to make sense of otherwise inexplicable emotional pain. Think of Dostoyevsky, Kafka, Camus and Sartre with his famous, "Hell is other people."

As much fun as Buk's letters are to read, they're much less interesting and artistically important than his wonderful body of poetry and his less wonderful body of fiction. He didn't intend his letters as art. He used them to escape art. They were meant to be rowdy fun and they succeed beautifully on that level.

In contrast Woolf's letters are much more interesting than her drab and lifeless novels. (Warning: The above remark goes directly against conventional wisdom.) My theory as to why a gifted writer like Woolf could produce such bad novels is that her life was so insulated – due to her era, her gender, and her temperament – that she had to turn for excitement to the death of a moth.

Although both writers were socially awkward, I think, were they to meet in epistolary heaven, they might like each other. They were both depressives, both extremely intellectually independent, both dismissive of conventional wisdom and, for that matter, of conventions generally. In spite of the differences in the ways they used language, it's hard for me to imagine that they wouldn't recognize each other's brilliance and originality. Woolf would find Buk's homophobia boorish and quaint, but she would no doubt see it as proforma for his time and place, the America of the 1960s, and even less than skin deep.

I was surprised that Buk's favorite novel was one I had never heard of, **JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE NIGHT** by Celine. Suitably abashed, I'm now reading it. My education continues.

(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)

View From The Rock

When most people meet for the first time, they may notice and remember the other person's least flattering characteristics: moles, scars, warts, physical imperfections, etc. Often, when we are dealing with other people, they remember our most negative interactions. We can thank God that he does not see us in this way. God is not interested in how we look on the outside. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1Samuel 16:7)

Some people find it hard to believe when they hear that there are Christians in the LGBT community. We have been told that God loves us, but we must become heterosexuals in order to be saved, something the word

of God does not say. "Anyone who believes in Jesus will be saved. (See John 3:16) The Lord is looking at hearts not lifestyles to see who believes in Him.

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Lauper, Others Headline LGBT Rights Tour



Cyndi Lauper

NEW YORK CITY - For some people, Cyndi Lauper's classic "True Colors" is just another love song, the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. But as Lauper learned from reading fans' letters, for others, the song's lyrics about letting "your true colors shine through" had a much deeper meaning.

"A lot of people were saying that when it came out (in 1986) they were teenagers and they were coming out," says Lauper, a longtime Gay rights supporter. "They were disowned by their family and their friends and their jobs got all messed up and they were totally alone, and suicidal, and then they heard 'True Colors' and it made them feel hopeful."

So it's fitting that Lauper, is one of the headliners on the new "True Colors" tour, which will hit major cities nationwide to promote Gay rights. Other performers for the 15-city event, which kicks off in Las Vegas on June 8 and ends in Los Angeles on June 30, are Deborah Harry, Erasure and Margaret Cho. "This tour is basically gonna be five hours of some of my favorite bands and me, and Margaret Cho making us laugh, and while we're touring, we're going to be raising awareness," Lauper told The Associated Press. "I think people don't know what's going on, that's all."

Besides headliners like Lauper and Harry, the show will have guest artists such as Rufus Wainwright in the various cities it hits. "Every time I talk to a band, they're like, 'I want to go!'" says Lauper with a laugh. The tour, sponsored by Logo, the MTV Networks channel targeting Gay audiences, will provide

information to fans who attend, as well as purple wristbands with the slogan "Erase Hate" from the Matthew Shepard organization, named for a Gay youth killed in an apparent hate crime. A dollar from every ticket sold will be earmarked for the Human Rights Campaign.

Lauper believes more Americans would be supportive of equal rights for Gays if they knew the discrimination they faced. "You shouldn't have to be treated badly because of your sexual orientation. Come on, we don't live in a dictatorship. This is supposed to be America, the home of the free and the brave," she says. "It can't be free for some and not for others."

Other stops on the tour are Salt Lake City; Denver; Chicago; Atlantic City, N.J.; Boston; Washington; New York; Toronto; Atlanta; Dallas; Houston; San Diego and San Francisco.

Drill Sergeant Accused Of Sex Crimes

FORT EUSTIS, Virginia - A drill sergeant has been accused of numerous sex crimes, including forcing a male trainee to wear a Superman costume and submit to sex acts, reports Shawn Day of DailyPress.com, advocate.com reported. Army staff sergeant Edmundo F. Estrada, 35, of Hampton, Va., is charged with indecent assault, cruelty, and maltreatment of subordinates as well as having an inappropriate relationship with a trainee, said Karla Gonzalez, a spokesperson for Fort Eustis. Estrada was arraigned in January and will face a military court on Apr. 17.

A soldier reported last Aug. 2006, that Estrada sexually assaulted him. The soldier had told Estrada that he was suffering from depression, and Estrada suggested "a technique that he had used previously to help soldiers with their self-confidence and alleviate depression," the affidavit states. Estrada allegedly made the soldier role-play scenes from a pornographic movie that featured a Superman character who was subjected to sexual torture. The affidavit said, "Estrada would verbally describe a sexual act of torture, relating to the pornographic movie, and (the victim) was to respond in a sexual manner by moaning." The soldier said he felt "Estrada would negatively affect his reclassification efforts" if he didn't follow Estrada's sexual requests. The affidavit also said he was also forced to "dress in a 'Superman' or similar outfit during these encounters, while SSG Estrada performed sexual acts on him."

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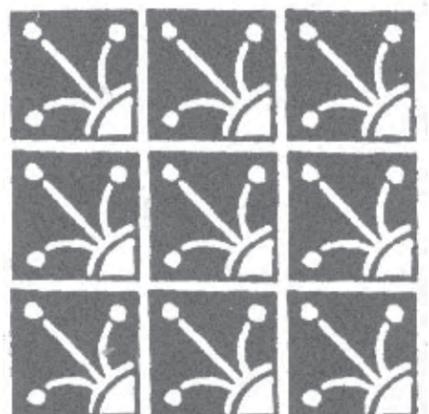
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Other soldiers in Estrada's previous unit said Estrada ordered them to dress up and pose in spandex and ordered them not to tell anyone about it. Estrada remains on active duty, said a Fort Eustis spokesperson, but is not currently acting as a drill sergeant.

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New York Bids Farewell To Gay Hot Spot Roxy

NEW YORK CITY - Legendary New York club The Roxy had its final hurrah Saturday night (Mar. 10) after 16 long years as the mecca of Manhattan's Gay club land, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network. Saturday night's farewell 14-hour party, which lasted until noon Sunday, saw a reported 4,000 people and ended with a set by resident DJ Peter Rauhofer, who closed the party with Donna Summer's "Last Dance."

The club, which began as a roller-skating rink in the early 1980s, turned to a predominantly Gay clientele in 1990 when it opened Lee Chappell and David Leigh's Locomotion party. Since then The Roxy has featured DJs Dmitri from Deee-Lite, Sister Dimension, Tennessee, Larry Tee and Dynell. It has also featured international DJs including Junior Vasquez, Manny Lehman, Victor Calderone and Peter Rauhofer.

The 6,000-square-foot venue hosted performances from Madonna, Cher, Bette Midler, and Beyonce and celebrity guests Marc Jacobs, Elton John, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Kate Pierson, Boy George and Grace Jones. When it reopened in 1990, The Roxy was described as a "Gay love-fest" by drag superstar Lady Bunny, who recalls that New York's Gay nightlife at the time had been devastated by AIDS. "It became a beacon of celebration amidst despair. People were ready to party again," she reminisced to the New York Times.

Club-goer Terrence Cairry described how The Roxy was "a safe place to come out." "Oh, my God, I had my coming-out party here 11 years ago," said Cairry. "It's a safe place to come out, and it has the best DJs in the city."

Despite the glowing reviews, club promoter John Blair said he felt content about the passing of The Roxy. "It was a phenomenon," Blair told Next Magazine. "It was the right people, the right place and the right time. We can't just pluck it up and move it elsewhere. It's an exciting time for something new."

Amid wavering attendance in 2006, The Roxy closed for several weeks in the autumn and resumed Dec. 2. It will eventually be demolished to pave way for a new apartment block.

Hold on to your heart. Venus first "trines" lucky Jupiter, then shocking Pluto. We take a breath taking flight of fancy. Will it be a trip to the moon of gossamer wings or just one of those crazy old things? Stay tuned.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
If you think that you have it "all together," wait until Venus has her way with you this week. Proud Rams fall head over hooves for an exotic, sexy stranger. All your carefully calculated plans shatter and fragment. Good: Sometimes you need a bit of an earthquake to make you realize that you have become too staid and routine. Turn up the heat and shake and bake, lover.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
One good turn deserves another. At least that is what they say. Now, as Venus rubadubs Jupiter and Pluto, queer Bulls benefit greatly from doing various random acts of kindness. Charitable works have more than their usual amount of benefits. Even small efforts produce mammoth results. You may wind up meeting your match. Now strike up the band and dance!

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Platonic relationships pack in more fun, flirtation and festivities thanks to Venus. If you are experiencing problems with partners, compadres can provide sage advice. When in doubt, pony up to the nearest Gay bar, hoist a few friendly brews and chit chat. If you are searching for a suitable suitor, you might discover a gem among the rubble. ... or is it the rubble?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
If you found yourself burning the midnight oil at work with the sinking feeling that no one noticed your efforts, think again. Venus trines Jupiter and Pluto and delivers you to upper management. Your work is recognized and justly rewarded. Pink Crabs suddenly become the corporate dessert du jour. Be sure to add a

few sprinkles and don't settle for a small cup.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)
Travel has its rewards so find an excuse to escape your confines and expand your horizon. Plan a fabulous getaway and really get away. You never know who may be waiting for you in some lost corner. Proud Lions on a strict budget can still expand their world view. Try travelling in different social circles and crashing some new parties. Err, just not the Grand Old Party.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)
There is little reason to go beyond your front door this week. Queer Virgins are perfectly content to just laze around the house and enjoy all sorts of slo-mo, sensual, languid activities. And why not? Venus brings it all to you on a platter - love, lust and laughter. So far so good. Of course you have to move yourself enough to get up to answer the front door.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)
If relationships have had their ups and downs, this is the week to get things in balance again. Or, if you feel like it, tip the scales and send things into an entirely different (and better) direction. Gay Libras will not only be able to smooth any ruffled feathers, they can also pluck and stuff any old bird. Charm certainly pays off thanks to Venus! Well, at least sometimes.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)
If you can gird your loins and really apply yourself to any tasks (even menial ones) that are on hand, Venus, Pluto and Jupiter bring great accomplishment. Proud Scorps rake in the bucks and take control of their financial destiny. Even a tiny effort pays off so don't be lazy. As long as you are girding, build something solid for the future. Construct something more than a pup tent.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Gay Archers find themselves in the epicenter of the social universe when Venus trines Jupiter and Pluto. You could not blend into the background if you tried. So don't even try! Have fun, meet scads of new folks and launch a few new great ideas. Spread yourself thin. Burning your candle at both ends can give you a short nubby stub ... but what a way to go!

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

What warms your cockles this week? You might be surprised. Pink Caps find that staying close to home has its advantages and is exciting in its own special way. The planets encourage you to cocoon with a certain, special someone. You also feel the need to be more charitable and, in fact, altruistic actions pay off in more ways than one. Okay, in two ways.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Talk candidly to pals and see dramatic improvements in the relationship. Yes, honesty is the best policy but a little compliment here and there couldn't hurt either. Aqueerians should also expand their social circle into a globe by becoming more involved in new groups and organizations. You never know who you can impress especially when you press against them.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Work hard, demand your rights and see the benefits when Venus trines Pluto and Jupiter. Guppies feel as if they have been toiling in the salt mines without so much as a lump of sugar. But now, you can begin to see the sweet rewards of your good efforts. A promotion may be in the offering or perhaps a raise. Gather your rosebuds and deliver the thorns to your competitor.

TUCSON DIRECTORY

The map shows a grid of streets. Major streets labeled include Broadway, Speedway, University, and Congress. A sign in the bottom right corner reads "TAKE YOUR I.D. TO THE BARS It's The Law!". The map is overlaid with a grid labeled with letters A through H and numbers 1 through 9.

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Wednesday, March 14
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm. Canasta hosted by Marv & Steve. MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host. Call Marv at 745-0304.

Thursday, March 15
 #1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom 591-2828 for dates and times.

#2 Deadline is Noon today to reserve your place for pizza night. Call Erich: 745-2689.

Friday, March 16
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Pizza Night! Call Erich for directions at 745-2689! Did you phone in your reservation earlier this month to help plan ordering and preparation? Excellent! Get ready for great company, plus delicious salad, yummy desert, and 4 choices of pizza for only \$5.

Tucson Prime Timers Cocktails – 5:30 p.m., Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Saturday, March 17
 #1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 8:30a.m. Join Robert for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. Two great ways to work on your game! For details and directions,

Non Bar Calendar

please call Robert at 400-1376.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Contact Steve at 664-2076.

Sunday, March 18
 Miss Gay Tucson America 2007 Pageant at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde. Pre-Judging 6:00 p.m. Pageant 7:00 p.m. Guest entertainers all current or former crown holders. They include Maya Montana, Jessica Deveraux, Mikaila Kay, Bunny FuFu, Lucinda Holliday, Victoria DuPuis, Tori Steele, Janee Starr, Heather Boa. For ticket information call 520-396-3224.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com, or Ken at 294-6606. Please contact Thom or Ken by Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. Price is usually under \$10. Check the Yahoo MSN on-line calendar for the scheduled place. The venue is rotated to include all parts of town, and may occasionally be held at a full-service menu restaurant.

Tucson Prime Timers Brunch – Noon, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Monday, March 19
 #1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Meet Stephen and the group monthly for dinner and discussion of an agreed upon work of gay fiction. Currently, the group meets the 3rd Monday each month at Gourmet of China, 2544 S. Kolb Road. Contact Stephen at 546-4047.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm. Newsletter Night! Join Arlan and crew to help get the MSN newsletter in the mail, plus find out next month's events. [This month the movie is called ' THIRD MAN OUT' a gay detective thriller.] Munchies and soft drinks provided. Contact Arlan: 323-7414.

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

Tuesday, March 20
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Bruce. Call for info and directions: 743-3890. Please call ahead to assist your host in planning the evening.

Wednesday, March 21
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm. Canasta hosted by Jack. 887-3736. MSN Canasta is played

every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host.

Thursday, March 22
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom 591-2828 for dates and times.

Friday, March 23
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. Merlin and Lee host a word for word fun evening of Scrabble. If you don't know how to play, they will be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please contact Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

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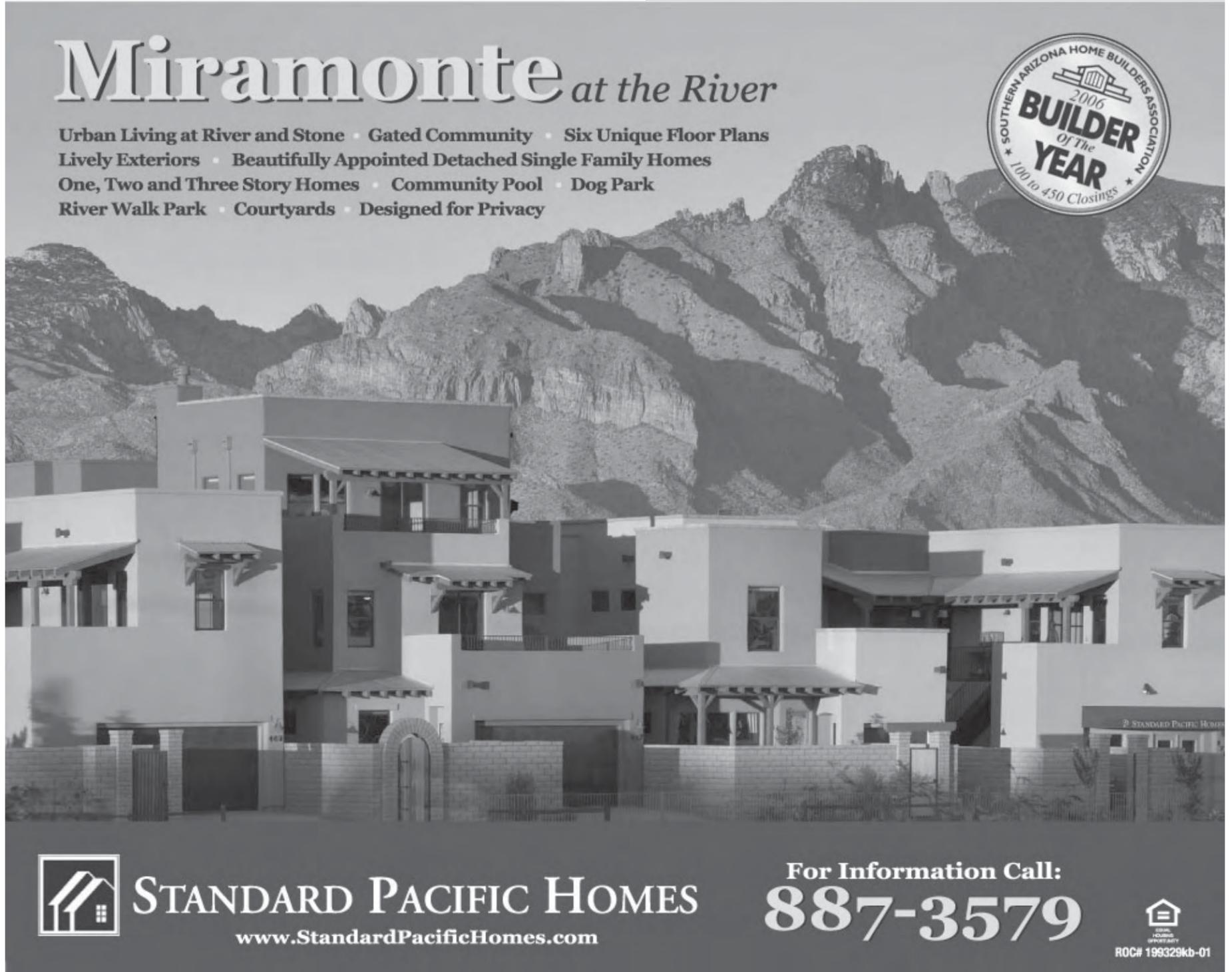
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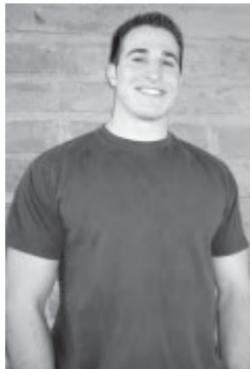
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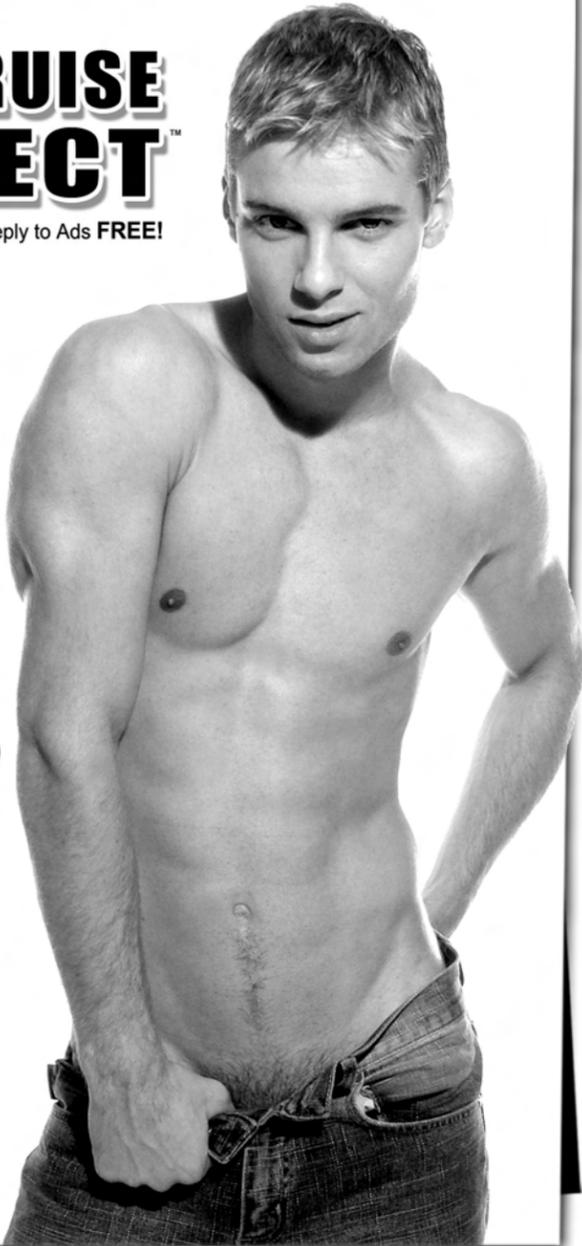
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Huntsman Signs Utah School Clubs Bill

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - A day after Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. asked advisors for a legal opinion on a controversial bill governing student organizations the governor announced he was signing the measure into law, 365Gay.com reported. The law gives schools the right to reject student clubs that threaten the "moral well-being" of students. Critics of the measure say the legislation could be used to block the formation of Gay-Straight Alliances, although the bill carefully avoids mentioning any specific group - an attempt to prevent a constitutional challenge.

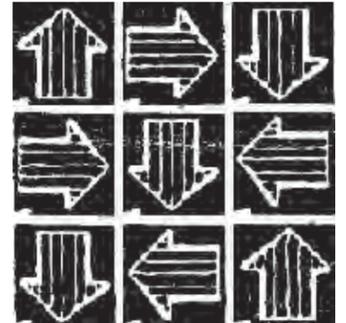


Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr.

The new law also requires parental consent before a student can join a club, that school principals be given all information that would be presented to the club a week in advance so parents could review it, and that the state be required to cover the costs of lawsuits involving the restrictions of school clubs. LGBT rights groups and the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah have urged the governor to veto the bill. They say it would discourage many teenagers from joining Gay-Straight Alliances because it would force them to come out to their parents - something many are fearful of doing in the heavily Mormon state.

came before the House in January lawmakers removed some of the most restrictive regulations, leaving the bill only requiring parental approval when students join clubs. That version passed and the bill went to the Senate. In the upper chamber Sen. Chris Butters (R), the bill's sponsor, reinserted original requirements from the House version. The Senate passed the revised bill and returned it to the House. The House concurred with the Senate and passed the bill. A day later House lawmakers learned that because of a procedural error they would have to vote again. That vote turned down the measure. Two days later the bill reemerged and was passed. There currently are approximately 14 GSAs in the state.

Earlier the state Board of Education voted unanimously to call for a veto, but some members later said they were having second thoughts. "This legislation simply codifies items already in the State Board of Education rules and makes clear that it is not targeting any one club or organization," Huntsman said in a prepared statement. "[It] also ensures that parents will have the right to approve of any school club or organization their child participates in."



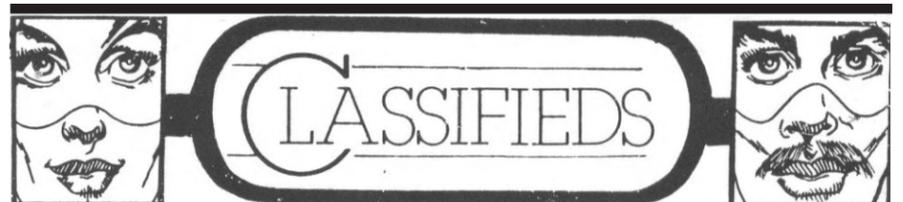
When the legislation first

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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; \$2 Pitchers til 10pm and Rotating Shot Specials all night; Latin Music with live DJ at 9:30pm. Get ready!!! L Word Season 4 begins Jan. 7th at 8pm!

COLORS - Open 11m - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Dickie Steed on piano during brunch. Brunch served until 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well. Reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5:00pm. Happy Hour 5-7pm \$1.75 well, domestic bottles and draft.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10am. \$2.50 Smirnoff Vodkas all day. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournaments at 4:00 and 7:00 pm. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved.

IBT's - Troy's Recovery Bar noon-4pm. 4-7:30 Karaoke on the patio. Benefit B-B-Q for the Pride Parade 5:30-7:30 and dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. \$2.00 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm Patio Beer Bust 3-7. Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meats to choose from. \$3 proceeds go to Pet Watch (helping HIV/AIDS clients with their veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events); Brunch 11:30am-2:30pm; Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm til 2am. Beer Bust 2-7pm; Bar-B-Que 5-9pm; Karaoke with Michael D. 9p.m.; DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9pm; Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open 10am - 2am. Patio Bar opens at 7pm.

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-10pm; Drink what you want with ½ priced Happy Hour. Poke-Her Monday! Free card lessons 5pm. Free Texas Hold-Em Tourney at 6pm; Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Places. Happy Hour pricing & Free Food

COLORS - Closed on Mondays.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Movie Night 8-11pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour all day & night with \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen closed. \$3 taco & tostada bar 4-8 pm. GLBT Movie Nite with shows at 6 & 8 pm. Free pool all day.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, DJ Craig Carter 10pm-2am \$1.50 well vodka drinks, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Skyy Martinis 4-8pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events) Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Rum until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 7pm

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-10pm; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour. Monthly Wine Tasting on 2nd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm. Please RSVP by the first Monday of the Month. Wine bottles will be for sale after the tasting at a special discounted price.

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Karaoke 8pm-12am.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker for women only at 6:30 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. Tequila Nite with \$2.50 well tequila & margaritas, 75¢ off call tequilas.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Tropical Tuesdays \$2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Craig Carter playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2nd Tuesday every month \$2.00).

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events) 80s Nite with Alex 8-close

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm Dart Tourney at 9am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink what You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; 18 to Party, 21 to Drink! 18 & Over Night w/DJ Shorty at 9:30pm! Rotating Shot Specials all night.

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Movie Night. First show 6pm, Second show 8pm with movie theatre popcorn and hot dogs.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Free Pool all day and night. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournament at 6:30 pm for Women Only and open tournaments at 7 and 10. Play for points & prizes - no cash involved. Great way to learn the game or sharpen your skills.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, "Diva-Licious" show 9pm w/ Bunny Fu Fu & Friends. After show dance with DJ Q til 2am,

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WEDNESDAY CALENDAR CONTINUED

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl Spec Events); Chili Dog Buffet 5-9pm; Underwear/Fetish/Leather Party with Alex and Blake 9-close - \$1 off all drinks for those who participate (50¢ off draught/schnapps) Back Pocket Patio Bar open 9pm-close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Vodka until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm. Dart Tourney 8pm.

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; 'Thirsty Thursday' with Tori Steele & Friends! Drag show starts at 9:30pm with Tori Steele, Janee Starr, Diana Flair and weekly special guests. \$2 Pitchers and Rotating Shot Specials. Followed by a new Surprise guest DJ!

COLORS - Open 11:30am-11pm. Lunch served until 4pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Karaoke Night presented by Rebecca of Y-Not from 8pm until 1am.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Karaoke with Rosemary at 8:30pm. \$2.50 Mexican Beers all night, \$1.00 Jello shots.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Boyz Nite Out with your Bartenders & GoGo Boys dancing in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request \$1.75 Long Islands and \$1.50 Tequila shots 10pm-2am.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio open 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. \$3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (3rd Thursday during summer). Bring your own or get it here \$6.00.

WOODY'S - Open Noon-2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl Spec Events); Free Pool all day. Nacho Chip Buffet 5-9pm; \$1 PBRs Longnecks and \$2 Tecate Longnecks; Back Pocket Bar open 8-close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Bourbon til 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 7pm.

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; Rotating weeks Latin or Hip Hop Music with DJ Shorty at 9:30pm. Rotating Shot Specials all night!

COLORS - Open 11:30am-1am. Lunch served until 4pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis and Craig Faltin 6:30-9:30pm. "Guys & Dolls" comedy drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Happy Hour #2 10pm until midnight.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. \$4.50 Fried Chicken dinner with fries and slaw. Free Two-Step lessons with Amanda every other Friday. Call 293-7339 for schedule. DJ Pat plays the best of contemporary and classic country 8:30 to close. Kitchen open 9 pm - midnight serving late night munchies menu.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez outside on the patio and DJ Rayman spinning club music inside. 9pm-2am.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio open 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon-2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events); Martini Happy Hour 5-8pm-\$1 off all call Martinis; Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8-close. DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9-close; Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Gin until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - \$1 Draught Beers until 10pm & \$4 Finlandia Vodka Red Bull drinks until 11pm; Dance Party with DJ Shorty at 9:30 mixing it up and playing what you want to hear!

COLORS - Open 11:30am-11pm, Lunch served until 4pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well, reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Tucson's hot new duo "Pacific Breeze" performs 7-10pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11:00am. Happy Hour 11am-8pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 11am-9pm. \$2.50 Capt. Morgan or Mailbu. Cheeseburger & Fries Special for \$4.50 all day. Best burgers around. Learn to play Texas Hold-Em Poker Lessons at noon with a friendly game to follow - no money involved. DJ playing dance mix or check our ad for special events. Kitchen open 9pm to midnight serving late night munchies menu.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 5-8pm karaoke and Teryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Janee Star. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside and Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm to close.

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

WOODY'S - Open 10am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Steak/Fish Dinner in the Back Pocket 5-9pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5-close. Live Jazz with Arthur Migliazza in the Back Pocket 6-9pm; DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9-close. Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. \$1.25 glass, \$2.25 pitcher. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

COLORS - Guy's and Dolls Show at 10:00 p.m. hosted by Lucinda Holliday. Special guests Miss Gay Tucson America Jessica Deveraux and Miss Gay America 1998 Maya Montana. Come early to assure seating.

WOODY'S - March Birthday Party with free Cake and Champagne for those celebrating their Birthday here. Register early with the bartenders.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

THE BIZ - Get Lucky at the St. Patrick's Day Party here with 25¢ Drafts!

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 a.m. for St. Patty's Day specials. \$3.50 Reuben Sandwich with fries. \$3.00 Guinness bottle, \$5.00 Emerald Martinis. Then in the evening it's a Royalty Show! All nine performers will be former Miss Gay Tucson title holders. This will be one hell of a show—plan now to attend! \$5.00 cover.

VENTURE-N - Big St. Pat's Party here starting at 11:00 a.m. with the Sicilian 'Leprechaun' McBucky serving Irish Reuben Sandwiches and Dublin BLTs.

WOODY'S - St. Patrick's Day Green Party 5:00 to 8:0 p.m. Corned Beef and Cabbage with drink specials.

YARD DOG - St. Patrick's Day Party with Corned Beef & Cabbage starting at 4:00 p.m. and Sonny on the Patio at 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

WOODY'S - Rock, Paper and Scissors Contest sponsored by Bud Light 11:00 p.m. - Midnight. Winners go on to compete in City, State and eventually National competitions in Las Vegas. Bud Light Bottles will be \$2.50 during competition.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

WOODY'S - Sarong Party with Alex and Blake.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

THE BIZ - Live!!! It's The Boys R Us performing their greatest hits from the 2006 season. Doors open at 8:00 p.m. Show starts at 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6.00 in advance or \$7.00 at the door.

WOODY'S - Delta Lambda Fraternity 18 and Over Party - 2:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

HOWL AT THE MOON - Female Impersonation Show featuring China Collins, Lucinda Holliday, Bunny FuFu, and more! Starts at 10 pm. \$5.00 cover

YARD DOG - 5th Annual TOGA Party and Costume Contest at 10:00 p.m. with DJ Bob S. Don't miss it!!

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

WOODY'S - Lucinda Holliday and Guests

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

HOWL AT THE MOON - Amber Gaia and Dar are here playing favorite and original acoustic music. 9 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

HOWL AT THE MOON - DJ Hard Mac is back with dance mix.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

HOWL AT THE MOON - Benefit drag show for Jasmine Bouvier in her quest for the Miss Gay Arizona title. 9 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

HOWL AT THE MOON - Too Much Information is here playing classic rock and blues. 9:00 p.m. \$5.00 cover.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

HOWL AT THE MOON - It's Cinco de Mayo with DJ Michelle playing cumbias, corridos and reggaeton. Drink specials all night.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

HOWL AT THE MOON - Latino Drag Show with guest DJ. Starts at 9:00 p.m. \$3.00 Cover.

NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

TUCSON KNIGHT OWLS (TKO) - We are a non profit social club that is open to every one. T.K.O. contributes to the fellowship and support of the community, and openly invites new members. Monthly meetings occur on the first Saturday of every month at 12:30 pm., followed by a beer bust from 2pm to 6pm., at our home bar the Yard Dog saloon. We will have a spaghetti dinner at our next beer bust March 3rd at 4pm. T.K.O.'s annual spring/summer fling is now called owls fling. This year we will be going to Holly Lake. Applications will be available at our next beer bust. You can also pick one up from any T.K.O. member. MDA Shamrocks are coming for March. Watch for more details in the weeks to come.

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

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

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

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 360-3795 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

GLBT-friendly AL-ANON group meets Saturdays at 11am at Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson.

YOUNG AND GAY? GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 425 E. 7th 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 298-6727, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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, 425 E. 7th 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 (GPGCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpgcc.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 message. TucsonSources@aol.com

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 and pretensions? We're for you! TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com, P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

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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 All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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, dances Tuesdays. from 6:30-9 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (Northwest of 1st Ave. and Glenn). No experience, no partner required! For more info contact David at 325-6739, or visit www.azgaydance.org

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, 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, 425 E. 7th Street. 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 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 information call Scott at 299-6647.

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

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

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.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Wednesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and

Pride Weekend. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

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

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

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.

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 / MOVIES / ETC! Nonsmoking Lesbian Network meets every month. If you'd like to meet women 50+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment, please call or email: 888-8010 'til 9pm, or joycesmth1@aol.com. The group dines OUT! and attends shows, movies, comedy events, etc. Now in our 23rd year, 7th in Tucson.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-diversity advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezer Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezer Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)624-1779 x26 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. Visit our web site <http://www.desertdominion.org> or call (520)792-6424

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

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

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. 743-4800.

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 information.

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

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

REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 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

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

LGBT Buddhist Meditation Group. Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, and reading from Buddhist Spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10-11:30AM at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. Donations accepted. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

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.

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to [SAGE-Tucson-subscribe @yahoogroups.com](mailto:SAGE-Tucson-subscribe@yahoo.com). See you on the trails.

MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP (Open to all who identify as male and are 18 or older) meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at www.desertdominion.org) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

The new **MAN TO MAN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY** is meeting about honoring the spiritual side of ourselves. It is the men's social/erotic group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities, and real tantric sex education. Call Marc 881-4582 in advance Check it out. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7-9pm. Potluck dinner. Donation. **BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY.** Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, AZ 85717.



How DADT Affected Military Rape Trial

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Florida - As investigators pursued an Air Force officer they suspected of drugging and raping other servicemen, the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy hung over their case, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com. Testimony during the court-martial that resulted in Capt. Devery L. Taylor's conviction revealed an investigation made more complicated by the 1993 law prohibiting the military from asking about the sex lives of its members but requiring the discharge of those who acknowledge being Gay.

Among other things: Taylor says that to save his career, he initially lied in denying he was Gay, and that made him look guilty to investigators. He also claims some of his victims saved their careers by falsely accusing him of rape rather than admit consensual sex. Military investigators had to step around the law, telling servicemen they interviewed that their job wasn't to uncover consensual Gay activity but that their answers would be reported to their commanders. One of Taylor's victims and another man left the military after being interviewed by investigators. The first man testified that he was Gay and that Taylor raped him. The second man was forced into early retirement after he told investigators he had a consensual relationship with Taylor.

"When this law was sold to the public, it was said it would protect the privacy of service members, but it has instead put them in difficult positions where they have to choose between their careers and their own safety," said Steve Ralls, a spokesman for Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, which represents military members discharged for being openly Gay.

Maj. Kathleen Reder, who prosecuted Taylor, said that despite any complications, the system worked. "Male-on-male rape in general is an underreported crime. The level of sensitivity and professionalism in the military was so great that these men were able to come forward. This is not only a unique case in the face of the military, it is a unique case on the face of the Earth," she said.

"Don't ask, don't tell" was implemented by the Clinton administration. It represented an easing of the military's policy of investigating suspected homosexuals and discharging anyone discovered to be Gay. Under the law, military investigators cannot question service members about their sexual orientation, but Gays can be discharged if they talk about it.

But Ralls and other critics say it can attract sexual predators like Taylor to the military because it often discourages their victims, Gay or straight, from coming forward for fear of being kicked out of the service. "These people were victims of a predator who was able to be more effective in his predatory techniques because of a federal law," Ralls said.

Taylor, 38, was convicted of raping four men and attempting to rape two others. He was sentenced to 50 years in a military prison. His attorneys said "don't ask, don't tell" will be a factor in their appeal. Six victims, including four military men, two of them married, testified at the court-martial that they had felt drugged after drinking with Taylor at bars. They said he then took them to hotel rooms or his apartment and raped them. Investigators said Taylor had spiked the men's drinks with gamma-hydroxybutyrate, or GHB, which is often called the "date-rape drug" because it leaves people groggy and powerless. Taylor's defense was that the sex was consensual. His attorney, Martin Regan, argued before the jury of nine Air Force officers that "don't ask, don't tell" gave Taylor's military accusers an incentive to say they were drugged and raped rather than admit consensual Gay sex.

Regan said "don't ask, don't tell" also led Taylor to lie at first about having Gay sex, and that led investigators to

wrongly conclude he was a rapist. Taylor, the former chief of patient administration at Eglin Regional Hospital, testified at his court-martial that he feared authorities were on "a Gay roundup" and that he lied about his activities because he was trying to protect his career and those of his Gay friends. "To defend yourself against criminal allegations, you then have to say I am going to give up my job, walk away from something I love doing, something I've been recognized as one of the best at the base for doing," Regan said.

One longtime Air Force security officer was forced into early retirement because he told the military investigators that he had consensual sex with Taylor. Investigators tracked the man down while looking into Taylor's past relationships. Another airman, whom Taylor was convicted of raping, left the military after investigators interviewed him. He testified that he was Gay and had traveled and shared hotel rooms with Taylor. But Reder, the prosecutor, said "investigators went to great pains to do their job and respect the privacy of others."

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