

HeatStroke

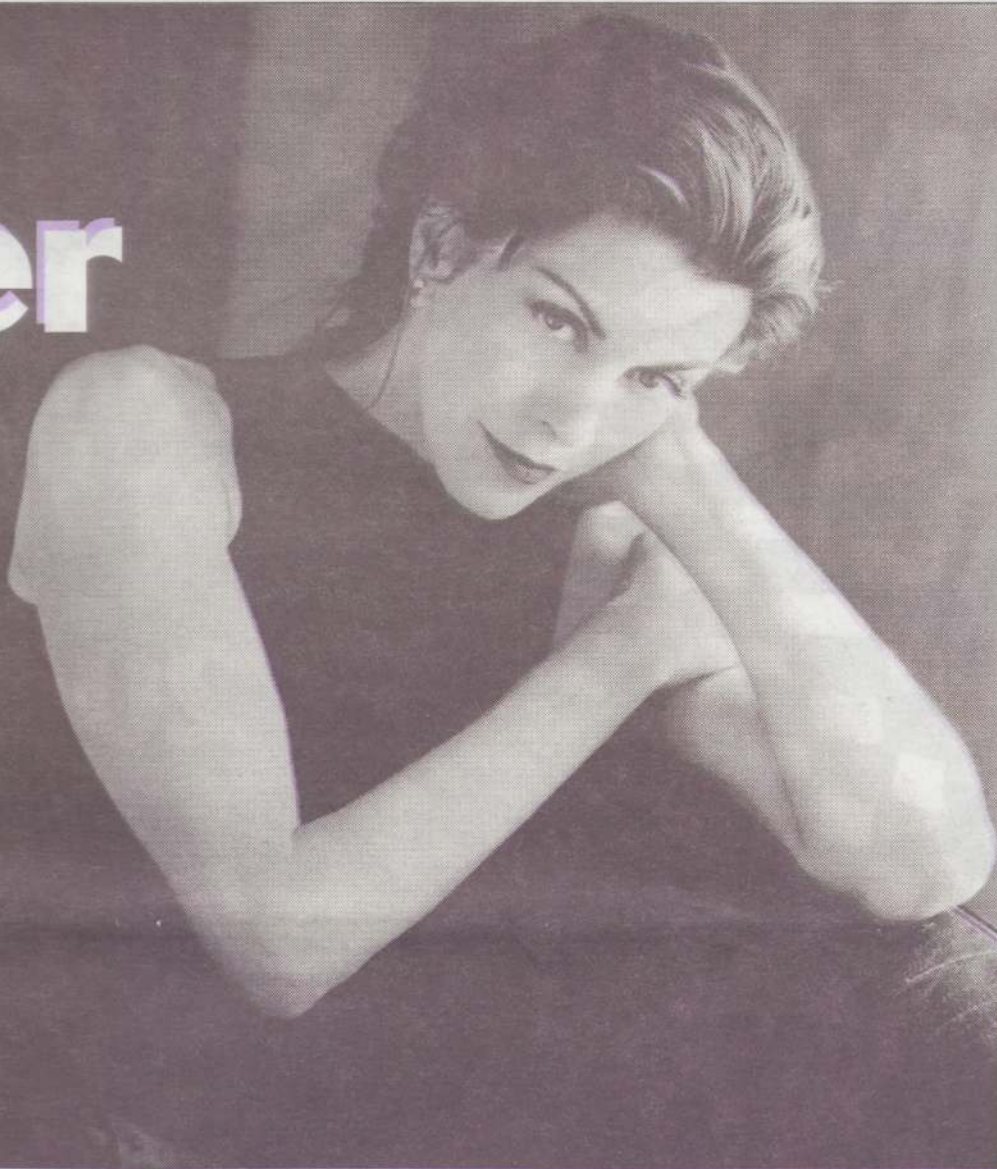
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Just Watch Her

Just Shoot Me's
Wendie Malick talks
about sitcom stardom
and her meaty part in
a new movie made in
Arizona.



By Allen Kalchik, Editor

As nonstop party girl Nina Van Horn, the opinionated style editor of fictional *Blush* magazine on NBC's *Just Shoot Me*, Wendie Malick demonstrates her flair for comedy on a weekly basis—and the highly rated show's millions of viewers love every bitchy line she delivers.

Now the actress is stretching her dramatic wings on the big screen with a costarring role in *Jerome*, an independent film shot entirely in Arizona. The film had its national opening in Scottsdale Dec. 10.

Jerome is an artfully crafted, straightforward road picture about a hapless sculptor named Wade (Drew Pillsbury) who walks out on his job and family, steals a car and heads for the Arizona mining town-turned artist's colony of the title.

Malick plays Jane, a carefree spirit Wade picks up along the highway. Jane's white-trash outspokenness and hippie chick attitude both repel and arouse stoic Wade, while the revolver in her purse hints at darker plot developments to come.

The pivotal character is very different from anything Malick has previously done on film or television. "I was thrilled to get the part," Malick told a Valley audience at a Q&A held after the movie's opening-weekend matinee at Harkin's Camelview. "It was a chance to do a total 180 from the roles I usually play."

Asked to describe her character, Malick said, "At the core, Jane is a survivor who reinvents herself constantly in order to get through the next day... she's obviously left a lot of wreckage in her wake."

"This is a character film, first and foremost," explained filmmaker Eric Tignini at the post-screening forum. Tignini likened the picture to European movies in terms of its pacing and style. *Jerome* was written and directed by Tignini with Thomas Johnston and David Elton.

The collaborative triad met while in high school in Scottsdale. They later attended film school together, and all three now work in various capacities in the movie industry.

Jerome, their first feature, was largely self-financed. It got a healthy pre-production boost from fellow Scottsdale-to-Hollywood hotshot (and *Just Shoot Me* costar) David Spade, who has Executive Producer credit. It was shot in the spring

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of '96 and made the film festival rounds until this fall, when it was tapped for national arthouse distribution by Phaedra Cinema.

Actors Malick and Pillsbury were in town to participate in the panel at Camelview, as were filmmakers Tignini and Elton.

Like the popular character she plays on *Just Shoot Me*, Malick is a former fashion model. She first garnered national attention in the early '90s (and won four CableACE awards) as Judith on HBO's sexy episodic comedy, *Dream On*.

In addition to the four-season success of *Just Shoot Me*, for which she's been nominated for a Golden Globe, Malick has had featured roles in several films (*Bugsy*, *The American President*) and has made guest appearances on numerous TV shows including *The X-Files*, *NYPD Blue*, *Seinfeld*, and *Mad About You*.

"Because I'm tall and brunette, I don't normally get to play a character like this," Malick said of *Jerome*'s Jane. "And it's a character I probably wouldn't have been

given a chance to play in a [studio] feature."

Malick's friendship with co-writer/director Elton, with whom she'd worked during *Dream On*'s television run, led to her being cast in *Jerome*. "David had seen me in a play in Los Angeles where I portrayed a kind of white trash character," she recalled.

Based on that, Elton believed Malick was right for Jane.

With almost no budget and only three weeks in which to shoot, *Jerome*'s production was full of challenges for cast and crew—many of whom live in the Valley.

In Malick's case, her commitment to the script and enthusiasm for the chance to play "off type" made the financial con-

straints more than bearable.

Following the Q&A at Camelview, Malick took a few moments to discuss low budget filmmaking and big budget television with *HeatStroke*.

HeatStroke: You've said the character of Jane in *Jerome* is very different from the characters you usually play. Is *Just Shoot Me*'s Nina Van Horn more typical of how you're cast in Hollywood, based on your looks?

Wendie Malick: I can't even say that Nina is the kind of character I usually play, because Nina is an even more extreme version of what I've done. I've never played quite as—ditzy a character as Nina.

In the past, it's always been that sort of strident, neurotic, kind of high strung, controlling woman. Sometimes bitchy and evil, or it can be all those things. But Nina's kind of an interesting new confection for me. So there was something new to mine in that character.

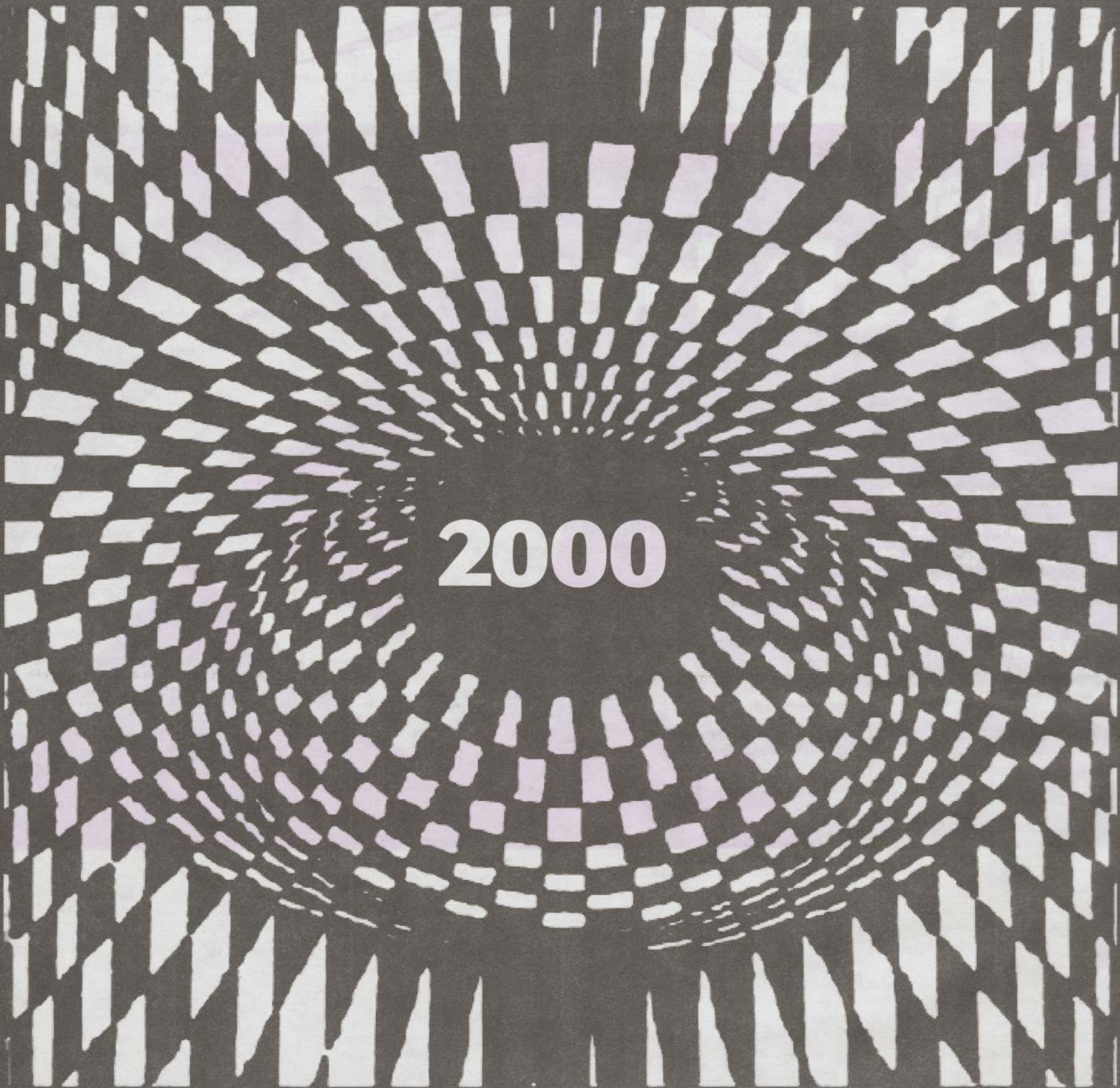
HS: Nina's a classic comic character in that she at first appears very tough and assured, but then you see that her vulnerability lies very close to the surface.

WM: Right. I think there is an innocence in her, and that's what keeps her from being just bitter. That wouldn't be very interesting. Initially, the producer was talking about making her "an embittered ex-model, kicking and screaming her way into middle age."

I said, "I don't see that as being a very interesting character to play over a vast period of time. If [*Just Shoot Me*] lasts, I want to have fun with her." What emerged

See "Malick," page 16

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Horowitz:

On December 10, I was heading for Honolulu to accomplish a longstanding goal: completing the 1999 Honolulu Marathon.

Reading my e-mail the night before I left, I saw that an Internet news service had sent me the Hawaii Supreme Court's decision in *Baehr, et.al. v. Miike*—the Hawaii Marriage Case.

Three same-gender Hawaiian couples unsuccessfully filed suit to compel the Hawaii Department of Health director to issue them marriage certificates. They claimed that the department's refusal to grant gay and lesbian couples the right to marry violated Hawaii's State Constitution.

While lower courts ruled against the couples, the Hawaii First Circuit Court shocked everyone by ruling that any law banning same-gender marriage would be subject to strict scrutiny—the toughest standard courts employ in determining the constitutionality of any state action.

The Court also indicated that it would be nearly impossible for any antigay marriage statute to pass muster under that standard. The Court stayed its rulings against the Department of Health pending further appeal to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

The rulings sparked a nationwide frenzy resulting in laws everywhere (including Arizona) banning same-gender marriage and allowing states to refuse recognition of same-gender marriages occurring elsewhere. In a move showcasing everything wrong with politics today, President Clinton signed the misnamed Defense of Marriage Act, which was overwhelmingly passed by both houses of Congress. Right-wing religious leaders across the country declared one political victory after another.

In Hawaii, the religious right took the offensive and convinced both houses of the legislature to pass an amendment to the Hawaii Constitution allowing the legislature to "reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples." Hawaii voters ratified the amendment in November 1998. In its final ruling, the Hawaii Supreme Court held that the antigay marriage statute became valid by virtue of the constitutional amendment.

Of course I am disappointed that the rulings came down against the gay and lesbian community. Moreover, I find the process by which religious activists changed constitutional standards to fit their political agenda frightening and outrageous.

I'm not blaming these religious groups out of some misplaced paranoia on my part. There is clear evidence of their improper involvement in Hawaii's political and judicial

Dreaming & trying

process. The Christian Coalition and other zealously anti-gay religious groups descended on Hawaii to campaign against gay marriage. They spent a fortune in a state they had previously left more or less alone.

Even more alarming is the number of religious groups whose opinions were considered in the Hawaii Supreme Court's final ruling as amicus curiae (friends of the court who filed briefs in the matter). The court received filings from The Christian Legal Society; the Missouri Lutheran Church; the National Association of Evangelicals; The Association for Church Renewal; the Biblical Witness Fellowship; Episcopalians United, Inc.; The Presbyterian Lay Committee; Focus Renewal Ministries in the United Church of Christ; and Good News: A Forum for Scriptural Christianity Within the United Methodist Church. The Hawaii Catholic Conference, Fred Phelps' church, Westboro Baptist and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints also filed briefs.

The United States Constitution grants all of us freedom of and from religion. What happened in Hawaii should scare everyone who believes in the separation of church and state. Organizations that receive a federal tax exemption based on their religious status should be completely prohibited from engaging in blatant (and amazingly effective) political maneuvering.

The ability for gays and lesbians to marry seems like an impossible goal right now. We have so many more realistic goals to fight for, like equality in the military, equal employment benefits and non-discrimination in housing and public accommodations.

I still hold out a lot of hope, though. The Vermont Supreme Court is still considering a gay marriage case. Hard work by fair-thinking Americans can make the impossible possible.

The conditions on Honolulu Marathon race day were brutal. The symbolism of 26,000 people running through pouring rain was not lost on me. After nearly seven and a half hours, I placed 18,290th out of 21,141 finishers. The race took me a lot longer than I had hoped, and I hurt far more than I could have imagined. A short time ago, however, I couldn't even dream of trying.

In 1969, Stonewall rioters dared to face corrupted and cruel police. In 1999, we face the religious right. Impossible? I used to think so.

David Horowitz is a Phoenix activist and attorney. He receives e-mail at DashingDav@aol.com, or can be reached in care of HeatStroke.

Editors:

The National Association Of Black and White Men Together (NABWMT), at the most recent meeting of the Board of Directors, voted unanimously NOT to endorse the Millennium March on Washington scheduled to take place the last weekend in April, 2000.

This action was taken after extensive discussions regarding the genesis, development, and leadership surrounding this event. From the initial exclusion of all but the two largest LGBT organizations in announcing this event, through continued top-down direction of its development, it has become apparent that People of Color have not been part of the process.

The late initiation of "community" forums that included significant time spent in closed door sessions continue to belie the arguments made by the organizers about "grass-roots" input. It is a shame that in 1999 there has been less effort made at true community input at the grass-roots level, than in the 1993, 1987 and 1979 marches.

The NABWMT regrets that the infrastructure of corporate-style top-down leadership continues the practices of our larger society of excluding people of color from leadership and decision-making, except for later "token" perfunctory efforts at input. Of course, we respect the right of any individual to participate in the march if they so choose.

To further emphasize our distaste for the above event, the NABWMT Board of Directors has moved our Spring meeting in Washington, D.C. from the same weekend as the Millennium March to a date two weeks earlier.

NABWMT is a gay, multi-racial, multi-cultural association with more than 25 chapters across the United States. NABWMT and its chapters engage in educational, political, cultural and social activities as a means of dealing with racism, sexism, homophobia, HIV/AIDS discrimination and other inequities.

Ed Brown and Erick Brown,
NABWMT Washington, DC

Editors:

This is an open letter to the community. To begin, I would like to introduce myself. I am Michael Collette, A.K.A. Mimi Rae Rose, Miss Gay Pride 1999-2000. I'm taking the time to write to you today for two reasons. The first reason is a brief explanation of where I've been and what's been going on with me. The second reason is to share my hopes for this year's Gay Pride Festival.

Where I've been: In August, I had major surgery and had a very long time recuperating. In case anyone is wondering, I have Crohn's Disease. I've also represented Phoenix at the Palm Springs Gay Pride Festival. That's about it—except for baking cakes with Miss Paula Sha for Tish Tanner's Memorial Service.

Secondly, I am heavy hearted and somewhat bewildered. I am writing with concern and a hope to raise support for your Gay Pride Festival on April 15, 2000. As a member of Gay Pride Royalty—and not speaking for the rest nor any ACP Board member—I sense that more support is needed. Too many times at fundraisers or other gay pride functions, we see a lack of the community. The only time people really have regard for Gay Pride is when festival time draws near.

What is the reason we celebrate Gay Pride? On June 28 - 30 1969, after continual harassment by the New York City police, the patrons of the Stonewall Bar in Greenwich Village openly defied the unjustified raids and took to the streets in

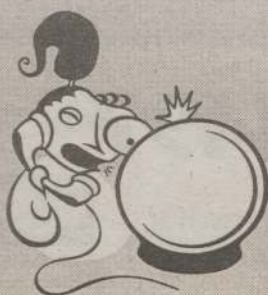
demand of their civil liberties. These riots continued through the weekend until Monday morning. The gay crowd numbered over 2000, and in this act of integrity and self affirmation the modern Lesbian and Gay Rights Movement was born and was soon formally launched into such organizations as the Gay Liberation Front.

Pride Committees commemorate the birth of the gay and lesbian rights movement each year across the country. They host rallies, parades, marches and festivals. These activities keep the spirit alive and allow us to renew our energies toward educating the general public about our pride in ourselves and our right to exist.

Why is it that only a handful of Phoenix's gay population comes to the festival? I know that there are more than 10,000 gays and lesbians in Phoenix and the surrounding area. If each person could donate only \$5 to your festival, think how much money would be raised and how great the festival would be. As a representative of Gay Pride, I feel duty-bound to pose these questions.

Pride isn't just a once-a-year thing. Gay Pride starts with oneself, and should be foremost in your heart. I am thankful every day that I'm a gay Man. Be proud, stand tall, and fight. Together we will achieve many things. Alone, nothing.

Michael Collette,
A.K.A. Mimi Rae Rose
Miss Gay Pride, 1999-2000



Know something we don't? Tell us!

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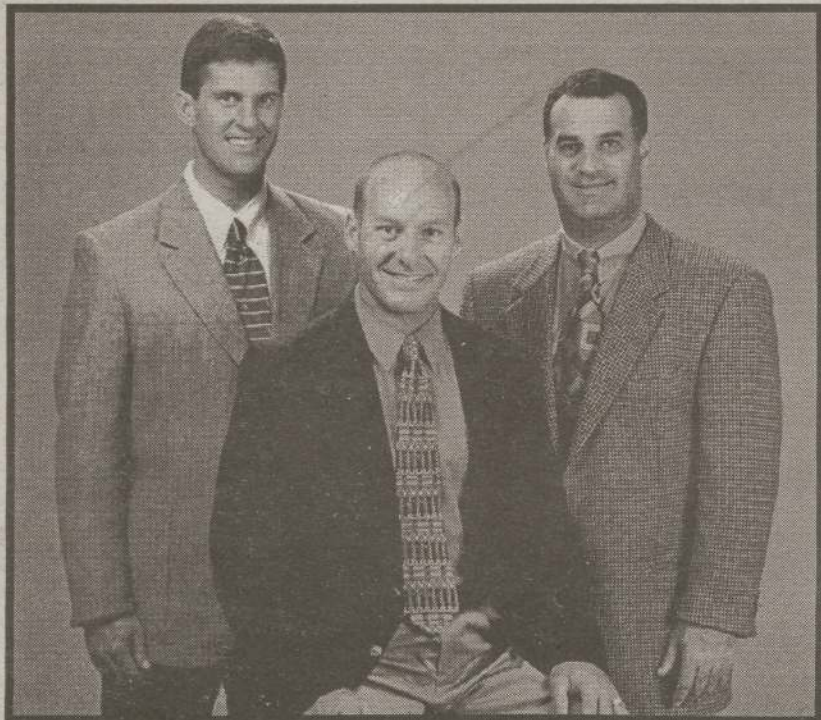
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Deb Price

The Holidays and the Power of Reconciliation



Two blond women in their early 40s, wearing heavy sweaters and huge grins, were skating around a crowded ice rink holding hands. Witnessing that happy, wintry scene, Joyce, my partner of 14 years, was so overcome with surprise and joy that she nearly toppled off her own skates: Her sister, Diana, had quite literally reached out to me. I was finally being embraced as a sister-in-law.

In that magical, healing moment, the painful breach between Joyce and Diana was mended. And each of them regained a sister.

Ironically, the years-long rift—caused in Joyce's view by Diana's discomfort with having a gay sister—had widened shortly before it closed. In a phone call, Diana had dismissively referred to me as Joyce's "roommate." Fed up with petty slights, Joyce had shouted back, "She's not my roommate. And you've never cared anything about my life." After months of silence, Diana called. She wanted to visit us—for the first time. We welcomed her, and the visit worked wonders.

Now, in this season of hope and miracles, Joyce and I are pausing to reflect on how our lives have been immeasurably enriched in the past year by repairing family ties that had seemed permanently frayed. We've felt the power of reconnecting, of making peace, of reclaiming the good parts of the past.

Reconciliation is the greatest gift estranged family members can give one another. And there's no better time of year to try than now.

Families break apart for all sorts of reasons. Sadly, being gay can trigger rejection, but then so can marrying someone your mother dislikes or not going into the family business. After coming out, Joyce was totally accepted by her parents but not by her sisters. Feeling outcast, Joyce built a self-protective wall around her—and ended up feeling a bit lost.

"If one person in a family gets lost, we're all lost until we get back together again," stresses Paul Beeman, president of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG). The instructions he used to give his kids on family outings remind everyone of the importance of family reunification: "If you find yourself separated and you feel lost, stop, remember where we were all together the last time, go back there, stay in sight and wait until we find you."

Beeman, a retired Methodist minister with four grown children—two of them

gay—notes that in Christianity "to reconcile is to restore one who has become excommunicated back into full communion with the congregation." He adds, "You don't reconcile by blaming others or by blaming yourself. You don't reconcile by pretending nothing ever went wrong between you. It did. You say, 'I want to be reconciled. I will love you just as you are. I want you to love me as I am.'"

The holidays are a good time to consider asking for what you really need. Often, family members standing frozen on opposite sides of a deep divide are unconsciously waiting for the other to make the first conciliatory move. After my parents' messy divorce, I barely spoke to my father for decades. Then, last year when visiting my hometown, he risked asking me to lunch. To my surprise, I accepted and rediscovered my dad.

Families break apart for all sorts of reasons. Sadly, being gay can trigger rejection, but then so can marrying someone your mother dislikes or not going into the family business.

Psychotherapist Betty Berzon, who has counseled countless gays, says the holidays "should be considered an opportunity to improve your relationship with your family, an opportunity to give a real gift, the gift of yourself."

Making a reconciliation attempt is itself a beautiful, thoughtful gift. It's a lasting present to the giver as well as the receiver—even if it ends up being rejected. Even unsuccessful attempts to repair a relationship pay tribute to the value at least one person places on that emotional bond.

But positive-thinking Berzon warns not to assume failure. Attempt a reconciliation "expecting that you are going to make it work. And if it doesn't after you've really put Herculean effort into it, then you will need to try again."

Never underestimate the wonderful power of one outreached hand.

Deb Price of *The Detroit News* Washington bureau writes this gay-issues column. Price is co-author with Joyce Murdoch of *And Say Hi to Joyce: America's First Gay Column Comes Out* (Doubleday). Write to her in care of *HeatStroke*, or at GNS Features, 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va. 22229-0001.

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Gay soldier's killer sentenced to life in prison

Fort Campbell, KY—A military jury sentenced Calvin Glover to life in prison Dec. 10 for killing fellow soldier Barry Winchell in an attack at Fort Campbell. The sentencing followed the jury's determination a day earlier that Glover was guilty of premeditated murder.

Glover had pled guilty to unpremeditated murder, but the Army prosecutor insisted on taking the charge of premeditated murder to trial. Evidence of Glover's hatred for gay persons, along with his stated desire for revenge against Winchell, who bested Glover in a fight the night before the attack, contributed to the finding that Glover had premeditated Winchell's murder.

The trial of Glover's alleged accomplice, Justin Fisher, originally scheduled to begin Dec. 13, has been postponed until some undetermined date in January.

Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice Co-chair Rhonda White said, "Because of public outcry, the Army investigators, prosecutor, and jurors have done justice in this case so far. What remains to be seen is whether the highest ranking officers of all military branches will recognize the need to eliminate the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy in the wake of this horrible tragedy."

After hearing the verdict, Winchell's mother and step-father, Pat and Wally Cutteles, made a statement. "Why were people allowed to taunt our son, hit our son, and harass our son?" the Cutteles asked. "It has become clear to us that these are issues that go beyond our son's unit, and we would like to see them addressed. We knew that our son Barry could be deployed and come into harm's way for our country. We never dreamed that he would be killed by labeling, prejudice, and hatred at home. McCarthy-like finger pointing is all it seems to take. 'Don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue' did not protect our son. It won't protect anyone else's child. This policy must end."

The Cutteles also expressed appreciation to everyone who sent messages of support to them, and who participated in calling publicly for the Army to investigate Winchell's death as a hate crime.

Finally, they made clear that the Army bears significant responsibility for the tragedy of their son's death: "On the night of his murder, Barry was sleeping and unaware of the danger to him. The military should now be wide awake and aware of the immediate danger to its

young men and women. Our military leaders have the power to influence and make changes in the lives of our young people today. It is important that top leaders set the right example. End all the hatred and prejudice. Please ensure that no other family has to go through this ordeal. Please don't let Barry have died in vain."

"Barry Winchell's parents have demonstrated an extraordinary courage throughout this ordeal. Let us join them

in insisting that military leaders continue to do justice to Barry's memory by ending their official policy of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender soldiers," said LGCJ Co-chair Bill Turner. "This episode makes clear that gay people are no threat to families, or to the military. It's homophobia that causes the problem."

The Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice is Tennessee's Voice for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Equality.

Gore says 'don't ask, don't tell' should be eliminated

WASHINGTON (AP)—On the campaign question of gays in the military, Bill Bradley went first. Then Hillary Rodham Clinton. Then even President Clinton said his "don't ask, don't tell" policy wasn't working.

Now add Vice President Al Gore to the list of dissenters.

In a statement released by his presidential campaign Dec. 13, Gore suggested his mind was made up by the fatal bludgeoning of Pfc. Barry Winchell in his Fort Campbell, Ky., Army barracks on July 5. Another Army private was sentenced Dec. 10 to life in prison for the murder.

"In light of the Winchell case and other evidence, I believe the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy should be eliminated," Gore said. "Gays and lesbians should be allowed to serve their country without discrimination."

He continued, "If I am entrusted with the presidency, I will make those changes and propose legislation in Congress to eliminate this unacceptable form of discrimination."

Interviewed in June, before Winchell's murder, Gore told the *Advocate* magazine only, "I would implement the policy with more compassion." A Gore aide suggested the vice president was then being loyal to Clinton administration policy. The aide pointed journalists to news articles dating

back to 1994, in which Gore was reported to be pushing Clinton behind the scenes for an outright end to the ban on gays in the military.

Bradley, Gore's rival for the Democratic presidential nomination, scored points with the gay community in September when he spoke out forcefully for elimination of "don't ask, don't tell."

British military to replace ban on gays

LONDON (AP)—Britain, forced to act by a European court ruling, said Dec. 13 it will lift its ban on gays in the military, but will first impose a new code of conduct for all personnel, heterosexual or homosexual.

"Someone's sexuality is a private matter. People are entitled to a private life," Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon said in an interview with the *Times of London*.

"A new code of conduct is, therefore, the right way of dealing with this question, but I want to make sure that any solution to this problem does not jeopardize the effectiveness of the armed forces," he added.

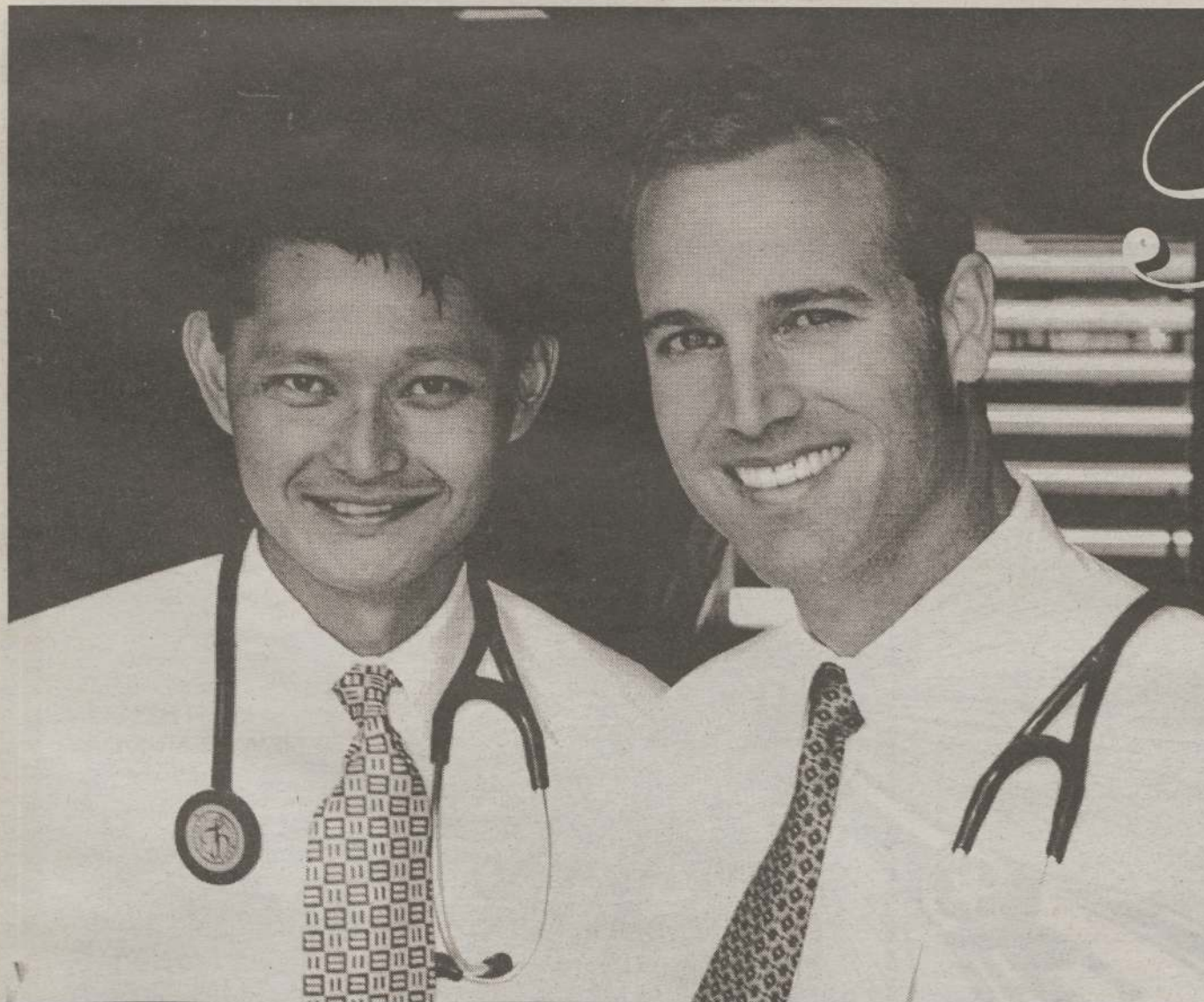
Under the new code, to be published next month, "inappropriate" sexual behavior between personnel on duty would be a disciplinary offense, but not a person's sexual orientation.

Britain's Labor Party government promised to lift the ban after the European Court of Human Rights ruled in September in favor of four gay people dismissed from the military. The judges said the ban was a grave interference in private lives.

Unlike the United States military, with its "don't ask, don't tell" policy, the British military flatly bans gays.

The *Times* said the ban would be lifted in January. But a Defense Ministry spokesman said no time had been set for ending the ban.

Lifting the ban would bring Britain in line with other European countries which allow gays in uniform. Their policies range from the Netherlands, where gays have served openly since the 1970s, to Italy, where overt homosexual behavior can be grounds for dismissal.



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Hawaii Supreme Court turns down gay marriage

HONOLULU (AP)—The Hawaii Supreme Court ruled Dec. 10 that efforts by three homosexual couples to legalize gay marriage were rendered moot by a 1998 constitutional amendment overwhelmingly approved by voters.

The amendment gave state legislators the power to determine whether marriage licenses should only recognize unions between a man and woman. That is something they did in 1994.

The court ruled that the amendment protected the ban from any examination under the equal protection clause of the state constitution, so the law now must be given full force and effect.

That overturned a lower court ruling that the ban was unconstitutional and the state must show a compelling reason for continuing it.

"Inasmuch as (the 1994 law) is now a valid statute, the relief sought by the plaintiffs is unavailable," the justices said. "The marriage amendment has rendered the plaintiffs' complaint moot."

Six years ago, the high court ruled that the ban violated equal protection provisions.

The issue first arose in 1990 when three gay couples were denied marriage licenses by the state health department. They sued the state in 1991.

Later that year, the case was thrown out by a lower court judge.

But in a historic decision, the Supreme Court in 1993 reinstated the lawsuit, saying the ban violated the constitution unless the state could show a compelling reason to justify it.

The ruling set off preemptive legislating around the nation. At least 30 states banned gay marriages, and Congress passed the Defense of Marriage Act, which denied federal recognition of homosexual marriage and allowed states to ignore same-sex unions licensed elsewhere.

In an effort to clarify the state's posi-

tion, the state Legislature passed a 1994 law limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples.

In 1996, Circuit Court Judge Kevin Chang said the state could not justify that limitation and ordered it to grant marriage licenses to the couples.

But he suspended his decision pending an appeal to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

In the meantime, voters approved a 1998 constitutional amendment giving legislators the authority to limit state-recognized marriages to opposite-sex couples—which they already had done.

"The passage of the marriage amendment placed (the 1994 law) on new footing," the court said. "The marriage amendment validated (the law) by taking the statute out of the ambit of the equal protection clause of the Hawaii Constitution."

The four-page memorandum decision was signed by Chief Justice Ronald Moon, Associate Justices Steven Levinson and Paula Nakayama, and Intermediate Court of Appeals Chief Justice James Burns.

Burns substituted for Associate Justice Robert Klein, who recused himself because he was the Circuit Court judge who dismissed the couples' lawsuit in 1991.

Associate Justice Mario Ramil wrote a concurring opinion that said the landmark 1993 ruling should be reversed.

"In my view, the debate over whether marriage should include unions between persons of the same sex involves a question of pure public policy that should have been left to the people of this state or their elected representatives," he wrote. "Same-sex marriage may, or may not, be a worthy idea. I do not, and indeed this court should not, express an opinion in this regard."

Deputy Attorney General Dorothy Sellers said the court's decision cannot be appealed.

"Once the highest court of the state of Hawaii interprets a provision of the Hawaii constitution, as happened here, the federal courts are powerless to interpret it in a different way," she said.

The couples were "devastated" by the decision, attorney Dan Foley said.

Of the three, Tammy Rodrigues and Antoinette Pregil, and Pat Lagon and Joseph Melillo remain in Hawaii and still want to marry, Foley said.

Ninia Baehr and Genora Dancel have separated and are living on the mainland.

Melillo said the Supreme Court decision was more upsetting than the public approval of the constitutional amendment because he expected the court to be a guardian of civil rights.

"We have never lost a court case until this memo was issued by the Supreme Court today," he said. "It's very difficult to see how they arrived at this decision. It's really a cop-out."

Sue Reardon, a teacher at Kalaheo

High School, cried when told of the decision.

"Oh, God, this is awful," said Reardon, an activist who was hoping to marry her female partner. "It's just scary. If you can create laws to segregate and discriminate, then no group is safe."

Mike Gabbard, a vociferous opponent of gay marriage, was pleased by the ruling but said it was not the final word. Vermont's high court is the only one in the nation currently facing the question of whether same-sex marriage should be legal.

"Thank you to the Hawaii Supreme Court for affirming what we've known all along—that marriage, by God's definition, is between opposite-sex couples," he said.

Foley said he now will push for gay couples in Hawaii to be granted the same rights and benefits as opposite-sex couples. A 1997 state law gave gay couples some of those rights, including health benefits and family leave.

Phoenix event nets funds for Kolbe

The Washington, DC based Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and the Log Cabin Republicans of Central Arizona joined to host a fund raiser for U.S. Congressman Jim Kolbe on Dec. 14 at Christopher Gross' Fermier in the Biltmore Fashion Park in Phoenix.

The early evening event brought in approximately \$8,000 for Kolbe's reelection campaign, according to organizers. Kolbe is seeking to retain his seat representing Arizona's 5th congressional district. He is currently the only openly gay Republican in congress.

Log Cabin member Thom Von Hapsburg said that about 55 people attended the upscale affair, and that Kolbe addressed issues of relevance to the mostly gay and lesbian supporters present.

"He talked about how he feels that the anti discrimination bill, ENDA, needs to

be put through and how he would work on that," Von Hapsburg said. Kolbe also

told those assembled that the military's current "don't ask, don't tell" policy toward gay and lesbian service people doesn't work and suggested that something better needs to replace it,



Congressman Jim Kolbe

according to Von Hapsburg.

Other speakers included Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano and Arizona State Rep. Steve May.

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Wednesday

Happy Hour 8am-8pm
"Booze & Cruise"
8pm-12am
Reduced prices on well drinks, domestic beer & shot specials

Thursday

Happy Hour 8am-8pm, Beer Bust 8pm-12am

Friday

Extended Happy Hour 8am-9pm

Saturday

Happy Hour 8am-8pm

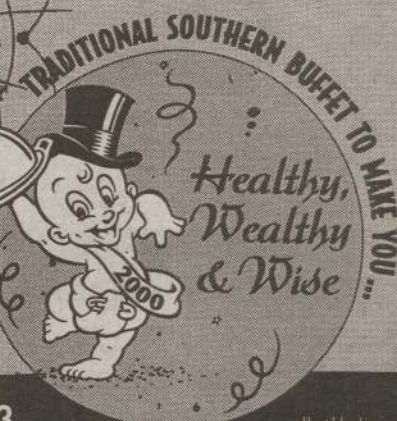
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Pentagon, McCain, Bauer respond to Dem's call to abandon 'don't ask, don't tell'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon's spokesman declined to comment Dec. 14 on calls by Vice President Al Gore and Democratic rival Bill Bradley for scrapping the "don't ask, don't tell" policy toward military gays, other than to note it was created by Congress.

"And of course both Vice President Gore and (former) Senator Bradley were in Congress when the policy was passed and they understand what will be required to change the policy," said spokesman Kenneth Bacon.

Gore called Dec. 12 for elimination of the policy. Bradley had previously called for its abandonment.

Defense Secretary William Cohen ordered a 90-day review of the policy after President Clinton over the weekend suggested it wasn't working as intended.

Asked whether Cohen or other Pentagon officials had any reaction to Gore's comments, or Bradley's earlier ones, Bacon said, "Well, they have all appropriately pointed out that this is a policy that was adopted by Congress and the place to change the policy is in Congress."

Congress passed the policy in 1993 and the Pentagon put it in place in 1994.

Bacon was reminded that when Hillary Rodham Clinton called for scrapping the policy a week ago, he had remarked that she was a private citizen and had a right to say what she wanted.

"Well, Senator Bradley is a private citizen who happens to be running for president. And as I said, political candidates have a right to say what they want about military policies and many of them do," Bacon said, adding, "This happens to be a

law that they're commenting on, and they understand and we all understand that to make a fundamental change in the policy requires a change in the law."

Sen. John McCain of Arizona, a former Navy pilot who was shot down and held as a prisoner in Vietnam for five and a half years, said he supports the current policy. He criticized Clinton and Gore for talking openly about making changes without consulting military leaders.

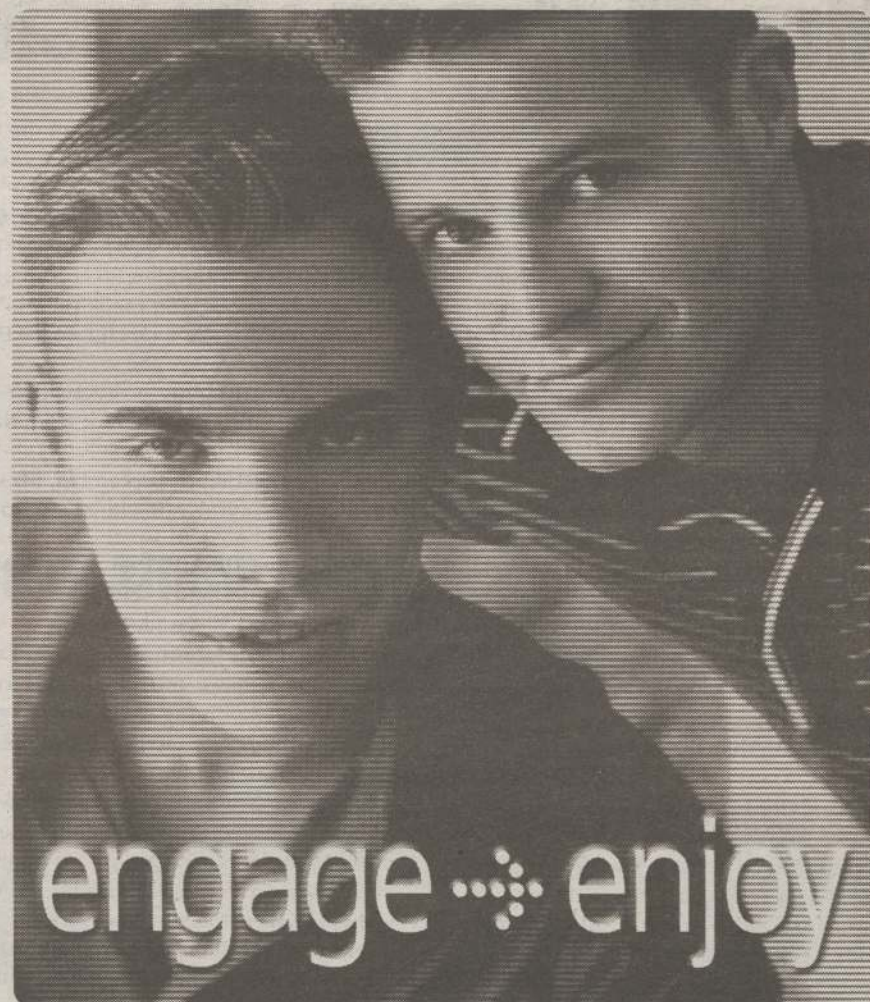
"Without even consulting them, to advocate the scrapping of a policy, in my

"The purpose of the American military is to secure America's national security and to win wars. It is not to advance the political agenda of the gay rights community."

view smacks of irresponsibility," the GOP presidential hopeful said from the campaign trail in Charleston, S.C.

Conservative Gary Bauer, who also is seeking the Republican presidential nomination, said that, if elected, he would work to restore the ban on gays in the military.

"What we are witnessing is a symphony of liberal social experimentation," Bauer said in a statement. "The purpose of the American military is to secure America's national security and to win wars. It is not to advance the political agenda of the gay rights community."



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Mrs. Clinton on gay issues: one hit, one miss

NEW YORK (AP)—The first lady scored big points with the gay community for saying that the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy doesn't work.

But she also stepped into a local controversy Dec. 10 by saying she'll attend the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which many Democrats avoid because it excludes the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization.

"The idea that Hillary would march or even that she doesn't know the issue is outrageous," said ILGO leader Anne Maguire.

Others weren't as critical.

"These are the minefields that come with New York," said Matt Foreman, director of the Empire State Pride Agenda, a gay organization.

Foreman added that although public events like the parade should be open to homosexuals, "we also have really big legislative issues facing our community in Washington that she can take a leadership role on."

Mrs. Clinton plans to run for U.S. Senate in New York. Her likely Republican opponent, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, always marches in the parade and expressed no clear opinion on the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, saying Dec. 10: "I'm going to take a look at it."

"If she marches, Hillary will be a lone Democrat walking side by side with Giuliani," said ILGO member Emmaia Gelman.

Mrs. Clinton spoke about the parade and the "don't ask" policy at a news conference with Irish-American supporters, including several members of Congress and the state Legislature.

"I don't believe 'don't ask, don't tell' has worked and I don't believe it is ultimately the policy we should have in our military," she said. "I believe Americans willing to serve their country should be allowed to do so. There are already gay and lesbian Americans who serve with distinction in the military. They should be

able to do so without discrimination and harassment. ... Fitness to serve in the military should be based on one's conduct, not one's sexual orientation."

The first lady said she had no problem staking out a position that put her at odds with President Clinton, who is responsible for the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

"I'm going to be a candidate for the Senate of New York," she said. "I'm going to be stating my positions that will be from time to time different from the White House."

She has before. In September, Mrs. Clinton opposed the president's pardon of

members of a Puerto Rican terrorist group.

After being praised by her Irish supporters for her visits to Ireland and her work on behalf of the Clinton administration's efforts to broker peace there, Mrs. Clinton was asked if she would attend the parade.

"I would hope so," she said, adding as she looked around: "As long as I've got lots of good company, I'll certainly march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade."

Mrs. Clinton did not mention ILGO. Her spokesman, Howard Wolfson, later said: "She plans to march, and

believes all such parades and celebrations should be inclusive."

It was unclear how the parade could be "inclusive" of ILGO, since the parade's organizers, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, have won numerous court battles to keep ILGO out.

City Councilwoman Christine Quinn, who has been arrested protesting ILGO's exclusion from the parade, said that as one of Mrs. Clinton's supporters, "I'm definitely going to lobby her not to march."

ACLU wants to enter legal fight as defender of gay rights

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—The American Civil Liberties Union on Dec. 13 asked a federal court to allow it to enter a case involving challenges to gay-rights ordinances passed in Louisville and Jefferson County.

The group opposes lawsuits filed by a local doctor who claims the ordinances violate his religious liberty—lawsuits it says could have implications for gay-rights legislation across the country.

The ACLU filed legal papers asking to join the case on behalf of the Louisville-based Fairness Campaign, which pushed for passage of both ordinances this year, and two of its members, Dan Farrell and Diane Moten.

According to the ACLU, there are about 100 cities and counties—and nearly a dozen states—in the country with gay-rights ordinances similar to the ones in Louisville and Jefferson County. It said the Kentucky lawsuits are apparently the first to challenge such ordinances.

"As a gay man, for the first time in my life I live in a place where I have civil rights protection based on sexual orientation, and I kind of like it," Farrell said. "I don't want to see the clock turned back."

He said the legal attacks were part of

an organized campaign to invoke religious beliefs to justify discrimination.

"Religious liberty is really precious in this country, but that doesn't mean you can use your faith to discriminate against other people, and that's exactly what these lawsuits are all about," he said.

Moten said she knows discrimination well. Two years ago she was fired from her job at a day care center after her employer learned she was a lesbian, she said, even though many of the parents of the children she cared for asked the center to reconsider.

The city ordinance bans discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment. The county ordinance is broader, banning discrimination against gays and lesbians in employment, housing and public accommodations.

Dr. J. Barrett Hyman, an obstetrician and gynecologist who filed the suits, is being represented by the American Center for Law and Justice, founded by conservative televangelist Pat Robertson.

Hyman contends that his Christian beliefs prevent him from complying with the ordinances. Hyman says that because of those beliefs, he is compelled to deny employment to a homosexual or fire any

employee he learns is gay.

The ACLU and some of its supporters said similar religious arguments were used to fight federal and state civil-rights laws in the 1960s and '70s.

Bob Cunningham of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression said his group usually sticks with issues involving race relations. But he said upon hearing opponents of the fairness ordinances argue that such laws were offensive to God, he decided that the issue involved him, too.

"The very idea of anyone saying that the granting of fairness and protection to a group of people—that it somehow goes against their religion—that statement itself to me is absurd," he said, at a press conference announcing the ACLU's court filing.

Hyman's lawyer, from the American Center, Francis J. Manion of Louisville, said he does not think a valid comparison can be drawn between the efforts of gays and lesbians to gain legal protections and the battles that racial minorities have fought to eliminate discrimination.

"I don't equate sexual conduct to a person's race," Manion said.



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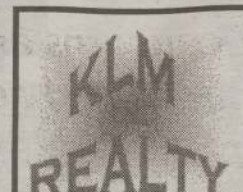


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Politically Speaking



Arizona Human Rights Fund

By Kathie Gummere, Contributor

Resolutions for the New Millennium

As we approach the new year and the new millennium, it seems appropriate to review the past and think about the future prior to making those familiar resolutions.

When I review the past year, the past decade, and this century, I am struck by the progress we as a community have made. There are many areas of life for the GLBT community that are much easier than they were ten years ago.

Many companies have non-discrimination policies and/or domestic partner

There are many other examples of people who are willing to be open about their sexuality and are furthering our cause on all fronts. The public acceptance of that is growing, which is exemplified in the award Bill McDonald, co-chair of the Arizona Human Rights Fund, will soon receive from the Martin Luther King Committee of Arizona. Bill has been working on our behalf for many years and the award is well deserved.

Ken Chevront has been serving as an openly gay man in the legislature for several years. Neil Giuliano, Mayor of Tempe, has been reelected after coming out as a gay man. Collette Barajas, an open lesbian of Tucson, has just announced her candidacy for state legislator.

The city of Tucson has formed a permanent GLBT Commission. Phoenix has the first official Gay/Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, the State Bar of Arizona has just formed a standing committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

I could go on with examples, but the point is that our concerns are being openly discussed and addressed, and all these things have come about because people are willing to

stand up and say: "This is who I am, and I will no longer be ignored."

When I think of the new year, the new century, the new millennium, I have great hopes for further change. We still have a long way to go, and there are many things that still need to be changed.

In Arizona, for example, we need to repeal the archaic sex laws, pass a state employment-non-discrimination act, get state and city domestic partner benefits, and change the adoption laws so lesbians and gay men can adopt as couples, and all of these are being worked on by our community leaders.

We are making progress, and will continue to do so, as long as people are willing to continue to stand up and refuse to be ignored. As you "go home for the holidays," or set your resolutions for the next year, please consider coming out, standing up, and joining the ranks of our leaders who are working so hard to gain full equality for all of us.

Our concerns are being openly discussed and addressed because people are willing to stand up and say: "This is who I am, and I will no longer be ignored."

The incredible publicity given to the battle that Steve May has with the military

is a great case in point. Not only the local, but national press of every type has taken up his cause with articles, programs, news clips and editorials, most of which are very favorable to him and critical of the ridiculous "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy of the military.

All this has come about because Steve was willing to stand up for himself—and all of us—in the legislature. If he had stayed quietly in his office, as his fellow legislators wanted him to, he wouldn't have been investigated by the military. But he chose to stand up. The response of the press shows—to me—how much progress we have made in just a few short years.

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International Gay & Lesbian News Briefs

Compiled by Rex Wockner

CZECH REPUBLIC REJECTS PARTNERS BILL

The Czech Republic's lower house of parliament rejected a gay registered-partnership measure Dec. 2.

It would have granted gay couples the rights of matrimony except for adoption rights. The vote was 91 to 69.

Another, similar bill is expected to be introduced soon as pro-gay legislators continue their efforts.

BRAZILIAN GROUP MURDERS GAYS

The Brazilian anti-gay group Acorda Coracao (Wake Up, Dear) has murdered its sixth victim, the EFE news agency reported Dec. 5.

The killers operate in the Rio de Janeiro neighborhood of Nova Iguacu and reportedly shout "Wake up, dear" before killing their prey.

Gay organizations are warning gays to travel in groups of at least three people after dark, and police have increased patrols around gay bars and discotheques.

TORONTO SCHOOL BOARD EMBRACES GAYS

The Toronto District School Board is helping sponsor a poster campaign that tells students it's OK to be gay.

The posters will appear in subway stations and at all schools with students in 7th grade or above.

Board Chairman Gail Nyberg told the *Toronto Sun*, "We have an obligation to

address the needs of all our students."

Meanwhile, the board's Dec. 8 meeting was disrupted by anti-gay Muslims protesting the district's proposed anti-homophobia policy.

"What [gays] do is not normal," said protester Idrakin El-Sayed, president of the Toronto District Muslim Education Assembly. "We don't want it pushed on our kids and we won't stand for it to be in our schools."

The protesters eventually calmed down and left.

AMELIE WALLOPS MUGGERS

French lesbian tennis pro Amelie Mauresmo decked three muggers on the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe in early December.

"I was terrified but I didn't let it show," Mauresmo told London's *The Mirror*. "I screamed at them to go away but they surrounded us and moved in. One pulled out a knife, so I used my elbows to knock two of them to the ground, then punched the third one as hard as I could in the face. One of them managed to tear a gold chain from my neck which upset me because it was a present from someone I am very fond of."

Mauresmo was walking on the beach with girlfriend Sylvie Bourdon when the attack occurred. Club Med security officers failed to snag the thugs.

GAY SAMURAI MOVIE PREMIERES

Famed Japanese director Nagisa Oshima returned from a 13-year hiatus Dec. 6 with a gay-themed samurai movie, *Gohatto*.

"The samurai in this movie were a

group of men who were intently involved in the business of killing," Oshima said. "I think that in this extremely intense situation, for love to live among the members, whether it is homosexual love or not, seems to be entirely natural."

WINNIPEG GAY BATHHOUSE DESTROYED

The King and Alexander Steam Baths in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, was destroyed by fire Dec. 8.

The 3:30 am blaze also destroyed other businesses in the historic building—a dim sum restaurant, barber shop, fireworks store and tailor shop.

Five near-nude patrons were rescued from the rooftop by police.

Police said the fire was set by bathhouse customer Devon Sean Carriere, who they charged with arson and disregarding human life.

"Our information was, he was a client at the time of the fire," homicide detective Tom Anderson told the *Winnipeg Sun*. "The motive isn't something we'd talk about."

UKRAINE GAY GROUP REGISTERED

After months of bureaucratic delays, the Ukrainian gay group Our World was officially registered Nov. 30, the first gay group to achieve such status.

A group spokesman thanked Amnesty International for helping flood the Department of Justice with letters supporting the registration.

TATCHELL CLEARED

Prosecutors Dec. 10 dropped charges against British gay leader Peter Tatchell for his attempted citizen's arrest of homophobic Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe Oct. 30 in London.

Tatchell faced up to 18 months in prison for using threatening, abusing and insulting words and behavior and for assaulting a police officer during the attack on Mugabe's motorcade.

The Crown Prosecution Service said

there was insufficient evidence to proceed with the case.

Lesser charges against the other protesters also were dropped.

Tatchell commented: "The official reason given for dropping the case was 'insufficient evidence.' But the Crown had lined up 18 police officers to testify against us, and had 15 minutes of film footage from Sky News. The real reason was not insufficient evidence, but that the evidence favored our defense. It did not substantiate the charges against us."

LATVIAN GAYS PICKET

Ten members of Latvia's Homosexuality Information Centre (HIC) picketed the Inter-Governmental Conference of the European Union in Helsinki, Finland, Dec. 10, in protest against Latvia's proposed entry into the EU.

In a letter distributed to attendees, HIC said Latvia does not ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, does not recognize gay relationships, explicitly bans gay marriage, and subjects gays to "a state-supported campaign of hatred, intolerance and social exclusion, aimed at presenting them as 'parasites' and 'cripples' of society."

A 1998 resolution by the European Parliament declared that countries seeking EU membership should not discriminate against gays and lesbians.

IN BRIEF—

- Forty lesbians formed Sri Lanka's first lesbian organization Dec. 5 in Colombo. It is called Companions.

- The Web site of the Indian gay magazine *Bombay Dost* has been upgraded to include "chatrooms, gay video clips, recipes for gay single men, escort services, masseur services, advice, coming out stories and much much more." The URL is <http://www.bombay-dost.com>.



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Monday Dec. 20th

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Tuesday Dec. 21st

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Friday Dec. 24th

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Saturday Dec. 25th

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Goings On

Center holding year-end fund drive

The financial contributions from people throughout the Valley are what make The Community Center at 24 W. Camelback in Phoenix able to continue providing the metro area's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community with a broad variety of programs and services.

These programs include The Community Switchboard; the Arizona AIDS Information Line; the BJ Bud Memorial Library; the Valley One in Ten and Horizon youth groups; the Anti-Violence Project; Rainbow Families; the Technology Group and the Cyber Center; the new Coming Out Group for Adults; Men's Night Out and Lesbian Night Out; and SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment).

The Center is urging old and new supporters alike to consider donating before the end of the year. Your tax-deductible charitable contribution can be made by check, Visa or Mastercard and it could help to reduce your 1999 income taxes. Contact The Center at 602/265-7283 for more information on how and where to give.

Face to Face workshops to start Dec. 20

Being Alive, the Educational Services Program of AIDS Project Arizona, is proud to announce the beginning of an interactive educational workshop called Face to Face, starting Dec. 20 from 6 to 7:30 pm, facilitated by Mary Lou Weyer.

The workshop will be a safe and confidential environment for HIV positive people to address nicotine, alcohol and drug

use. The workshop is free and takes place at APAZ headquarters, 1427 N. 3rd St. in Phoenix. Call 602/253-2437 for information.

Men's Chorus seeking new members

The Grand Canyon Men's Chorale will be holding auditions for the upcoming season on January 3rd. In addition to singing with the chorale at local dates, new members will have the opportunity to attend the GALA 2000 Festival this summer—a national gathering of gay and lesbian choruses. Please call Rick Myrick at 602/955-8345 to be scheduled for an audition.

New coming out group at Center

The Community Center has announced a new support group for adults dealing with issues surrounding sexual orientation and identity. The Coming Out Group for Adults (designed for those aged 22 and older) meets the first and third Thursday of every month at 7 pm.

The support group addresses a variety of issues in an open forum discussion/dialogue. Some issues discussed include: Coming Out to Yourself; Coming Out to Friends; Coming out to Family; Coming Out at Work; Spirituality; and more.

For more information about the Coming Out Group for Adults, contact The Community Center at 602-234-2752. Group meetings are held at The Community Center (24 West Camelback Road, Suite B & C, Phoenix, Arizona).

Square dancers hosting convention during AZ rodeo

Every year Desert Valley Squares hosts "Swing Thru Arizona" and invites square dancers from around the country to visit Phoenix for a weekend packed with fun and dancing. "Swing Thru Arizona" is always held over the MLK weekend, which happens to be the same weekend AGRA hosts its annual Road Runner Regional Rodeo. This year's convention will be held Jan. 14-17.

Desert Valley Squares is Arizona's premiere gay and lesbian social square dance club. The organization is a member of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs and is an out and proud founding member of the Grand Canyon Square Dance Association. To join this fun and active group or to find out more about social square dancing in Phoenix, call 480/990-2562.

It's Time for transgender activism

It's Time Arizona! is a new, statewide grassroots advocacy organization formed to promote positive civic, social and political changes for the benefit of the transgender community.

The organization's first meeting will feature fired California schoolteacher Dana Rivers as guest speaker and will be held Saturday, Jan. 8, 2000 at the Gentle Shepherd MCC, 7820 N. 27th Ave. in Phoenix from 4 - 6 pm.

This first meeting will serve to officially introduce ITAZ to Arizona and to pre-

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

sent the group's goals and mission statement. The Arizona group takes its name from a national transgender organization called It's Time America!

Local activists Monica Helms and Amanda Schrader founded the Arizona branch to address issues such as educating the media in the use of proper pronouns, health insurance and employment protections for persons changing gender, and marriage protection after a legal gender change.

All interested people are urged to attend the Jan. 8 meeting, and questions will be encouraged.

ACP announces theme, logo design contest

The Arizona Central Pride committee, the organization behind the Valley's annual gay pride festival and parade, is holding a contest for the design of the logo for the next event, scheduled for April 15, 2000.

The theme chosen this year is: "One Heart, One Mind, One Vision—Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action." Artwork should be submitted to ACP at PO Box 16847, Phoenix AZ, 85011.

Entries must be received by Jan. 1 and all entries will become the property of ACP. Designs should be submitted as a hard copy and/or in a PC compatible format. The winning logo designer will receive \$100, festival admission for two, and all printed Pride merchandise for two.

The committee is also seeking commitments from all vendors interested in participating in the 2000 festival. Visit the website at www.azpride.org for details.

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Retarded gays and lesbians find acceptance in support group

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—For decades, the sexuality of people with mental disabilities was so taboo a subject that parents and professionals rarely acknowledged its existence. The disabled were often treated as if they were eternal children, immune from desire.

But as people with mental disabilities come of age in a more accepting atmosphere, they are experiencing an open discussion about relationships and sex—and for some, acknowledging that they may be homosexual.

For the past year, a small group of people with mental disabilities has been gathering—transported from group homes and independent living facilities by their caretakers—to discuss the predicament of not only being mentally handicapped, but being gay or lesbian as well.

On a monthly basis, they meet as a group with a trained psychologist who acts as a facilitator in private sessions at the New Haven Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

"I'm a wonderful guy just the way I am," said Joe, who spoke on condition that his last name not be used. "I enjoy coming to... discuss what it means to be gay and have a disability. Ultimately, I hope this support group will help me find a boyfriend."

Groups such as the one in New Haven are still relatively rare in the United States. But advocates for the disabled say more are needed.

Gay rights activist John Allen, founder of the New Haven group, said the meetings are not a dating service. Rather, the sessions are an opportunity for a segment of the population that is doubly isolated to

their children. But more and more, they are learning how to talk about sexuality.

"It's something that takes a lot of work. You may need to use pictures. You've got to break down the concepts into small, manageable ideas," she said.

But it is vital to do so, because sexually-transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies are just as likely among the mentally handicapped as in the mainstream population. Moreover, people with disabilities may fall prey to those who would take advantage of their vulnerabilities.

"As parents, I think we worry about that quite a bit," Ms. Schwier said. "It's not just 'the birds and the bees.' It's about who you are as a person."

Schwier said she believes it should not be difficult for a parent to accept homosexuality.

"We say, 'Well, you got used to your son or daughter's disability, so this is another thing to get used to,'" she said.

Her co-author, Dave Hingsburger, recalls that researchers who acknowledged that the disabled had any sexuality at all once believed many of them—perhaps as many as 40 percent—were gay.

Today, researchers believe the percentage of gay and disabled adults is more in line with the general population—about 5 percent to 10 percent, said Hingsburger, a sexuality educator at the York Behavior Management Services Sexuality Clinic in Ontario, Canada.

Hingsburger blames the older estimates on "situational homosexuality"—sex among men and women who, at the time, were often confined to single-sex institutions.

"The difference for many of them is that their sexuality was caged or imprisoned for their entire lives," he said.

Hingsburger has started a similar support group in Canada. About eight to 15 people meet to talk.

"The very first meeting was very emotional," he said. "Most of them just sat there and cried. They're twice different, and they're twice discriminated against,

so it was a really moving moment."

Allen said much of the group's time is spent on basic sex education, an issue that parents and teachers can have a tough time discussing even with those who don't have a disability.

The Arc, formerly known as the Association for Retarded Citizens, adopted a position paper three years ago affirming that "individuals with mental retardation are people with sexual feelings, needs and identities."

The group, which advocates on behalf of the 7.2 million people with mental retardation in the United States, says people "have fundamental rights as individuals to have privacy, love and be loved."

Still, gay people with mental disabilities are often stigmatized, sometimes by parents or caretakers—the people they depend upon most, Allen said.

Hingsburger said he thinks society is still coming to grips with sexuality among people with mental retardation because of the way they were treated in the past.

"If we acknowledge people with developmental disabilities in this way, it means that society and our system would have to recognize that they feel at the same depth as we do. That means that they felt the institution, they felt when their parents walked away, they felt those electric shock treatments," he said. "I think for many people that acknowledgment would be very difficult."

"We don't tend to think of people with mental retardation as having a sexuality, or there's a very paternalistic attitude toward people with mental retardation about dating and sex. And God forbid somebody would be so bold as to think that they could be anything but heterosexual."

talk openly about feelings, pressures, and social situations.

"We don't tend to think of people with mental retardation as having a sexuality, or there's a very paternalistic attitude toward people with mental retardation about dating and sex," Allen said. "And God forbid somebody would be so bold as to think that they could be anything but heterosexual."

Left unaddressed, sexuality in a person with a mental disability can manifest itself in inappropriate and sometimes self-destructive ways, Allen said. One group member was asked not to return to a social event for the mentally disabled because he was trying to pick up other men; worse, that same person risks physical assault if he were to attempt that behavior in the mainstream community, Allen said.

The result can be depression, anger, belligerence and sometimes even violence toward others, experts said.

Karin Melberg Schwier, co-author of a forthcoming book called *Sexuality: Your Sons and Daughters with Intellectual Disabilities*, said parents were once reluctant to admit that their children were sexual beings. The children were discouraged from socializing, punished for expressing themselves and were sometimes surgically sterilized or sent to an institution, where the staff harbored similar attitudes.

Ms. Schwier, who has a 25-year-old son with mental retardation, said parents still often feel that "the stakes are higher" for



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One-third of U.S. HIV patients forego medical care

LOS ANGELES (AP)—At a time when new drugs can delay the onset of AIDS, one-third of American HIV patients go without treatment because of a lack of time or money, researchers reported Dec. 13.

Poor people, drug users and minorities were most likely to scrimp on care due to the need to work or spend money on basic necessities, the study found.

The researchers concluded that more resources must be devoted to supporting patients' non-medical needs in order for all HIV-infected people to gain the benefits of improved therapies.

"We found that an enormous number

of people are not receiving medical care that could help extend their lives," said Dr. William Cunningham, lead author of the study, which is published in the December edition of the journal *Medical Care*.

"Our findings may only be the tip of the iceberg since we could only study people with some connection to the health care system," said Cunningham, an assistant professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, schools of public health and medicine.

The study, conducted by UCLA, the Rand Corp. and eight other institutions, involved interviews of 2,864 adult HIV

patients who were selected in 1996.

Researchers concluded that a third of U.S. HIV patients, about 83,000 people, went without medical care or postponed it at least once in a six-month period.

The patients said that paying for food, clothing and housing forced them to go without care. Sometimes they delayed getting care because they were without transportation, unable to get out of work or too sick to visit a doctor.

Such patients were more likely than other HIV patients to have never received the latest antiretroviral therapy. Those who postponed care were more likely to use an emergency room for care best

given in a doctor's office.

The problem also worked in reverse—8 percent of those interviewed said they sometimes had to go without food, clothing or housing because they needed to spend money on HIV care.

Vanessa Baird, acting chief of the California Office of AIDS, said the study's findings were no surprise to those who work with HIV patients.

"I think it happens with people who are sick, period, who are sometimes living on the margins, where the choice of accessing something means giving up something else," she said.

HRC opposes CDC's recommendation of names-based HIV reporting

WASHINGTON—The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued new guidelines for tracking HIV that includes a recommendation that states implement names-based reporting systems.

In a nation with weak medical privacy laws, this is a risky proposition that threatens to deter the people who most need an HIV test from taking one, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

"One-third of people living with HIV are unaware of their status and desperately need to get tested to protect their own health and the health of other people," said HRC Political Director Winnie Stachelberg. "Names-based reporting decreases the likelihood that these individuals will take an HIV test because of legitimate privacy concerns. Until these fears can be alleviated, we are concerned that names-based testing will hinder the effective and accurate tracking of HIV in America."

The CDC's names-based reporting recommendation is part of its "Guidelines for National HIV Surveillance" which are designed to assist state and local health

departments in the design and implementation of effective systems to track the course of the HIV epidemic. The new guidelines do not require states to implement names-based reporting—but strongly encourage it.

The CDC has indicated that it will continue to provide funding and technical assistance to those states that choose to implement unique identifier systems. In addition, the CDC has included language supportive of anonymous testing sites, which allow people to be tested without reporting of any identifying (name or code) information.

"While we oppose names-based reporting, we strongly support the CDC's commitment to testing and surveillance which are integral components to effectively slowing the spread of this disease," said Stachelberg.

Although there is a national system of reporting AIDS cases, there is no comprehensive system for HIV reporting. As such, AIDS surveillance data is currently used as a basis for allocating most federal resources for HIV treatment and care services and as the epidemiological basis for

planning local HIV-prevention strategies.

As AIDS diagnoses and deaths have declined with the advent of more effective therapy, however, AIDS surveillance data no longer reliably reflect trends in HIV transmission and do not accurately represent the need for treatment, care and prevention services.

Thirty-eight states and Puerto Rico have implemented HIV surveillance systems. Thirty-four of them use names-based reporting, and four (Illinois, Maine, Maryland, and Massachusetts) and Puerto Rico have chosen to implement reporting systems that utilize unique identifier systems. Several large states such as California, New York and Pennsylvania have not yet fully implemented their HIV reporting systems.

The CDC estimates that 45,000 people in the United States become infected with HIV each year. While absolute figures are difficult to gauge, the rate of HIV infections among young gay men, particularly African-American gay men, are rising.

In one study, 7 percent of young gay men surveyed tested positive for HIV and 41 percent reported engaging in high-risk

sexual behavior. The same study found that young African-American gay men were five times more likely to contract HIV compared to other young gay men. In addition, almost half of all new HIV infections domestically occur in injection drug-users or their sex partners.

For gay African-American men, AIDS deaths dropped 35 percent in 1997 and 17 percent in 1998, while comparable reductions for whites were 51 percent and 22 percent, respectively. Surgeon General David Satcher reported that AIDS death rates for African Americans remained nearly 10 times higher than for whites.

There are 33.6 million people worldwide living with HIV/AIDS and a total of 16.3 million people have died thus far from the disease. Statistics released in August by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show the steep decline in AIDS deaths in the United States that began three years ago has slowed precipitously. In 1997, domestic AIDS deaths declined by 42 percent, while in 1998, they fell by only 20 percent.



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Catholics struggle with church's heightened stance against gay people

CHICAGO (AP) — Almost every week, Mark Pristop and Chester Banowski go to Mass at a stately Catholic church on Chicago's North Side.

They pray. They take communion. They listen to the homily.

And they go home—together—as they have done for 10 years.

Unofficially, they are among dozens of couples who attend church-sanctioned services that have catered to Chicago's gay community longer than Pristop and Banowski have been together.

"Here, you're less self-conscious about expressing yourself—whether that's hugging someone or holding a hand," Pristop says as he stands on the crowded steps outside Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, little more than a block from one of Chicago's main gay thoroughfares. "It's not an issue."

In the eyes of the church, however, he

Catholic church can minister to gay men and lesbians.

Such a stance has caused some gay Catholics, including a Chicago group called Dignity, to split off and hold their own unsanctioned Masses in churches of other denominations. On the other end of the spectrum, a national group called Courage has steadfastly stood by the church, encouraging gay men and lesbians to lead chaste lives.

The gap between the two sides has only widened since last summer when Vatican officials banned a priest and nun in Baltimore from their longtime ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics because they disagreed with the church's stance that homosexual sex should be categorized as an intrinsic evil, along with such sins as murder and lying.

Members of Courage applauded the decision to discipline the Rev. Bob Nugent and Sister Jeannine Gramick, who oversaw Baltimore-based New Ways Ministries for more than 20 years. A statement on Courage's Web site denounced the pair as "doing nothing to dispel the confusion of many who have come to believe that the judgments of their

individual conscience take priority over the certain teaching of the Catholic church."

George says that doesn't mean shutting gay people out of the church.

"You don't kick people out. You reach out—but you do so with clarity," George says.

Banowski, who is a salesman, and Pristop, a teacher, wonder why the church would stress a teaching that could end up pushing gay parishioners away.

"How many churches are full like this—tell me?" Banowski asked after a service attended by nearly 300 people, most of them younger men.

Still, it's not like the subject of sex comes up during Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach Mass at Mount Carmel. In fact, visitors might never know who



the service caters to, save the occasional same-sex couple with an arm around one another.

And while church leaders are taking a very public stance on the issue of homosexual sex, privately, they often look the other way. The cardinal, for example, says he's never noticed couples at the Mount Carmel services he has attended.

"The suspicion is that if there's friendship, there's something going on," George said in an interview. "But I think you have to give people the benefit of the doubt."

That may sound naive—or even hypocritical—to a non-Catholic, says the Rev. James Halstead, director of Catholic Studies at DePaul University.

But he says it's also very Catholic—to "love the sinner, not the sin."

"We know full well that lots of Catholic school teachers practice birth control and are divorced. We also know there are lots of Catholics who are bigots

or racist," Halstead says. "So my true Catholic side says, 'Oh, what else is new?'"

Friar Johnpaul Cafiero, one of 16 friars or priests who take turns presiding over the gay and lesbian Mass at Mount Carmel, concedes there is a fine line.

"It's a wonderfully difficult ministry because, being an official representative of the church, I have to publicly express the church's teaching," Cafiero says. "In a pastoral setting, you have to deal with where they're at ... because ultimately, God is going to judge, not us."

He would even like to be able to preside over same-sex commitment ceremonies.

"If people are in a deep, committed relationship, let's bless that love," he says, then sighs and adds, "but I also have to be realistic and understand where we are at."

Halstead says he thinks the church's views on homosexuality will evolve over time—much like its stances on slavery and even educating women have done.

"Of course it will change. But it's going to take a couple of centuries," he says.

But George calls that notion "foolish," pointing out that the teachings are based on "natural law"—the union of a woman and a man.

"To change it is to call a circle a square," he says. "That's not going to happen."

Even Pristop and Banowski say they can't imagine the church changing its view of their relationship. But that doesn't mean they'll stop coming to church.

"I respect the cardinal. I respect the Pope. The teachings are the teachings," Pristop says. "But nobody walking this earth is perfect. Either you draw people closer to God, or you don't."

"I'm not willing to walk away with my head down."

"We know full well that lots of Catholic school teachers practice birth control and are divorced. We also know there are lots of Catholics who are bigots or racist. So my true Catholic side says, 'Oh, what else is new?'"

and Banowski are not a couple. Officially, they are two men seeking guidance from a church that says sexual relations between anyone other than a married man and woman is "intrinsically evil."

"To deny that the power of God's grace enables homosexuals to live chastely is to deny, effectively, that Jesus has risen from the dead," Cardinal Francis George of the Archdiocese of Chicago said during an October speech at the conference in suburban Chicago about ways the



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Wendie Malick

Continued from page 1

was that she became a sort of party animal who's almost an idiot savant. She's really good at a few things and she knows style. Beyond that she's kind of—really—out of her mind. She's partying like it's 1999, and has been since it was, like, 1975.

HS: *Where was Just Shoot Me in your career when you signed on for the part of Jane?*

WM: It came through right before [the movie] was done. In fact, I got the call from [sitcom producer] Steve Levitan when we were shooting here and he wanted me to come in and meet him. They had seen Raquel Welch and a bunch of different people for Nina, and they couldn't quite find somebody who looked like a model but who had the comedic timing that they wanted.

He said he had written it initially for "an older Wendie Malick." And then they couldn't find anybody. So they decided to make her a little younger and let me do it.

HS: *And those poster-sized, swimsuit photos of you on the walls of Nina's office are real, correct?*

WM: Yeah, that's all from my modeling life.

HS: *Nina is one of those characters that seems to really appeal to gay and lesbian viewers. Do you find when you're out and about that you have a lot of gay fans?*

WM: Yes, yes. In fact, it's a very interesting cross-section of people who like this character and I am kind of surprised. I assumed that I would have a strong gay following because she's so bigger-than-life. She just has this grand, large sense of herself—and she's a bit of a drama queen.

HS: *There's also that notion that gay boys never have to grow up, which is a part of Nina's makeup as well.*

WM: Yeah, she's an eternal child and she really does live life as if Studio 54 is still the place to go. And in her innocence, I think it's like she has a guardian angel that has prevented her from getting any serious diseases. I mean, she really shouldn't be alive, all-in-all.

I also truly think there is a nostalgia on the part of gays—and straights—for a time that was freer. When we used to be able to get away with that kind of behavior. You could do drugs and have relationships and pick people up and dance all night—and the worst thing that could happen to you was you might get herpes. I mean, it was a much simpler, more innocent time.

HS: *Nina makes frequent references to her own substance abuse. The female leads on Ab Fab were probably the first in television to really push that envelope, and now Nina, and Will & Grace's Karen, do the same thing. It gets big laughs.*

WM: Yes.

"I was a child of the '60s and '70s. I was in New York when all of that stuff was going on. And I had a wonderful time—I had a wonderful time. I am so grateful for every experience I had, and I was incredibly fortunate."

HS: *Is your sense of social awareness ever offended by that? Are there any lines they've given you to say that you thought went too far?*

WM: I'm sure there have been.

Actually, they once did a bj reference that was a little too on-the-nose for me.

HS: *Really?*

WM: Yeah. But they all laughed so hard and they said "You gotta let us do it"—so I did.

Initially, I really wanted them to push that envelope because television was becoming so politically correct. There was that whole sort of moral-right tone, about family values. And the families [on TV] were so innocuous and so sugar coated. They weren't like any family I ever knew, or wanted to know.

We have to make room for the characters in the world, and some of them are bigger than life. And I wanted Nina to have a chance to really—I wanted to see how far we could take her in terms of being outrageous.

HS: *What are the differences between Nina and you?*

WM: Nina is me when I was in my twenties, only she's still doing it.

HS: *Doing what? Are you saying that you were promiscuous and a bigtime partier?*

WM: Let's put it this way: I was a child of the '60s and '70s. I was in New York when all of that stuff was going on. And I had a wonderful time—I had a wonderful time. I am so grateful for every experience I had, and I was incredibly fortunate.

I think that, ultimately, the difference between Nina and I is that I am more moderate than she is. I've always had a sense of taking care of myself. Experimenting, but with moderation.

HS: *You grew up in Buffalo, New York. Is your family still back there?*

WM: Yes.

HS: *How do your family and friends see you now that you're a big hit on national TV? Are you "The Buffalo girl who's gone Hollywood?"*

WM: Yes. I am so not Hollywood, but they treat me like I am.

HS: *Gay comic Bob Smith grew up in Buffalo in the '60s and '70s, and he also now lives in Los Angeles. His new memoir paints a pretty vivid picture of how completely middle American his upbringing was in your hometown. How was your experience there?*

WM: You know, there's actually quite a strong gay community in Buffalo. But Buffalo is the Land of the Repressed Everything. I mean, it's a wacky city. It's where I fed my imagination, my fantasy life. Because I just knew at a very early age that it was too small a town for me—in every way.

HS: *You and your husband live in the Santa Monica mountains now?*

WM: Yeah, with our dogs and horses. Two quarter horses.

HS: *A lot of people who know you only from TV will be pleasantly surprised when they see you in Jerome. You really inhabit the character of Jane, but again, she is so different from what you usually play—was that part of the appeal for doing this film?*

WM: Oh, completely. But scary. It was very scary because the first day I showed up they said, "You know, we're not having any hairdo—we're having no makeup."

Well—I don't know if you'll notice, but

HS: *Back to Just Shoot Me. An important part of sitcom success is an ensemble that really clicks, and we can all see that you, David Spade, George Segal, Laura San Giacomo and the others have a great rapport. At what point in the process did you realize that this group of actors was going to work really well together?*

WM: It was probably about the fourth episode we did. We did an episode called "Lemon Wacky Hello". It was about Jack (Segal's character) bringing back this strange, exotic candy from the Orient and it turned out it was hallucinogenic. And we



I had a little blemish on my cheek in some of those shots—I just think it's so huge on the big screen. And I said, "I at least need to cover this." They said no, we don't want a shred of anything on your face. So it's the only time I've ever been in front of a camera with not a stitch of makeup.

There was something so freeing about that, and it made me feel so naked and vulnerable with this character. You can rub your face, and snot can come out your nose. It really was remarkably freeing and I thought, "What an interesting thing." We [actors] so often are so aware of how we are presenting ourselves, checking in the mirror to make sure everything is in place. [Just Shoot Me] is all about glamour and Suzy Q and being beautiful and all that stuff.

So it was great—it was pretty raw, and I think that's the tone of this movie, anyway. It's very raw. It's not soft and pretty. It's gritty.

HS: *So you did a very small, gritty film on a low-to-no budget shooting schedule under these hot, trying conditions. But you got to play a really interesting character who's far off your usual type—was the tradeoff worth it?*

WM: It was totally worth it. I would do it again in a second.

were all tripping together.

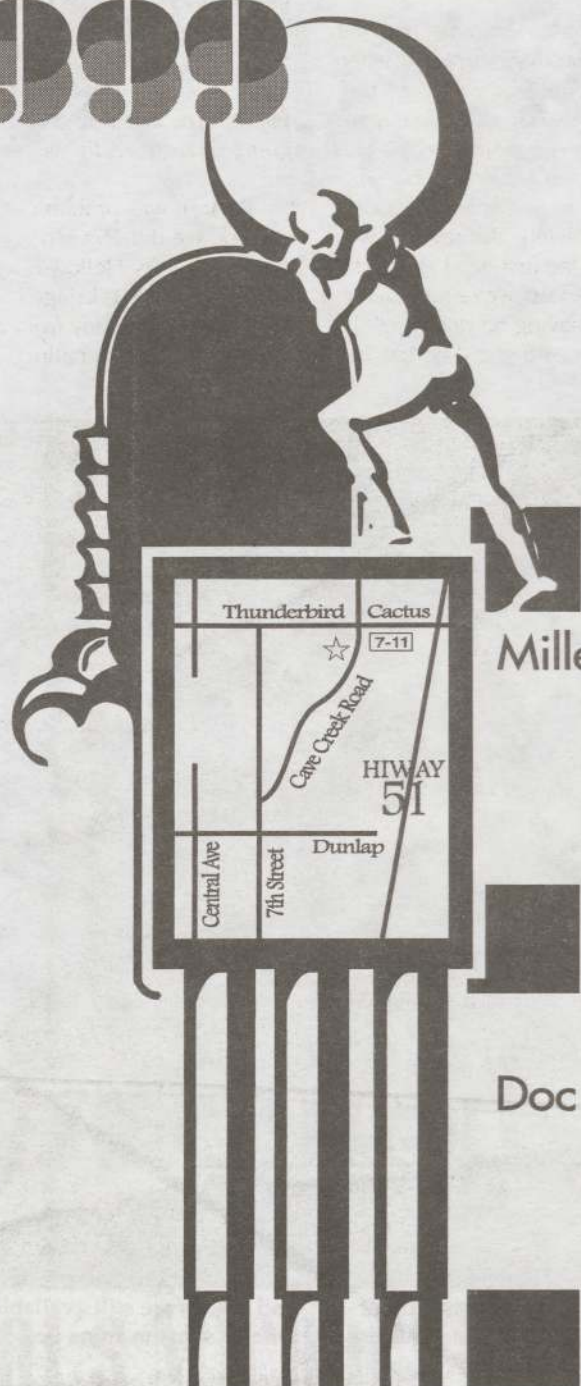
We had so much fun because we had this common enemy. Whenever they let us be together against something else or show up for each other, it's a wonderful thing—because we're always sniping at each other and everybody's dysfunctional on that show, anyway.

We all respected each other from the beginning and knew we were playing with a really strong team. But I think that was the first time that we really had a great time. We knew who we were and were really able to just let it rip.

I think that that really is communicated—it's telegraphed to the audience that we are having a great time. People are always coming up to me and saying, "It looks like you are having so much fun," and we do. We laugh so much.

It's kind of an amazing thing to get paid so much money to go and play with your friends every day. My only complaint about this job is that sometimes I feel like I'm eating an awful lot of chocolate and drinking an awful lot of champagne, and I really sometimes need to sink my teeth into a juicy steak. But it's a great job.

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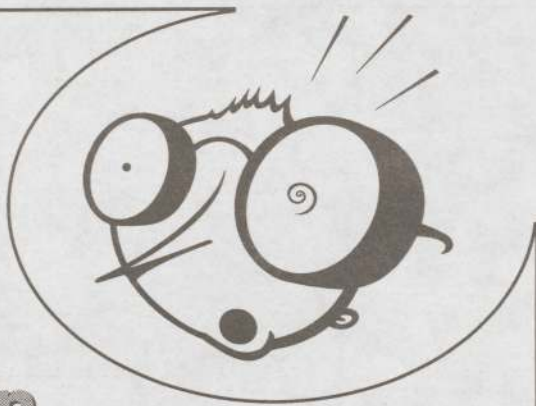
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Oh, you Bette!

The Divine Miss M returns to the Valley with a show at America West Arena on Dec. 27. It's one more stop on her new Millennium tour, which will wind up at Las Vegas' new Mandalay

Bay Casino & Resort on New Year's Eve. The Phoenix show is set for 7:30 pm and tickets are still available through Dillard's or the arena box office.

Doing what he Loves

A peek inside Ballet Arizona's The Nutcracker with dancer Luis Torres

By John Thomas Lotardo, Contributor

With the holiday season already well underway, *HeatStroke* recently had the opportunity to speak with Luis Torres, one of the male dancers from Ballet Arizona's production of Tchaikovsky's Christmastime masterpiece, *The Nutcracker*.

Torres, who is openly gay, has been dancing with Ballet Arizona for the past three years. A native of Puerto Rico, Torres says his upbringing there was invaluable to him as a dancer.

His father, a musician, and his mother were always dancing, he explains. "They are fabulous ballroom dancers." Torres says that in Puerto Rico, there is always a celebration going on and dancing is a vital part of it.

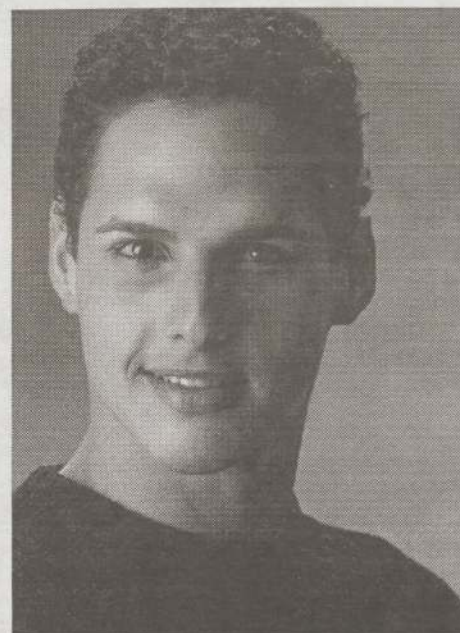
Asked whether the popular perception that all male dancers are gay holds true, Torres chuckles. "Of course not," he says. He agrees there are many gay men in the arts but is quick to state that many male dancers he knows are, indeed, straight.

Ironically, when Torres first began dancing with Ballet Arizona, he was in a heterosexual relationship. Shortly after arriving here he realized that he was gay. He is now in a relationship with another man, which he happily states is going wonderfully.

Asked how being a dancer has affected him personally, Torres confirms that doing what one loves does wonders for the disposition. Coming across as very masculine on stage, he is quick to point out that his personal life does not impact his performance in any negative way. In fact, Torres says, dancing allows him to be in touch with who he really is, which allows him to be more of a complete person.

When the subject of the Phoenix company's current production of *The Nutcracker* comes up, Torres says that he is delighted to be part of it. "The audiences have been great and the dancers are really, really strong," he declares. He is very excited to be here in Arizona and to be a part of such a tradition as Ballet Arizona.

For those who have not yet seen the ballet, Torres emphatically encourages readers to go. Tickets are \$22- \$42 and are on sale now at Ticketmaster and at Ballet Arizona's Box Office, 602/381-1096 or toll-free at 1-888-3BALLET. All perfor-



Ballet Arizona's Luis Torres.

mances are held at Symphony Hall in downtown Phoenix. Evening performances begin at 7:30 pm and run Dec. 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 26 & 27. Matinees are at 2 pm on Dec. 18, 19, 23, 24, 26, 27 & 28.

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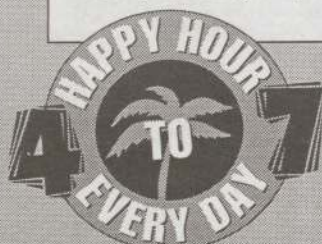
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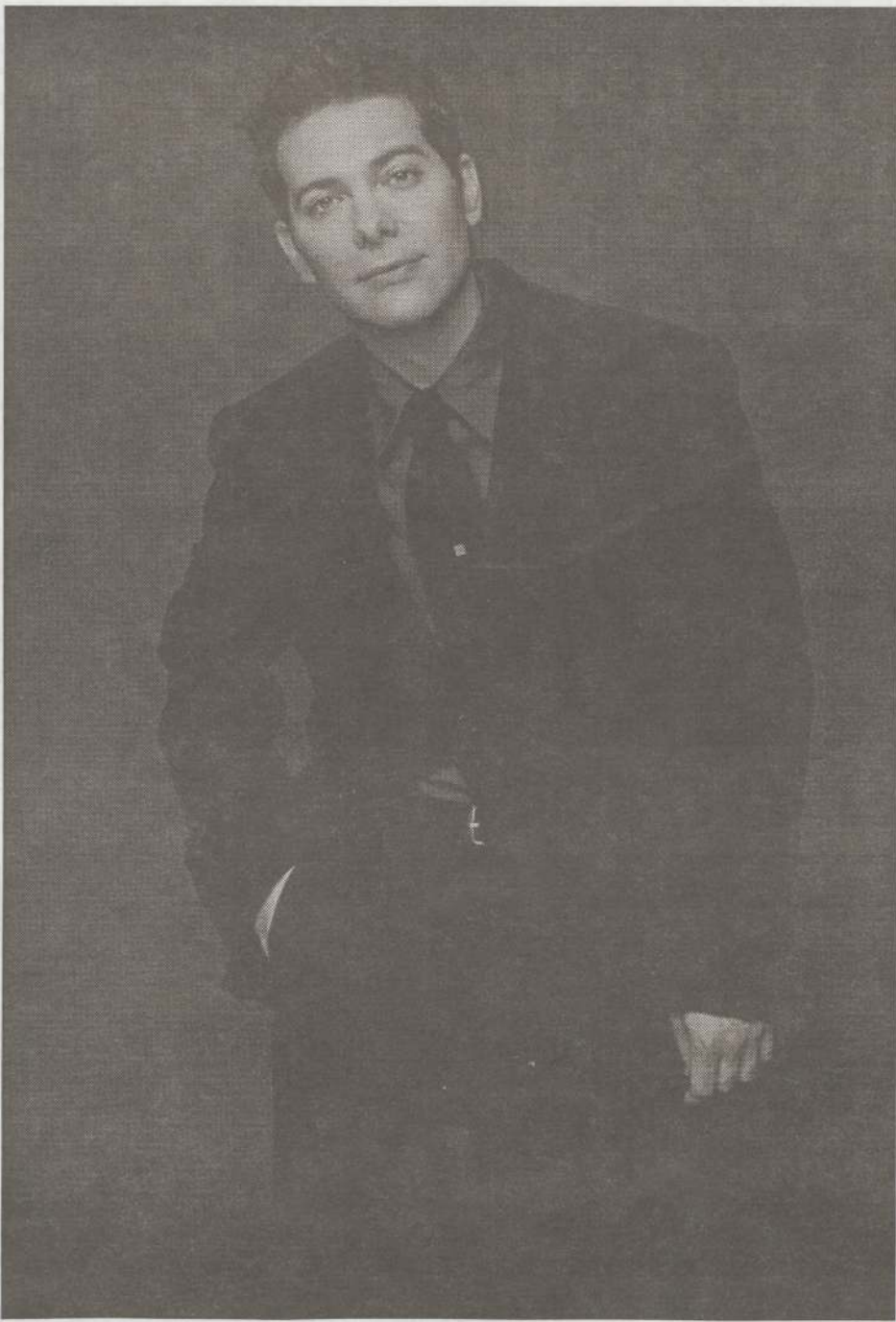
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What's Michael Feinstein doing New Year's Eve?

Out piano man Michael Feinstein has been a bundle of creative energy since his Sundome appearance and coinciding *HeatStroke* cover interview last February.

In September, he put out a highly praised new album that features his first collaboration with bandleader/trumpeter Maynard Ferguson. The disc explores a jazzier, big-band side of Feinstein's vocal and musical abilities. It's called *Big City Rhythms* and makes a great gift for the music fan on anyone's holiday shopping list.

Then last October, Feinstein opened an elegant supper club in New York's

legendary Park Avenue district called Feinstein's at the Regency. With small cafe tables, an intimate seating of 150 guests, and singers like longtime pal Rosemary Clooney and Feinstein himself performing nightly, it's been hailed as a return to the nightclub environment of days gone by and is quickly becoming the in-place to be seen in Manhattan.

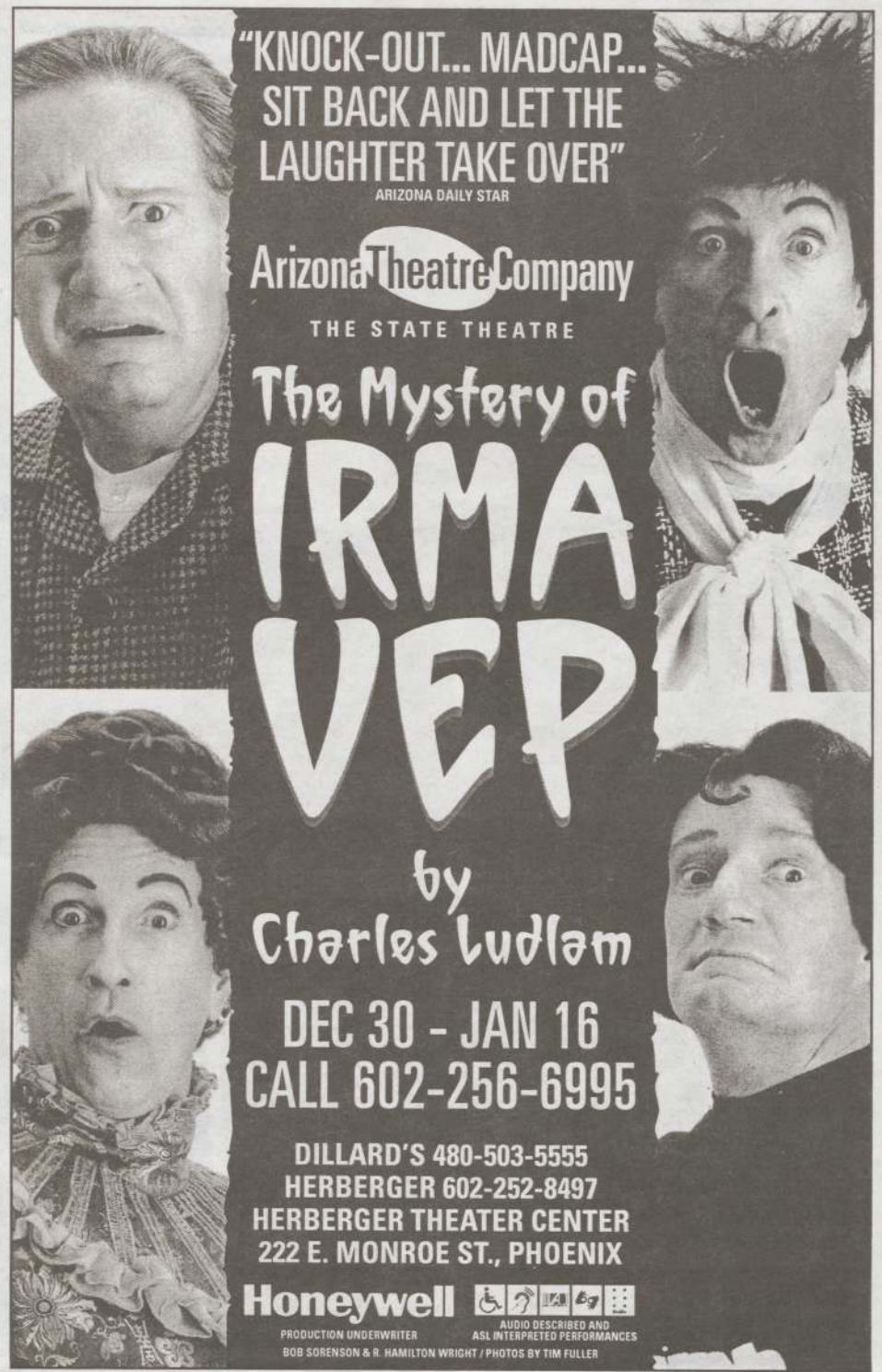
You can see Feinstein for yourself right here in Arizona when he shares the bill with Clooney for a special evening of classics on New Year's Eve at the Tucson Convention Center. Call 520/791-4266 for information.



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The Copperstate Dinner Theater at Max's in Glendale is presenting the hilarious two-man comedy *A Tuna Christmas* throughout the holidays, with a special New Year's Eve performance slated for 7:30 on Dec. 31.

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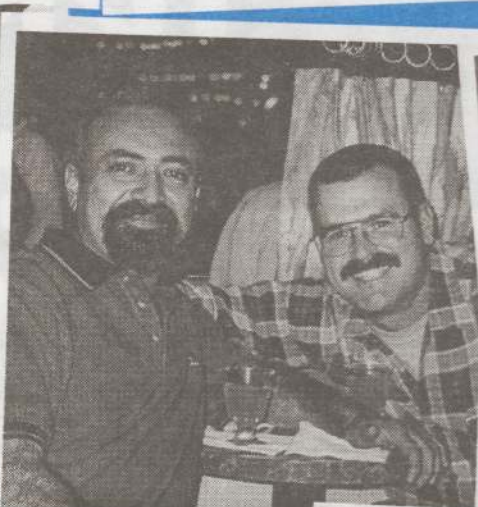
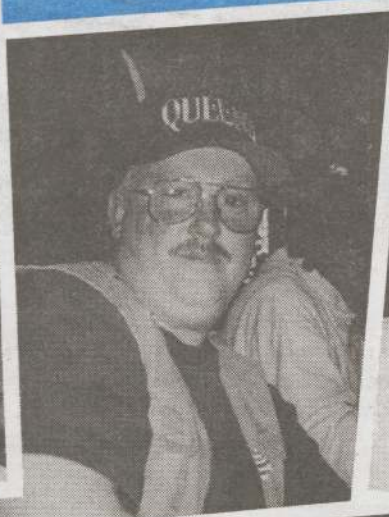
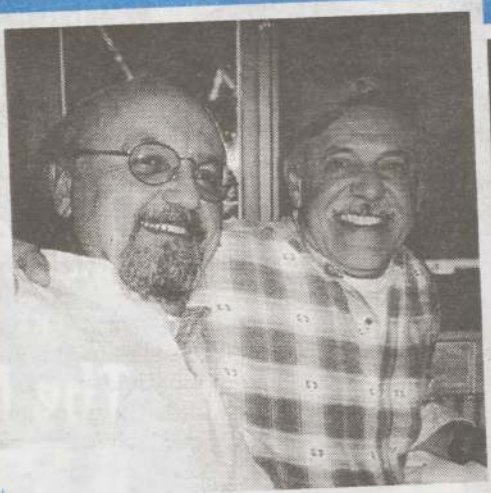


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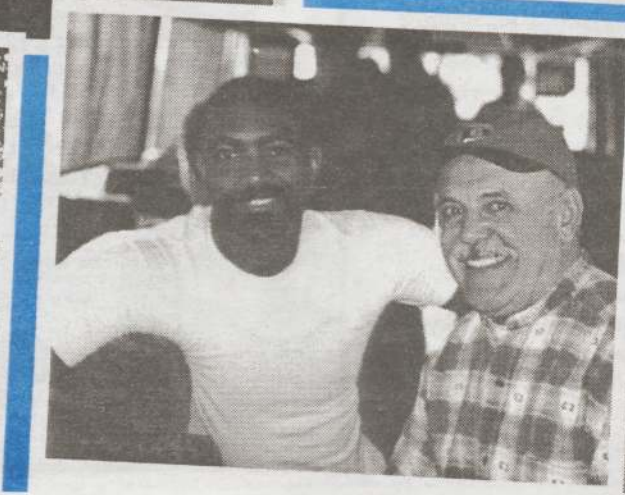
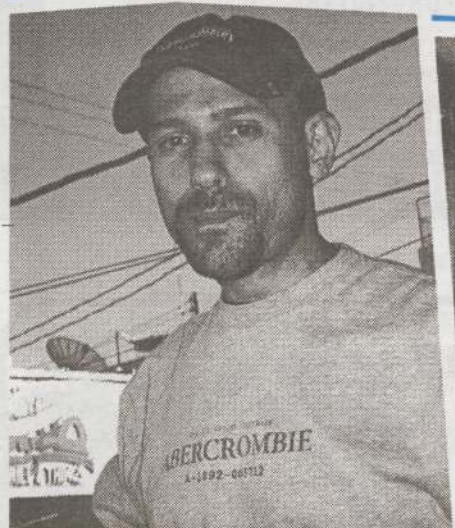
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Feeling X-Posed:

A gay Floridian has created a hilarious new game—and the perfect Christmas gift—for your gay male friends.

By Greg Triggs, Contributor

It all started innocently enough. "Hey Greg," said a friend here in Orlando, "why don't you join a bunch of us in the back room at Out & About Books to play a new board game?"

I'm not all that competitive, but whatever this new game may be, I was eager to crush the other players to a bloody pulp. I quickly accepted, and the trouble started as soon as we sat down at the table.

X-posed is a new game specifically created for gay men by Orlando native Steve Dunn. Combining elements of popular adult games like Monopoly, Careers, and Truth or Dare, the essence of X-posed is simple.

You draw a card that asks a revealing question (Example: "The hardest thing for a gay man to admit is: a) he's getting old, b) he's going bald, c) he's losing his sex drive, d) he's financially strapped."). If your fellow players guess your answer, they win play money. During your turn, you can then buy or trade gay-themed commodities, like a Key West guesthouse or Judy Garland's original ruby slippers. On average, X-posed takes about two very quick hours to play.

Dunn says it took him almost three years to perfect X-posed. An avid game player all his life, he tested and retested different concepts and questions with friends. He also consulted with professionals before finalizing the design, which is simple, durable, clever, and attractive.

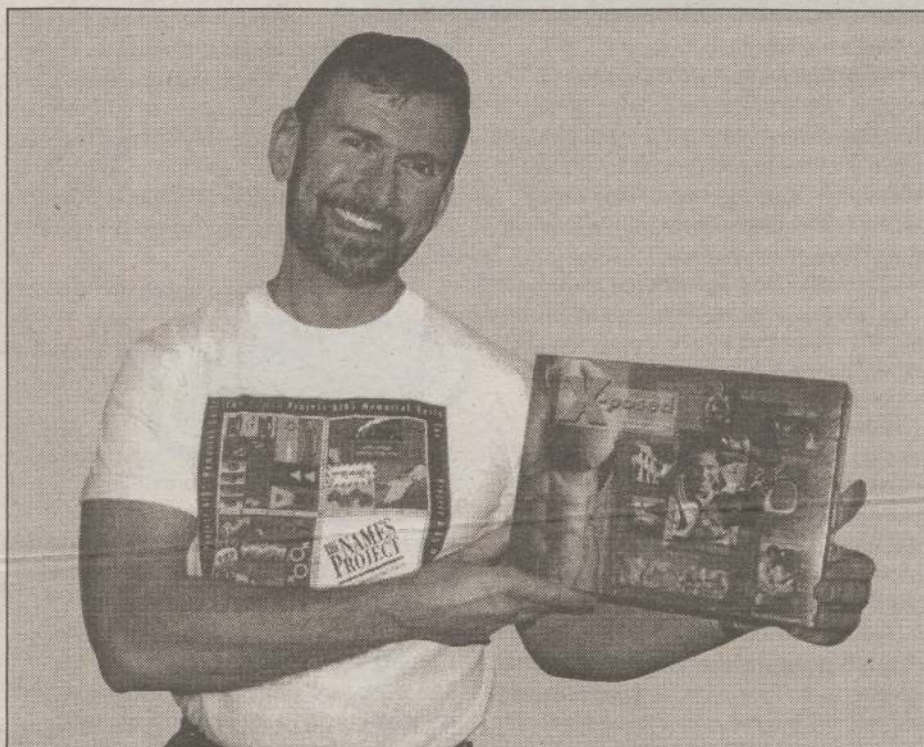
It takes ten or fifteen minutes to figure out how to play the game the first time through, but the investment in time is well worth it. X-posed is thought provoking and fun, involving strategy and no

small amount of self-analysis.

"The game covers the entire spectrum of gay life, injecting a heavy dose of humor along the way," says Dunn. "My goal for X-posed is that it will become a popular alternative to the bars. It's a great way to get friends together for an

screaming at the things I learned about them.

I would be more specific, but good manners prohibit. Besides, trust is an important part of the game. In fact, Dunn says one of his goals is "to get people to open up to each other" while they play X-



evening, and by the end of the game you'll know more about them than you ever imagined."

I couldn't agree more. I played the game with Dunn and two old and dear friends. That was weeks ago, and I still wake up in the middle of the night

posed.

And open up you will, with questions like: "Which of the following are you least likely to do? a) suck toes, b) swallow, c) fist, d) rim, e) balance your checkbook." Or: "How do you think tops are generally perceived by gay men? a) more masculine

than bottoms, b) more in demand than bottoms, c) better hung than bottoms, d) no different than bottoms."

Some questions test your perceptions of your fellow players: "Who do you think is the horniest player?" "Which player can go the longest without masturbating?" "Which player would you say has had the most sex partners?"

In this respect, the game is a little like strip poker of the psyche, without having to take all your clothes off and run around the block (or has that only happened to me?). But it's worth it.

After the questions, you get the chance to go shopping—and for some really neat stuff, too. In this—the equally cutthroat strategy portion of the game—you seek to build monopolies in categories such as real estate, collectibles and stocks. And you don't have to play fair. In fact, in a tremendously satisfying turn of events, you have an opportunity to take things away from the other players. Like life, at the end of the game, the person with the most stuff wins.

I thoroughly enjoyed playing X-posed. I liked hanging out with my friends, and drinking a couple of beers without having to pay a cover to do so. The questions were fun and led to good conversations and numerous belly laughs. And I certainly learned things about my friends that I might not have otherwise. *Ewww!*

X-posed is available in Phoenix at Obelisk: The Bookstore. You can also learn more about the game and order it by visiting www.get-x-posed.com. Pick up a copy of X-posed, but be prepared. The game stays with you long after it's over.

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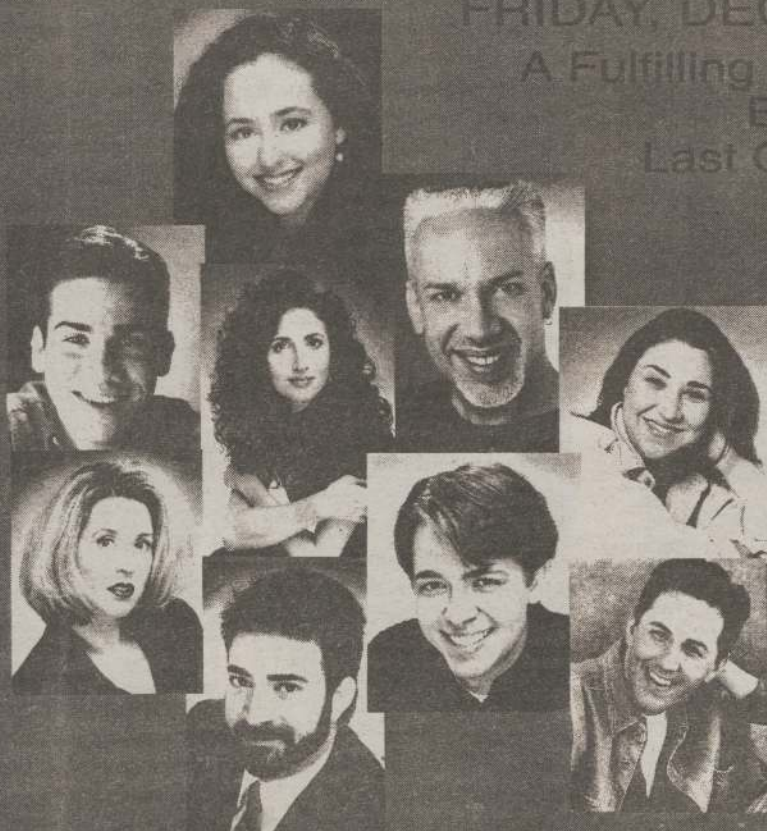
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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"I have a great woman by my side, two great kids, a group of loving, loyal fans and a successful, fulfilling career. And, the best part of it all is that I'm a lesbian who doesn't have to hide who I really am. I'm living the life I always hoped for."

—Rocker Melissa Etheridge to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Oct. 28.

"Julie and I talk a lot about wanting to get legally married, and now that we have two children, we want it even more. To make sure that happens, we're getting involved with as many organizations as we can that are fighting to make same-sex marriages legal. We already know that we want a big wedding. We want to invite the whole world."

—Rocker Melissa Etheridge to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Oct. 28.

"I've lived here in West Hollywood for years—wrapped, I might add, in a veil of utter anonymity—so it was strange when things suddenly changed at our local grocery store, the Mayfair, or the Gayfair, as it's affectionately referred to by one and all. I'd been going there for 12 years without a ripple, but suddenly, from the meat to the toilet tissue section, guys were shrieking, 'Oh, my God, it's Karen!'"

—Actress Megan Mullally (Karen on *Will & Grace*) to the *Advocate*, Nov. 23.

"I've had two relationships with gay men where we were seriously in love. In love. And both times, it started with the guy telling me how he felt. It was just, like, total inner conflict, long, drawn-out, tearful conversations — just wrenching."

—Actress Megan Mullally (Karen on *Will & Grace*) to the *Advocate*, Nov. 23.

"I consider myself bisexual, and my philosophy is, everyone innately is, although I've never had a full-on relationship with a woman, just a couple of what I'd term half-assed dalliances. So I haven't explored it to the degree that I'd like to, but I'll tell you, I'm open to it. And I don't have any problem saying that."

—Actress Megan Mullally (Karen on *Will & Grace*) to the *Advocate*, Nov. 23.

"I appreciate and gravitate toward gay men and women. As a woman I realize the struggle they have had and that they face the same enemy: the establishment. And I've learned from them humor in the face of adversity and pride in being different."

—Actress Susan Sarandon to the *Advocate*, Nov. 23.

"You know, sometimes I get tired of our show being discriminated against because of the perceived lesbian subtext and people constantly trying to define you by it—and this is just a character! But then I realized, Wow—if I feel that way, imagine what it must be like to grow up gay!"

—Xena: Warrior Princess star Lucy Lawless to the *Advocate*, Nov. 23.

"They always say what changes straight people's opinions about homos is knowing a homo. And for a lot of straight people, I'm the homo they know. And I'm not a whiner and I'm not a complainer and I'm not going to them all the time telling them they are bad."

—Syndicated sex-advice columnist Dan Savage to the *Ottawa (Canada) Sun*, Nov. 11.

"I'm an Irish Catholic fag from Chicago. What do I have in common with a Polynesian lesbian immigrant? There's this infantile notion that there is such a thing as a gay community and that they all feel and think the same way about everything."

—Syndicated sex-advice columnist Dan Savage to the *Ottawa (Canada) Sun*, Nov. 11.

"I thought that as I was coming out, it would be a freeing experience for me, a fun thing for my character on the show to deal with. I was really naive, not realizing what a huge event it was going to be. I was shocked when it was leaked to the press and talk radio. I couldn't believe it was such a huge deal."

—Ellen DeGeneres to the *San Francisco Examiner*, Nov. 11.

"That show was my life. I was sad to see it go, especially the way it happened. It was hard on me. I'm the kind of person who is used to doing five things at once. When that stopped and everything else stopped with it, I didn't know what to do with myself. I hadn't been used to dealing with my feelings either. It was hard to embrace the grieving and the sadness, to face the reality that my life had drastically changed."

—Ellen DeGeneres to the *San Francisco Examiner*, Nov. 11.

"We'd wanted to have a baby. We'd been talking about this for a year and a half and we go back and forth. Right now, we don't. At that time, we did. Now, I don't know if I want to change my life that much. We're so spoiled. I like to walk out of the house and go to a movie without having to load up bottles and diapers. But I see a baby and I just want to cry. I think babies are the most. It touches me so much to see a new life that's so full of hope and innocence and purity. It's the closest thing to God there is."

—Ellen DeGeneres to the *San Francisco Examiner*, Nov. 11.

"We used to think that some gay men's obsession with sordid, anonymous, excretory, dangerous, voyeuristic, dirty, degrading, and all-too-public sex was an unhealthy symptom of internalized homophobia—something that the brave new world of gay liberation would sweep away. Instead, gay liberation sanctioned and sanctified it. What drives gay men to the toilets, the bushes, and the back alleys is not self-hatred after all, but some primeval longing—a yearning to connect with our pre-human roots, with our chthonic queerness. It's the work of the brain's ancient, uncivilized core: the naked hypothalamus doing its own slimy,

restless, invertebrate thing, while the cerebral cortex sleeps the sleep of the damned or the drugged."

—Syndicated gay press columnist Simon Levay, writing in Sacramento, California's *Outword*.

"[M]ost [gay] people come from the bland middle of the cultural landscape and, once freed from the need to escape, to find acceptance, will generally remain part of the bland middle. Those

who continue to feel the deep-seated drive to the fringes, I feel, are still motivated by a need to escape some dis-ease they feel where they are in the first place and, in some cases, have a blood thirst for revenge on that which caused that pain in the first place."

—Cliff O'Neill, a widely syndicated gay news reporter in the early 1990s, in a Nov. 12, 1999, e-mail to this column.

"I'm not about to make my personal life public. I'm single and available. If I had a personal life, I'd have a sexual orientation. I have tried, throughout my life, to build coalitions: feminists and civil rights, environmentalists and civil rights. I made a personal decision, as someone fighting openly for the rights of gays, to join the board of the Millennium March on Washington ... to extend my voice, offer my expertise and my organizing ability. I put my energy, voice and spirit into fighting for anybody who wants to speak their voice."

—Al Gore's presidential campaign manager, Donna Brazile, to the *Washington Post*, Nov. 16.

"In a Nov. 16 *Washington Post* profile [Al Gore's campaign manager, Donna Brazile,] once again side-stepped the question [of whether she is gay] by saying, 'If I had a personal life, I'd have a sexual orientation.' OK, she is a lesbian. Heterosexuals do not play verbal games like that. It would not occur to any heterosexual to say that because they did not have a current relationship they were not heterosexual."

—Syndicated gay-press columnist Paul Varnell, in a late November filing.

"Gore and Bradley are competing for the votes of gay, lesbian and bisexual and transgendered voters. This is the first time in American history that two major Presidential candidates have in fact so competed."

—Gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., writing on the queerpolitics e-mail list, Nov. 16.

"The Congressional Black Caucus has by far the best record of any demographic group in the House of Representatives in support of gay, lesbian, and bisexual issues. (Indeed, they have an even better record than the gay and lesbian Members. It is true if you take only openly gay and lesbian Members, we are best. But counting the closet cases, the CBC beats us in voting against homophobia.)"

—Gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., writing on the queerpolitics e-mail list, Nov. 16.

—Neil Nevitte, a professor of political science

at the University of Toronto, said public opinion polls show that Canadians and Americans have similar levels of discomfort and disapproval about homosexuality. The difference, he said, is that while Americans act on those impulses publicly, and try to impose their beliefs on others, Canadians are more private about their views and inclined to take a live-and-let-live attitude."

—The *Washington Post*, Nov. 16.

"I actually had a falling out with PETA [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals]. I did one thing for them back in 1994, and then quickly discovered that I could not support the radical agenda that they had. I don't know if you can find a middle ground with PETA. If we all bent the way that PETA wants us to bend to, I think that's impossible. I'm sorry, I'm going to wear leather. I'm a rock 'n' roll artist and I'm going to wear leather! If testing on animals would have saved the friends I've lost or the father I lost, I'm going to do it."

—Rocker Melissa Etheridge to Texas reporter Stephen Underwood, Nov. 5.

"Gays in the military, I find absurd. I came from a time when people were being killed by our government in a war in Vietnam. My cousins and school friends came back in pieces in body bags. Some people have said it's a lesbian equal-employment issue, because women from poor or rural areas can only become out lesbians by joining the military first. Fine. As long as they don't shoot anybody."

—Gay author Felice Picano to San Diego's *Gay & Lesbian Times*, Nov. 18.

"Q: Would you meet with ... the Log Cabin Republicans?"

"A: Oh, probably not."

"Q: Why not?"

"A: Well, because it creates a huge political scene, I mean, that this is all — I am someone who is a uniter, not a divider. I don't believe in group thought, pitting one group of people against another. And all that does is create kind of a huge political, you know, nightmare for people. I mean, it's as if an individual doesn't count, but the group that the individual belongs in is more important."

—Republican Presidential candidate George W. Bush on TV's *Meet The Press*, Nov. 21.

"The percentage of American households made up of married couples with children dropped from 45 percent in the early 1970s to just 26 percent in 1998."

—The Associated Press Nov. 24, reporting findings from the University of Chicago National Opinion Research Center's annual *General Social Survey*.

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My Queer Life HIGH TIMES

by Michael Thomas Ford

You know that you've lived a sheltered life when a presidential candidate has done more drugs than you have.

I was watching CNN the other night and they were interviewing Democratic presidential hopeful Bill Bradley. The issue about Republican candidate George W. Bush's alleged past drug use came up, and in the course of the discussion Bradley was asked if he'd ever smoked pot.

"On several occasions," Bradley answered without hesitation.

"And did you inhale?" joked the questioner, referring to Bill Clinton's infamous claim about having smoked pot without actually smoking pot.

"I did indeed," said Bradley.

Well, he's one up on me. I've never used pot, or actually any kind of drug at all. Once I thought I did, but I was mistaken. It was all Angeline Kennedy's fault. Angeline was my school's resident pot-head. She and I were friends, and she made it her mission to get me high. While outwardly I protested, secretly I wanted her to make good on her threat because it seemed like such a bad boy thing to do.

One day Angeline arrived at lunch with a smile on her face and a small bag in her hand. It was, she said, marijuana. The real thing. I looked at it with a rapidly-growing sense of alarm and wonder, and asked her what she was going to do with it. She opened the bag, took a pinch of the green leaves, and proceeded to sprinkle them over the little carton of strawberry ice cream that was a part of our lunch selection that day.

"Dig in," she said, grinning.

I took a spoonful of the pot-covered ice cream and tasted it. It wasn't particularly nice, but I figured that since I'd stuck

my toe in the waters I might as well go all the way. I quickly ate the rest of it and put the dish down.

"I don't feel anything," I said to Angeline.

"Don't worry," she said. "It takes a



while."

As it happened, that afternoon my mother and I were driving to my sister's house for the weekend. She picked me up at school right after lunch. As I got into the car, I wondered if she could tell that I was high. Because I was sure that I must be high. After all, I'd eaten pot. I settled nervously into my seat and tried to remember all of the things we'd learned in health class about the signs of drug

use. I kept trying to look at my eyes in the rearview mirror to see if they were blood-shot, but if my mother noticed she didn't say anything.

For the entire five-hour trip I debated whether or not I was high. I didn't really feel any different, but I knew that I must be under some kind of influence. After all, I'd ingested real live marijuana. I even tried being more high than I seemed to be, squinting my eyes and giggling a little. But I just felt stupid, and eventually I settled into a morose silence, trying to

console myself with the thought that I was in a car with my mother and I was stoned.

It felt very much like a movie of the week, very after school special. I imagined myself getting high on a regular basis, hiding the pot from my mother inside a hollowed-out Bible or something. My grades would slip, and I would start to have friends of dubious reputation. It would all be very wicked, and when it was over I would be a different person, edgier and street-wise like the girls in the novels I sometimes got from our church library who ran away from home, became hookers, and had to be rescued from foul-mouthed pimps by their dedicated and surprisingly attractive

youth group leaders.

All weekend I remained in my new-found druggie persona. I sat on the couch, watching my sister and my mother and thinking, "They have no idea that I use." If they asked me questions, I lied just for the practice. I knew it would come in handy later on. By the time we returned home on Sunday night, I was ready for the big time. On Monday when I saw Angeline, I asked her when she could score for me again!

"That wasn't pot," she said, laughing. "It was oregano. I was just fooling with you."

I've been getting high on oregano ever since. The sad truth is that I probably wouldn't know a real drug experience from the one I could convince myself I was having. Besides, I'm convinced that if I do take anything, the very second my consciousness is altered the house will catch fire from some freak accident and I won't be coherent enough to get the dog out.

I realize that this is the vestigial remains of good old Baptist guilt, but it's there nonetheless. In the same way, I just know that if I were to snort cocaine, it would inevitably come from a bag that had been cut with rat poison and my brain would explode on the spot.

Honestly, I don't think I've missed anything by not playing around with drugs. But when a presidential candidate, of all people, has done more than you have, it makes you wonder if maybe you haven't been just a little too uptight about things.

The problem is that it's too late to start now. Experimenting with drugs at 22 is sort of hip and expected, like announcing that you're a Communist for a week or two. But at 30-something it's more like buying a red convertible and trading in your perfectly wonderful boyfriend for a moody French underwear model. It just means you're trying too hard.

So I'll leave the coke and the Ecstasy to other people. I still have the memories of my oregano-induced weekend to get me by when I need to relive my wild days.



Michael Thomas Ford is the Lambda Literary Award-winning author of *Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me and That's Mr. Faggot to You*. Write to him at Shopiltee@aol.com



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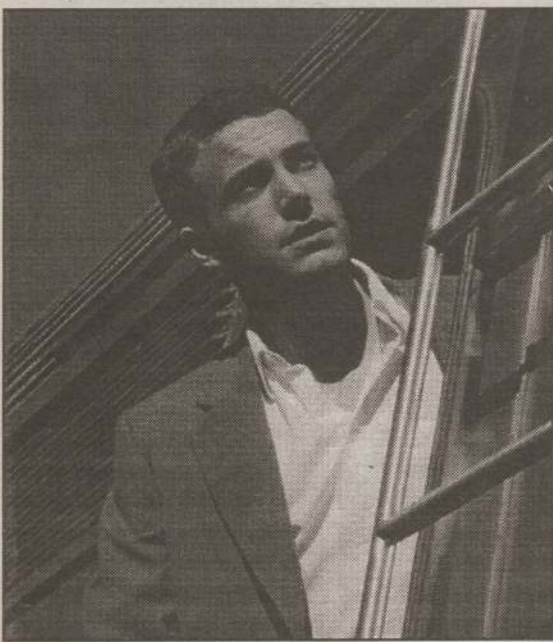
Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

Ben May Bat on Our Side

Ben Affleck, who has just wrapped production on the hetero-romantic comedy *Bounce* with sometime girlfriend Gwyneth Paltrow, is thinking about taking a queer role for his next project.

The Boston-bred hunk may be suiting up as a Major League shortstop who finds himself falling in love with a second baseman in the feature-film version of Peter Lefcourt's 1992 novel, *The Dreyfus Affair: A Love Story*.



Ben Affleck is considering the lead role in the homo-themed baseball flick *The Dreyfus Affair: A Love Story*.

Private Parts director Betty Thomas is set to helm the pic, which is rumored to have guy-guy kisses but no graphic sex (bum... mer).

While no deal has been finalized, Affleck, a diehard Boston Red Sox fan, definitely has the inside track. He's very close to Chris Moore, a *Dreyfus Affair* producer who worked closely with Affleck on *Good Will Hunting*. Hmm... now let's see if Ben can convince best bud Matt Damon to share the locker room with him.

Van Sant's Broken Back?

Brokeback Mountain, the queer cowboy flick that gay director Gus Van Sant has been developing for well over a year, has stalled.

Rumor has it that producer Scott Rudin now wants Van Sant off the film since he's failed to generate interest from major stars. Apparently Rudin, queer himself, thinks another director might have better luck attracting strapping young men with marquee value.

While Van Sant was regarded a few years back as a director who was getting the most out of actresses, all that seemed to have changed when he got critical

acclaim (and an Academy Award nomination) for directing *Good Will Hunting*.

Maybe it's time for Ben-n'-Matt to just saddle up and reteam with Van Sant and make everyone happy—especially Romeo.

Queer Sundance

Lesbian skibunnies and queers who like the cold should book their tickets now if they plan on checking out the Y2K Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

The Sundance slate has just been announced, and there is plenty of interesting indie fare.

Premiering at the festival is director Greg Barlanti's tale about gay pretty boys from West Hollywood who begin to confront their futures; it stars *Go* hottie Timothy Olyphant and *Frasier* star John Mahoney. Keep your eyes peeled, too, for *High Art* babe Radha Mitchell in *Everything Put Together*, director Mark Forster's film about a suburban woman shunned by her peers when her baby dies at birth. And avowed heterosexual Kevin Spacey will star in the drama *The Big Kahuna*.

Competing in the documentary division is *Paragraph 175*, a film by Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman, the husband-and-husband team that gave us the most excellent *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt* and *The Celluloid Closet*.

Their new film (which was originally titled *Pink Triangle*) explores the fate of gays in Nazi Germany during the Holocaust.

Playing out of competition is *Punks* by director Patrik-Ian Polk, an extravaganza billed as "the first all-black-and-gay music-driven film." And in the midnight lineup you'll find Jamie Babbit's tale of a homosexual rehab camp, *But I'm A Cheerleader*, featuring slums of Beverly Hills star Natasha Lyonne.

The festival runs January 20-30, 2000.

Too Hot for Havana

Spanish hunk Javier Bardem, who ignited the screen a few years ago in *Jamon*, *Jamon* and then in Pedro Almodovar's *Live Flesh*, is set to play the lead in an upcoming film based on the moving autobiography of gay Cuban poet Reinaldo Arenas, *Before Night Falls*.

He'll be joined by the ever-adventurous Johnny Depp, who takes on a dual role in the film, both as a transsexual and a military officer. Arenas, a novelist and poet, originally fought on the side of the Cuban revolution but then became disillusioned with the Castro regime.

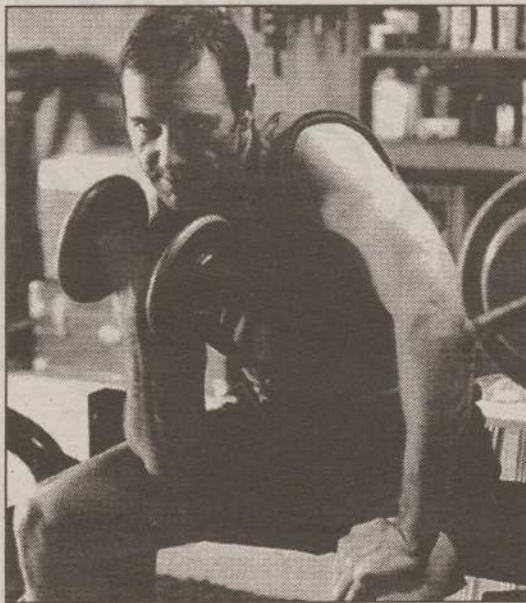
He endured a brutal imprisonment for being gay and then, in 1980, was sent into

exile in the United States on the infamous Mariel boatlift. Sick with AIDS and disappointed with the "soulless" materialism he found in New York, the writer committed suicide in 1990, after completing his autobiography.

Artist and *Basquiat* director Julian Schnabel will helm the film production, while bad boy Sean Penn takes a role as a Cuban peasant. No release date has yet been scheduled for *Before Night Falls*.

Spacey is Gonna Pay

Academy Award winner Kevin Spacey (and let's face it, he's a shoo-in to get another this year for *American Beauty*) is in final talks to join the cast of *Pay It Forward*, the next feature film from *Deep Impact* director Mimi Leder.



Kevin Spacey is slated to appear in Mimi Leder's next film *Pay It Forward*.

The gritty drama is based on a still-to-be-published novel by Catherine Ryan Hyde about a kid's plan to better the world through what is essentially a reverse pyramid scheme of good deeds and random acts of kindness.

If Spacey's deal closes, he'll take on the role of a Vietnam vet who is scarred both physically and emotionally (in the book the character is African-American). The boy in the story (played by *Sixth Sense* wunderkind Haley Joel Osment) is actually attempting to play matchmaker for his alcoholic mother, a role that has been mentioned for Helen Hunt. No date has been set for production, but the book will be published in February 2000.

Paris Has Got Cher, Babe

Apparently Cher, who's resuscitated her career more times than I can count, is under the mistaken impression that she's mortal. Turns out she's just bought herself a plot in the swanky Pere LaChaise Cemetery in Paris, the final resting place of fel-

low chanteuse Edith Piaf, as well as famous queers Oscar Wilde and Gertrude Stein (in a joint plot with Alice B. Toklas).

Not just anyone can fork over cash to get a plot at Pere LaChaise—the cemetery is supposed to be reserved for Paris residents. And the bureaucrats aren't really dying for any more bodies with a cult following, considering how much graffiti they have to deal with on the monument to Jim Morrison. Maybe they sold Cher the \$4,330 plot because they don't believe she's ever really gonna die.

Spy Gets a Sex Change for Jodie

Paramount Pictures and *Clear and Present Danger* producer Mace Neufeld have agreed to pay for a sex change operation with hopes of luring Jodie Foster to star in a new spy-movie franchise based on books by suspense-meister Bob Reiss.

The first film will be taken from Reiss's yet-to-be-published new novel, about a New York police detective in the sex crimes unit who gets involved in a scandal. That project will be followed by a film based on Reiss's very popular novel *The Last Spy*, a project that Neufeld has been working on in tandem with Foster's production company. The book had a male protagonist, but the story is currently being rewritten for a female lead (that would be Jodie, if all goes as planned).

The Last Spy deals with a group of spies planted in the United States by Russia who are being assassinated after the end of the Cold War.

Neufeld has had great success with the Jack Ryan pictures, so let's hope the rewrite is good enough to snag Ms. Foster.

Romeo San Vicente plans to live forever. You can reach Romeo in care of HeatStroke or via e-mail RomeoDeep@aol.com.

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Out of Town

By
Andrew Collins



Florida Accommodations on a Bankroll

Especially during winter, when well-endowed (financially, that is) guppies and yuppies seek escape from frigid climes and gray skies, Florida's hottest getaways abound with big spenders and high rollers.

Some may be looking for a trendy, sexy hotel in the heart of gay nightlife and steps from the beaches, while others desire a low-keyed and peaceful mini-resort where you won't encounter guests with a lot of attitude—or a lot of clothing on, for that matter.

South Beach, of course, has been an A-list lesbian and gay destination for more than a decade—ever since savvy developers and preservationists began scooping up tired, boarded-up Art Deco buildings and converting them into fancy, shamelessly plush hotels. It seems that a high-profile property opens every few months down here, and indeed, a sampling of the island's swankiest hostelryes includes both new and tried-and-true names.

Among the most sumptuous veterans is the intimate Hotel Impala, one of the finest small accommodations in South Florida. The appeal here lies in the relatively understated elegance of the place—a welcome relief from the over-the-top, harem-inspired decor of some competitors. Imported cotton linens, Eastlake

South beach has been an A-list lesbian and gay destination for more than a decade—ever since savvy developers and preservationists began scooping up tired, boarded-up Art Deco buildings and converting them into fancy, shamelessly plush hotels.

sleigh beds, and spacious bathrooms with big tubs are ideal for a romantic getaway. State-of-the-art communication and entertainment centers keep business or pleasure close at hand.

Cosmetic surgery transformed the derelict Tides into a luxury hotel in 1997. The scheme of light woods, beiges, and whites in the lobby and oversize guestrooms creates a clean, beachy feel. In-room amenities provide every comfort:

down pillows and comforters, entertainment systems, and telescopes directed seaward.

No mere hotel—the Delano is a shrine to pop culture. The restored Deco giant is bathed in milky whites: The rather small rooms are white, from the slipcovers to the TV sets. Billowing white draperies hang in the soaring white-columned lobby. The staff of would-be models is clad head to toe in—you guessed it—white. Some call this monochromatic obsession chic and mesmerizing; others observe that the Delano feels a bit like a fancy psychiatric hospital.

Far less minimalist but no less hip, the suave National Hotel, which with its perfectly renovated Art Deco rooms feels like a sophisticated set piece from a Bogart and Bacall movie; it sits directly on the ocean, with a pair of fine restaurants and a comfy lounge, plus a beautiful pool that's typically swarming with equally beautiful people.

One of the area's leading preservationists, Tony Goldman, teamed up with high-fashion designer Todd Oldham in 1998 to open what is called simply The Hotel, a late '30s beauty whose attributes include a renowned spa, knowing concierge service, an excellent fitness center, a rooftop ocean-view pool, and rooms that blend the artful streamlined elegance of Art Deco with Oldham's inimitable eye for colors and fine interior detailing.

Another recent restoration of considerable note has been the Winterhaven, which was designed originally by Art Deco icon Albert Anis in 1937 and re-emerged as a tony sun-filled hotel in 1999 after a major overhaul. Many of the rooms of this Ocean Drive property gaze out upon the beach and water.

Key West offers a decidedly more laid-back taste of paradise, making it a top choice for men and women who want little more than to laze about sipping frozen drinks and sunning their bods.

There are few more appealing places to do this than at the Brass Key, a duo of immaculate yellow clapboard buildings that contain some of the most elegant rooms on the island, with tropical-print quilts, high-quality colonial reproductions, and clean, modern baths. Every detail has been thought considered—including phones with dataports and voice mail, TVs with VCRs, and a generous cocktail party held each evening around the hot tub.

Similar in quality to the Brass Key, Big Ruby's caters to a slightly more singles-oriented set. The resort is secluded and peaceful, with beautiful landscaping, an abundance of sundecks, and an unusual outdoor shower large enough for two. As for the staff, you won't find a warmer or more professional bunch of guys in Key West.

It's not specifically gay, but if money is

no object, consider nesting at Key West's ultra-exclusive Pier House Resort. Just off Mallory Square, this magnificent hideaway has rooms outfitted with whirlpool baths, CD players, VCRs, and other cushy accouterments. There's also a beloved but pricey restaurant and one of the most impressive health spas on the island.

You don't hear about it as much as some, but the Heron House ranks among the best of the island's several straight-but-gay-friendly luxury inns. Rooms are richly furnished with teak, oak, and cedar walls, granite bathtubs, stained-glass transoms above the French doors, and vibrant colors and fabrics.

Key West and Miami Beach may be Florida's leading destinations among gay travelers with bucks to burn, but there are enticing gay-friendly resorts and hotels throughout the state.

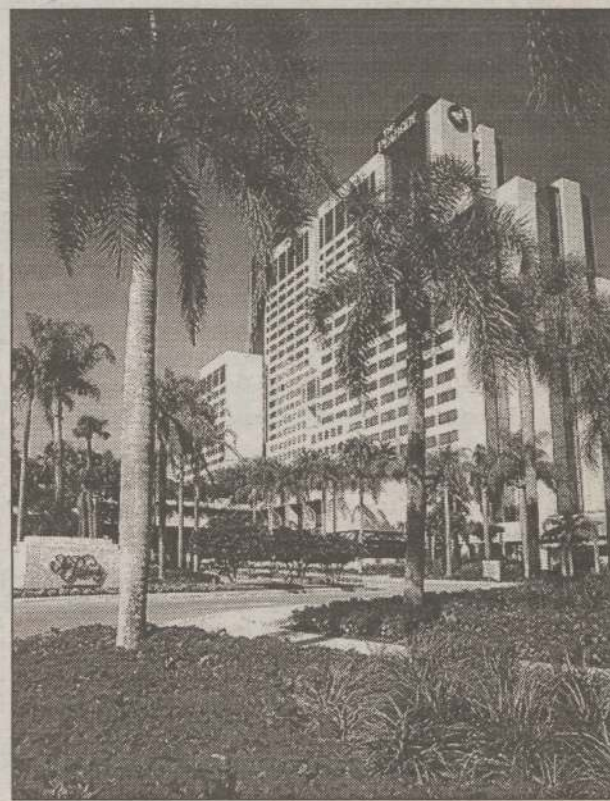
Fort Lauderdale contains one of the gay and lesbian community's favorite upscale retreats, the Royal Palms. The secluded complex comprises cheerfully furnished rooms (a few are full suites), some of which have balconies overlooking the pool, VCRs, CD players, and kitchenettes. You can wander about the sparkling, clothing-optional grounds, walk two short blocks to the beach, or arrange for a visit from the talented masseur.

If you're planning to be in Tampa, the Hyatt Regency Westshore is one of the best deluxe choices around—this high-rise tends to attract business travelers during the week but becomes more of a leisure favorite on weekends. Rooms are sumptuous with pastel hues and balconies, many of them looking directly over Tampa Bay and a neighboring 35-acre nature preserve. The location on the western edge of the city is quiet and secluded, and there's a very nice spa, pool area, and restaurant.

A final great getaway when you feel the need for a little pampering is Orlando, home not only of Disney and a zillion other theme-park diversions but also the Veranda B&B, one of the most attractive and well-run queer-friendly inns in Florida. This luxurious compound of four gloriously restored turn-of-the-century buildings captures the historic character and romantic ambience of Key West, if not the high degree of sexual energy.

Or if you're seeking the modern and extensive facilities of a full-scale resort, check into the Orlando branch of the

Memphis grande dame, the Peabody, which combines the southern charm of its sister property with the lively buzz of central Florida. It's beside the convention center, so the mobs of guests can be an annoyance. But the rooms are a study in



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decadence, and you've got great restaurants, a top-notch fitness center, and tennis courts at your disposal.

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Andrew Collins authored *Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA*, as well as six gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at GayFodors@aol.com.

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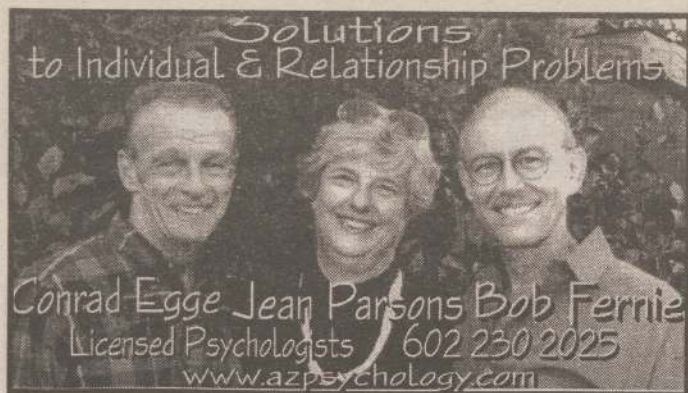
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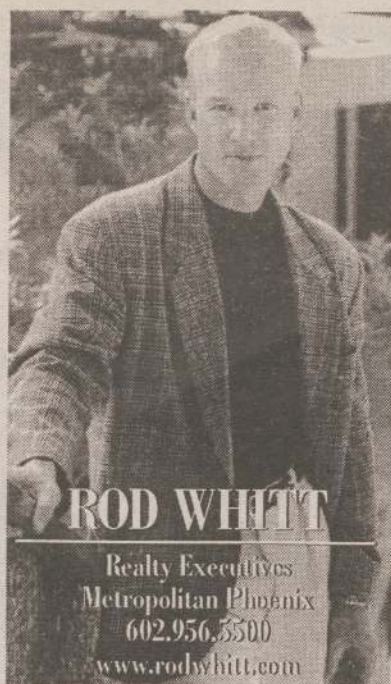
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Member American Counseling Association

DOUG W. GRIFFORE, C.P.A.
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E-mail: dgriffore@swlink.net

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"DEAR COWBOY" A REGULAR ADVICE COLUMN



We've rounded up a real cowboy who's tough as rawhide but gentle as a poet. Ask him anything. Calmer and wiser than most of us, he's full of strong coffee and good advice. And he never squints into the sun.

Send your questions to "Dear Cowboy," c/o HeatStroke, P.O. Box 33430, Phoenix, AZ 85067, or e-mail to alkalpx@aol.com — we'll pass them along to the wise one for you.

Dear Cowboy,

I was born an' raised on workin' cattle ranches 'ere in southeastern AZ. I'm a breakin' horses and a runnin' cattle down Wilcox way. My father an' 'is brother punched cows for forty-odd some years. I myself have worked on many a outfit.

I've read your writin's a couple a times now, an' bit my lip long enough! Son, we don't (we—meanin' the real shit) throw 'round words like "partner", "cowboys", "bunkhouse" (the word we use is shack), an' all your other duded-up, Hollywood-style way a talkin' 'r writin'. It's downright insultin', let alone flat out lyin' to an' misleadin' the public.

A cowboy is someone who works cattle for a living on a workin' cattle ranch. A ranch ain't made up of a few acres. It's

made up a sections. A section is 640 acres. Most start at 'round three sections, which is a small outfit.

Just 'cause a feller wears a hat 'r boots, maybe has a horse 'r two, 'r ropes, don't make 'm a cowboy.

I sure the hell don't dress up 'r wear clothin' like a doctor, policeman, 'r fireman an' have the balls ta call myself one.

If you are a workin' cowboy, 'r punched cows an' 'r just dude'n it up for the folks, that's fair enough. But if you're just a bunch a steamin' cow shit, then cut the crap, 'cause you surely caint be tellin' folks ta be honest 'r up front if you ain't.

Signed, Jesse in Vail, AZ

Dear Jesse,

Easy there, pardner. I remember my

very first sip of whiskey, too. Get some rest, drink plenty of liquids, and you'll be just fine by the day after tomorrow.

Dear Cowboy,

One of my resolutions for 1999 was to be more adventurous with sex. Actually, my goal was to have a three-way, which I have never done even though I am almost 40. Don't laugh. I am serious.

The trouble is I don't know how to go about it. You always hear about gay men being so promiscuous and couples who have three ways all the time. But all the couples I know don't do that, or else I am not attracted to them.

How do I ask hot couples when I meet them out in a bar or at a party if they are interested in breaking me in? I don't want to offend anybody, but on the other hand I guess I need to get more aggressive. I only have a few weeks of 1999 left!

Signed, Goal Setter in Tempe
Dear Goal Setter,

First off: drop the time limit. There's no need to put undue pressure on yourself. If I were you, I'd forget about trying to mess around with couples I already consider friends, 'cause sex can lead to all kinds of complications and jealousies in your friendship (although I'll admit it works quite well for some). I'd also be careful of approaching paired-up guys in bars or at parties.

Unless the atmosphere is already on the raunchy side, your request might be interpreted as inappropriate for the location.

What you ought to do is get hooked up to a sex bulletin board on the Internet, or try out

the telephone personal lines advertised in this paper. Put your idea out there in an ad that includes your stats and age, and what kind of team you're looking for. Be honest and careful and trust your instincts, and you'll find a pair of partners willing to give you a turn in their arena. Remember to play safe and sober. Good luck.

One of my resolutions for 1999 was to be more adventurous with sex. Actually, my goal was to have a three-way, which I have never done even though I am almost 40.

Directory of Nonprofit Services for the Phoenix Metro Gay & Lesbian Community

HIV Services

AGAPE Network
P.O. Box 32778
Phoenix 85064 602/234-6143

AIDS Project Arizona
1427 N. 3rd Street, Suite 125
Phoenix 85004 602/253-2437

A Place Called Home
3431 W. Thunderbird #13-403
Phoenix 85023 602/942-1572

Arizona AIDS Information Line
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
Phoenix 85013 602/234-2752

Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance
6523 N. 14th St., #112
Phoenix 85014 602/279-4805

AZ AIDS Services for the Deaf
111 E. Camelback
Phoenix 85012 602/265-9953

Aunt Rita's Foundation
5501 N. 7th Ave #215
Phoenix 85013 602/279-0716

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

HIV Care Director
1366 E. Thomas #105
Phoenix 85014 602/264-2273

Native American Community
Health Center
3008 N. 3rd Street, Suite 302
Phoenix 85012 602/279-5262

Joshua Tree Feeding Program
P.O. Box 7056
Phoenix 85011 602/264-0223

Maricopa County Health Dept.
1825 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 85006 602/506-6900

Planned Parenthood
5651 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 85016 602/277-7526

Phx. Body Positive
4021 N. 30th St. #2
Phoenix 85016 602/955-4673

Phx. Shanti Group
2020 W. Indian School Rd. #53
Phoenix 85015 602/279-0008

Terros, Inc.
320 E. Virginia Ave.
Phoenix 85004 602/234-8900

Volunteers in Direct Aid
P.O. Box 40476
Phoenix 85067 602/279-8432

Wellness Center
1840 W. Maryland, Suite E
Phoenix 85016 602/864-0710

Political Action & Education

American Civil Liberties Union
P.O. Box 17148
Phoenix 85011 602/650-1967

Arizona Central Pride
P.O. Box 16847
Phoenix 85011 602/279-1771

Arizona Human Rights Fund
P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix 85002 602/650-0900

Arizonans for Fairness
P.O. Box 34766
Phoenix 85067 602/265-7283

AZ Democratic Party
Gay & Lesbian Caucus
2005 N. Central #180
Phoenix 85004 602/257-9136

Lesbian & Gay Public Awareness
Project
P.O. Box 60881
Phoenix 85082 602/351-3080

Log Cabin Republicans
P.O. Box 60994
Phoenix 85082 602/428-3596

Maricopa Cty. Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 501
Phoenix 85001 602/248-8425

Social & Support Groups

Alpha Zeta—Crossdressers Supp.
A Rose—Transgender Support
P.O. Box 1738
Tempe 85280 480/488-0959

APEX-AZ Power Exchange
apex@xroads.com
602/415-1123

Arizona 2-somes 602/277-8796

Arizona Nude Dudes
www.aznudedudes.org
andes@swlink.net

Bears of the Arizona Desert
PO Box 25951
Tempe 85285 480/345-8755
www.bearsazdesert.com

Copperstate Leathersmen
P.O. Box 40472
Phoenix, AZ 85067

Delta Lambda Phi - Phoenix
903 S. Rural Rd., Suite 101-317
Tempe 85281 602/248-5270

Desert Adventures
P.O. Box 2008
Phoenix, 85001 602/266-2267

Entre Nosotras
546 E. Osborn, #22
Phoenix 85012 602/285-0970

FATHOM
PO Box 83072
Phoenix 85029
www.psn.net/~damour

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual
Veterans of America, Phoenix
602/864-6092;
pblva@aol.com

Gay Lesbian Yavapai Alliance
PO Box 3241
Prescott, AZ 86302-6558
520/541-0938

Girth and Mirth of AZ
P.O. Box 16605
Phoenix 85011 480/655-8229

The Leatherfords 602/254-9651

Lesbian & Gay Alanon
2622 N. 16th Street
Phoenix 85006 602/548-0936

Lesbian & Gay Overeaters Anon.
480/607-7640;
cave-ibear@hotmail.com

Los Amigos del Sol (LADS)
PO Box 27335
Phoenix 85061 602/997-2411

Parents & Friends of Lesbians
and Gays
P.O. Box 7625
Phoenix 85011 602/843-1404

Prime Timers of Phoenix
602/993-8337
www.primetimers.org/phoenix

Project LifeGuard
Project Q
TRIBE
1427 M/3rd Street, Suite 120
Phoenix 85004 602/254-3233

The Community Center and
Youth Services 602/265-7283
Lesbian & Gay Community
Switchboard 602/234-2752
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
PO Box 33367
Phoenix, AZ 85067-3367

Professional Enrichment & Networking

Greater Phoenix Gay & Lesbian
Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 2097
Phoenix 85001 602/225-8444

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

Affirmation (Gay Mormons)
P.O. Box 26601
Tempe, 85285 602/553-8674

Asbury United Methodist Church
1601W Indian School
Phoenix 85015 602/279-2369

AVIV of Arizona (Jewish Group)
PO Box 66904
Phoenix 85082 602/952-1612

Casa De Cristo
1029 E. Turney
Phoenix 85014 602/265-2831

Christ of the Desert Catholic Ch.
of the Antioch 602/230-5358

Community Church of Hope
4400 N. Central
Phoenix 85014 602/234-2180

Dignity and Integrity
P.O. Box 60953
Phoenix 85082 602/222-8664

Gentle Shepherd MCC
7810 N. 27th Ave.
Phoenix 85051 602/864-6404

Goddess Womyn's Network
480/610-8061 ext. 3

Healing Waters Ministries
225 W. University, 105
Tempe 85281 480/894-8681

Lutherans Concerned
P.O. Box 7519
Phoenix 85011 602/870-3611

Presbyterians for Lesbians & Gays
P.O. Box 61162
Phoenix 85082 602/275-0506

Unitarian Universalist Congreg.
4027 E. Lincoln Dr.
Paradise Valley 85253
602/840-8400

Valley Unitarian Universalist Ch.
1700 W. Warner Rd.
Chandler 85224 480/899-4249

Music, Sports & Hobby Groups

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association
P.O. Box 16363
Phoenix 85011 602/265-0618

AZ Women in Tune
PO Box 37855
Phoenix 85069 602/518-5430

Cactus City Softball League
PO Box 15101
Phoenix 85064 602/287-9573

Charlie's Renegades
P.O. Box 17602
Phoenix 85011 602/277-9142

Desert Adventures
PO Box 2008
Phoenix 85001 602/266-CAMP

Desert Valley Squares
P.O. Box 34615
Phoenix, AZ 85067 480/990-2562

Gay League Association of Darts
P.O. Box 63251
Phoenix, AZ 85082

Grand Canyon Men's Choral
P.O. Box 16462
Phoenix 85011 602/340-7640

Lambda Car Club
P.O. Box 36211
Phoenix 85067 602/409-3160

Phoenix Tennis Alliance
602/359-0936

Phoenix Unified Gay Bowling
Alliance (PUGBA)
PO Box 44422
Phoenix 85064 602/246-9643

Spartan Wrestling Club
602/340-8070
matbims@aol.com

Team Arizona
P.O. Box 36431
Phoenix 85067 602/408-4311
teamarizona.org

Valley of the Sun Comm'ty Band
Jayne: 480/947-0907;
Terry: 602/954-9244



MARKETPLACE

HeatStroke Advertisers—They Support Our Community!

Accountants

Doug Griffith, CPA 623/334-1101

Attorneys

William Graves 602/381-6253
Kathie J. Gummere 602/952-0293
Roger Rea 602/248-7921
Bernard Rethore 602/381-6253

Counselors

Diane E. D'Angelo, MC, CPC 602/997-8199
Conrad Egge, PhD 602/230-2025
Bob Fernie, PhD 602/230-2025
Jean Parsons, PhD 602/230-2025
ManPower (Keith Thompson) 602-506-6857

Florists

Community Florist 602/266-6648

Graphic Design

Steve Anderson 602/263-7803
Jack A. Konnick 602/254-6977

Hair Design

Arcadia Cuts 602/952-2624
Salon Exodus (Eric or Robert) 602/955-2121

Health Care

Chad Schroer, NMD 480/368-0808
Thanes Vanig, MD 480/368-0808
Sherry Tackett, MSN 602/266-4670

Home Services

Colt Heating & Cooling 602/712-1244
Don Williams Builders, Inc. 602/246-8591
Facilities Maintenance Co. 602/956-8515
Rainbow Home Repair 602/440-5367

Insurance

Murray Sullivan (Farmers) 480/860-0920

Instruction

Martial Arts Instruction 602/331-1230

Mortgages

Dan Baugh (Waterfield Mort.) 602/996-5882

Nightlife

Amsterdam 602/258-6122
Apollo's 602/277-8373
Cash Inn 602/244-9943
Charlie's 602/265-0224
Doc Gireaux 602/997-9461
JC's Fun One Lounge 623/393-0528
Nu-Towne Saloon 602/267-9959
The Water Hole 623/937-3139

Out-of-Town

Bacchanal (Palm Springs) 800/806-9059
Desert Paradise (Palm Springs) 800/342-7635

Pet Services

Most Valuable Pet (Joe) 602/955-3471
Petland (Ed) 480/844-2920
Alicia Ruiz, DVM 602/277-5155

Realtors

Larry Neaman 480/922-6943
Mario Romero 602/943-3003
Lisa L. Seeley 602/252-7777
John Walsh 480/922-6943
Sam Wercinski 480/922-6943
Rod Whitt 602/956-5500

Restaurants

Pookie's 602/277-2121

Retail

BestWay Carpet & Floors 602/631-6925
BOSS Hugo Boss SHOP 480/970-3393
The Garden Walk 480/926-4794
Historic District Antique Mall 602/253-3778
Obelisk, The Bookstore 602/266-800K

Spiritual Groups

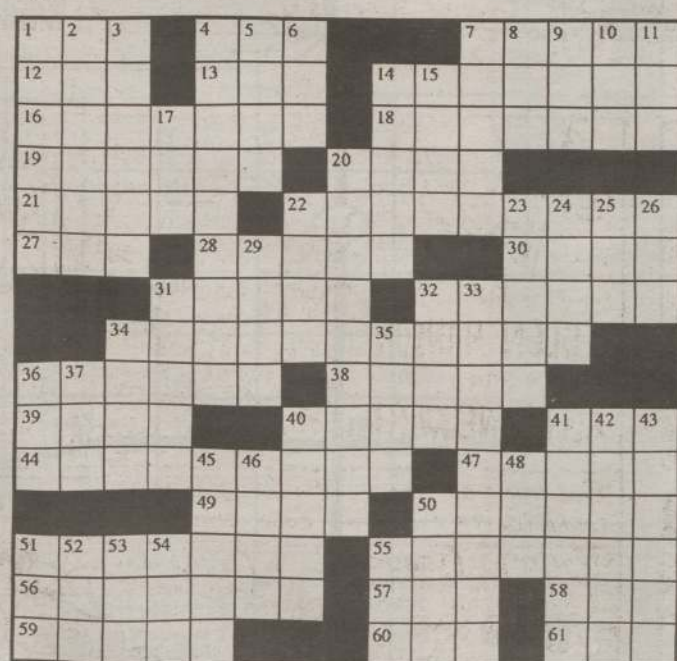
Casa de Cristo 602/265-2831
Gentle Shepherd MCC 602/864-6404

Viatical Svcs.

Living Settlements, Inc. 602/956-3770

Q Puzzle

"Racket Raiser"



ACROSS

- 1 Spill one's seed
- 4 Tracey Takes On... broadcaster
- 7 34-Across's nationality, by birth
- 12 "Got a Rainbow" lyricist Gershwin
- 13 Where one could visit the "Lesbian Femme" chat room
- 14 Accomplish
- 16 With 34-Across, all-time leader in tennis singles titles
- 18 Absorb avidly, as a breathtaking view
- 19 Like sexual orientation, many believe
- 20 Passages author Sheehy

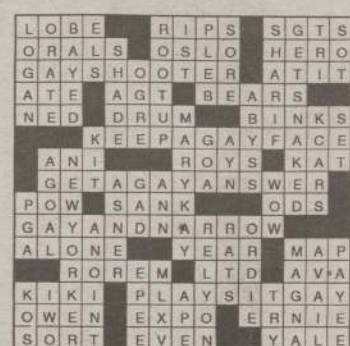
- 21 Like a visibly happy face
- 22 34-Across won it nine times
- 27 Maiden-name preceder
- 28 Hawke of Reality Bites
- 30 Luke Skywalker's sister
- 31 Semisynthetic fiber
- 32 Beachgoers' souvenirs
- 34 See 16-Across
- 36 "I have ____" ("Beats me")
- 38 R.E.M. frontman Michael
- 39 New Yorker cartoonist Peter
- 40 Staircase components
- 41 Rainey and Kettle
- 44 Kind of tournament that 34-Across won 18 times
- 47 Lewis's partner
- 49 On ____ with (equal to)
- 50 Bert, to Ernie

- 51 Source of dietary fiber
- 55 With 59-Across, novelist with whom 34-Across had a two-year romance
- 56 Extracting the juice from
- 57 Rap trio Run-DMC
- 58 Queen of the hill
- 59 See 55-Across
- 60 Cigar dropping
- 61 Leaving ____ Vegas

DOWN

- 1 Monkey or ape
- 2 Color in the rainbow flag
- 3 Sing like a bird
- 4 Procedure for filling in a bald spot
- 5 Beethoven's birthplace
- 6 Suffix with schnozz
- 7 "Calm down!" - slangily
- 8 Dry red wine, informally
- 9 "____, a mouse!"
- 10 LIII x II
- 11 Clucking mama
- 14 "Frankly, my dear, I don't give ____!"
- 15 Baby's bed
- 17 "Not ____ shabby!"
- 20 Heavenly body 10 to 100 times bigger than the sun
- 22 Word before Nellie
- 23 Parisian pupil
- 24 Oscar ____ Renta
- 25 ____-based lubricant (no-no for condom use)
- 26 Emerald Point ____ ('80s TV series)
- 29 Supermodel Banks
- 31 Hazardous gas

- 32 You don't want to get a pink one
- 33 Kids' jumping game
- 34 One of Columbus' ships
- 35 Tabloid tidbit
- 36 Pester
- 37 Hockey Hall-of-Famer Bobby
- 40 Language like "limp wrist," "bull dyke," and "fairy"
- 41 Bear, e.g.
- 42 Jurassic Park actress Richards
- 43 Varieties of trapshooting
- 45 "Queen of the Hop" singer Bobby
- 46 Nine inches
- 48 Mauna ____
- 50 Basketball hoop parts
- 51 Heavenly body
- 52 ____ Lingus (Irish carrier)
- 53 Benjamin Hoff's The ____ of Pooh
- 54 Sporty German car
- 55 Food-label abbr.



Solution to last issue's Q Puzzle:
"Converting the Heteros"

Edibles

A. Pookie's
4540 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/277-2121

Libations

1. Ain't Nobody's Bizness
3031 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/224-9977
2. Amsterdam
718 North Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/258-6122
3. Apollo's
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 602/277-9373
4. Boot Camp
3702 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/212-9888
5. BS
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 480/945-9028
6. The Bunkhouse
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 602/200-9154
7. Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/244-9943
8. Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 602/265-0224
9. Crowbar
702 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/258-8343
10. Cruisin' Central
1011 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/253-3376

11. Doc Gireaux
12032 N. Cave Creek
Phoenix 602/997-9461

12. Harley's Club 155
Harley's Too!
155 / 125 W. Camelback
Phoenix 602/274-8505

13. JC's Fun One
5542 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale 623/939-0528

14. Johnny Mc's
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix 602/266-0875

15. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 602/867-2463

16. Millennium 2001
3300 S. Price Rd.
Tempe 602/756-2445

17. Nasty's Sports Bar
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/267-8707

18. NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 602/267-9959

19. Paco Paco
3045 N. 16th St.
Phoenix 602/263-8424

20. Padlock
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/266-5640

21. The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix 602/957-6055

22. Roscoe's on 7th
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/285-0833

23. The Rose
4301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 602/265-3233

24. PumpHouse II
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/275-3509

25. Studio 43
4343 N. 7th Ave
Phoenix 602/230-2515

26. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 602/252-0001

27. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/254-0231

28. Waterhole
8830 N. 43rd Ave
Glendale 623/937-3139

29. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/265-9002

Staples

30. The Adult Shoppe
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 306-1130
2345 W. Holly St.
Phoenix 602/253-7126

31. The Barn Adult Shop
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 623/245-3008

32. Book Cellar
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/275-0015
(other Valley locations)

33. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/231-9837
(other Valley locations)

34. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 602/266-Book

35. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central #121
Phoenix 602/274-0994

36. Tuff Stuff
1714 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix 602/254-9651

Tubs

40. Chute
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/234-1654

41. Flex
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 602/271-9011

Culture

60. America West Arena
201 E. Jefferson
Phoenix 602/379-7800

61. AZ Hall of Fame Museum
1101 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/255-2110

62. AZ Historical Society
Museum
1300 N. College
Tempe 480/929-0292

63. AZ Mining & Mineral
Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/255-3791

64. AZ Science Center
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/716-2000

65. AZ State Capitol Museum
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/542-4675

66. ASU Art Museum
Nelson Fine Arts Center
Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 480/965-2787

67. ASU Gammage Center
Apache & Mill Ave.
Tempe 480/965-3434

68. Blockbuster Desert Sky
Pavillion
2121 N. 83rd Ave.
Phoenix 623/254-7499

69. Celebrity Theater
440 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix 602/267-9373

70. Heard Museum
22 E. Monte Vista
Phoenix 602/252-8848

71. Herberger Theater
222 E. Monroe
Phoenix 602/254-7399

72. Orpheum Theatre
203 W. Adams
Phoenix 602/262-7272

73. Phoenix Art Museum
1624 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/257-1222

74. Phoenix Central Library
1221 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/262-4636

75. Phoenix Civic Plaza
225 E. Adams St.
Phoenix 602/262-6225

76. Phoenix Symphony Hall
225 E. Adams
Phoenix 602/262-6225

77. Phoenix Museum of History
105 N. 5th Street
Phoenix 602/253-2734

78. Phoenix Theatre
100 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/254-2151

79. Planet Earth Multi-Cultural
Theatre
909 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix 602/241-1821

80. Union Hall
512 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 602/253-7100

Outdoors

81. Desert Botanical Garden
1201 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 480/941-1217

82. Margaret T. Hance Park
3rd St. to 3rd Ave. between
McDowell & Roosevelt
Phoenix 602/534-2406

83. North Mountain Park & Preserve
10600 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/262-6696

84. Papago Park
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 602/256-3220

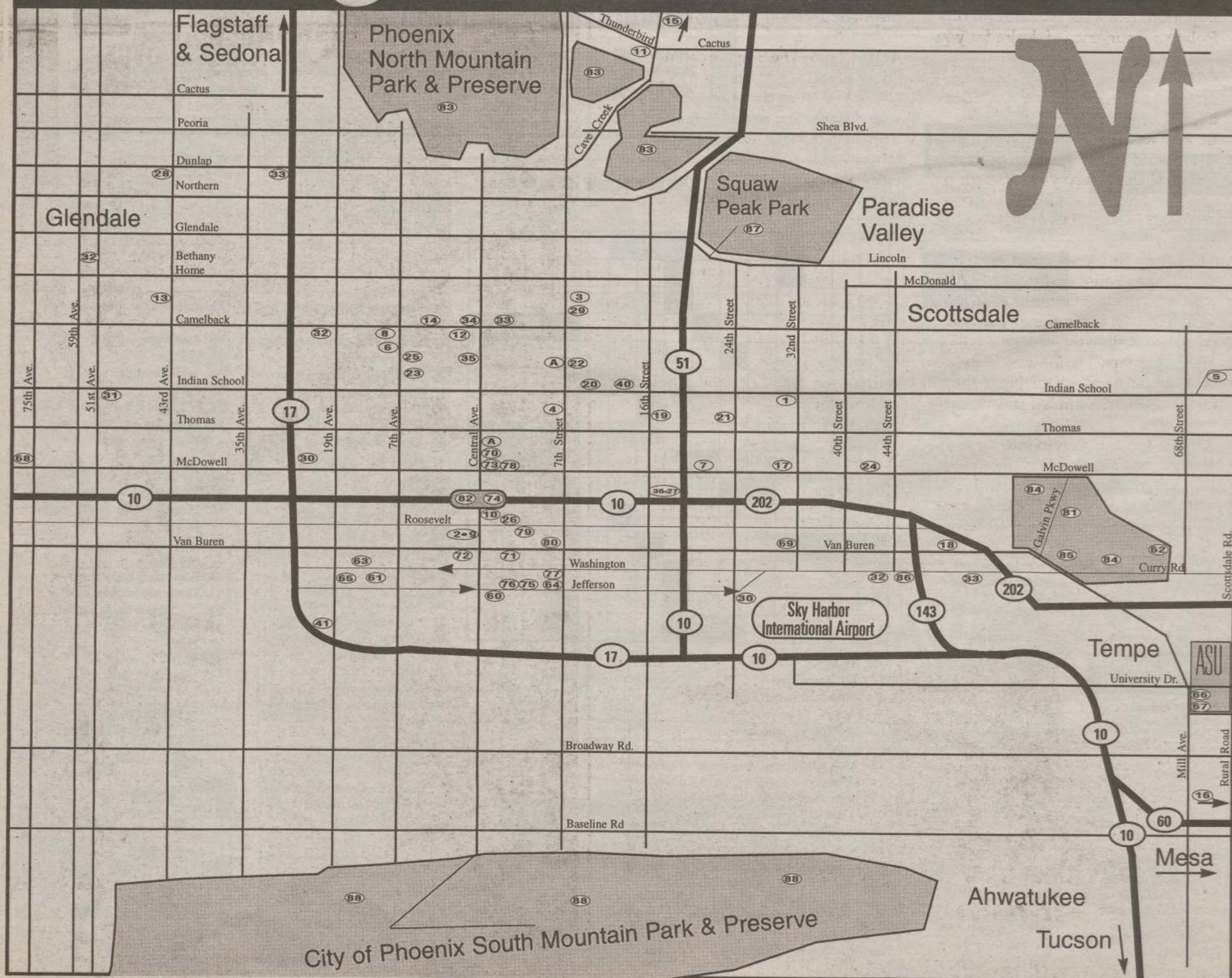
85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 602/273-1431

Pueblo Grande Museum
519 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/495-0900

87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E. Squaw Peak
Phoenix 602/262-6651

88. South Mountain Park
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/495-0222

Finding it in Phoenix



QSCOPES

By Jill Dearman, Contributor

ARIES: The Sun moves into the most public sector of your chart on December 22, so start thinking big, doll. Yes, you're respected in your own little world, but there's a larger audience out there. Don't let yourself be distracted; enjoy the good things while your spirits are high. Another Aries works wonders for your morale.

TAURUS: Venus in your house of love brings out the romantic in you, while Saturn helps keep you grounded. It's also a fine time to make those important career connections. If you are feeling vulnerable, let a Capricorn know. Express, baby, don't obsess.

GEMINI: The Sun finishes up a stint in your house of love and then moves into your house of settling down (do I hear wedding bells?). At last, the financial security you've yearned for may be yours. Instead of counting nickels, look at what you're building over the long term. A Taurus helps you put your life in perspective.

CANCER: You may feel out of your mind right now, but you're actually saner than you have been in months, years maybe. Your holiday week could be quite passionate. Be bold in love, and trust your instincts about an important relationship. An Aquarius is feeling a resurgence of desire for you.

LEO: Do lots of little thoughtful things for the folks in your inner circle during this sentimental holiday time. Invite a lonely pal over to watch those Grinch and Frosty specials. In love, let someone else sweep you off your feet—you just don't have the energy to do the chasing. Leave that to a Sag.

VIRGO: Jupiter goes direct in your partnership house on December 20, which means that commitments are lucky for you. Share the power and the glory. A showdown with a pal (a Pisces, perhaps?) will lead to a better understanding. Keep the big picture in mind, my detail-minded friend.

LIBRA: The Sun moves into the family sector of your chart on December 22, so spend a little more quality time with your loved ones. The important things are about to make themselves

known. You'll realize what's been a waste of time, and who is really valuable to you. A Leo digs your softer side.

SCORPIO: You are the first person in the world to give generously to the ones you love, but you can hold such a grudge towards the ones you hate! Let one or two, or more, of those grudges go. And circulate, dear, be among people, especially those you haven't seen in a long time. Be kind to a Virgo.

SAGITTARIUS: Venus is passing through your dreamy 12th house right now, which means your sixth sense will tell you more about who you should be dating than your genitalia. Throw yourself into some wildly artistic endeavor. You need the outlet. A Taurus can see the connection between your artwork and your foreplay.

CAPRICORN: The full moon on December 22 falls in your house of love, so expect the unexpected where relationships are concerned. Allow a little drama into your world. Vow to move away from the people in your life who consistently put you down. A Cancer understands and appreciates the many facets of your psyche.

AQUARIUS: The Sun moves into your house of the unconscious on December 22, so pay more attention to your dreams and don't scoff at coincidences; take them seriously. Mars brings you extra vitality this holiday week. Surround yourself with people who have life-affirming energy. Put a Scorpio on your "A" list.

PISCES: Jupiter goes direct in your money house on December 20, and your financial situation should reflect this positive turn of events. Learn how to accept the bizarre forms of good fortune that come your way. Old pals want to see you again. You can learn a lot from the mistakes of a Libra. Be open to all life lessons.

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling *Queer Astrology for Men and Queer Astrology for Women* (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

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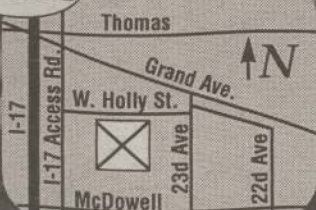
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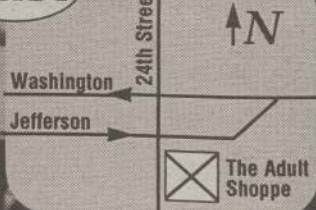
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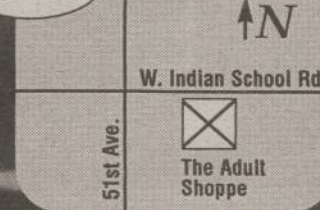
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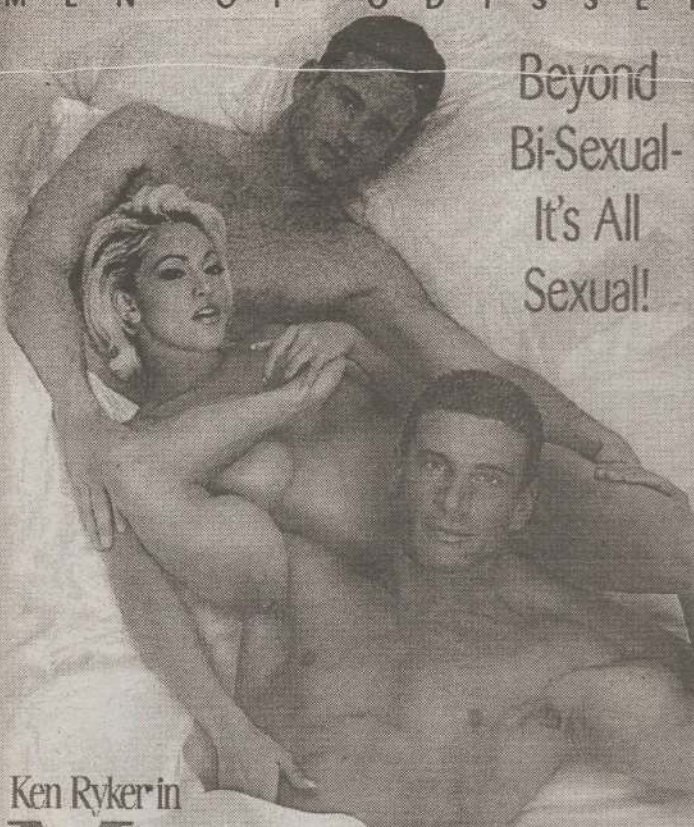
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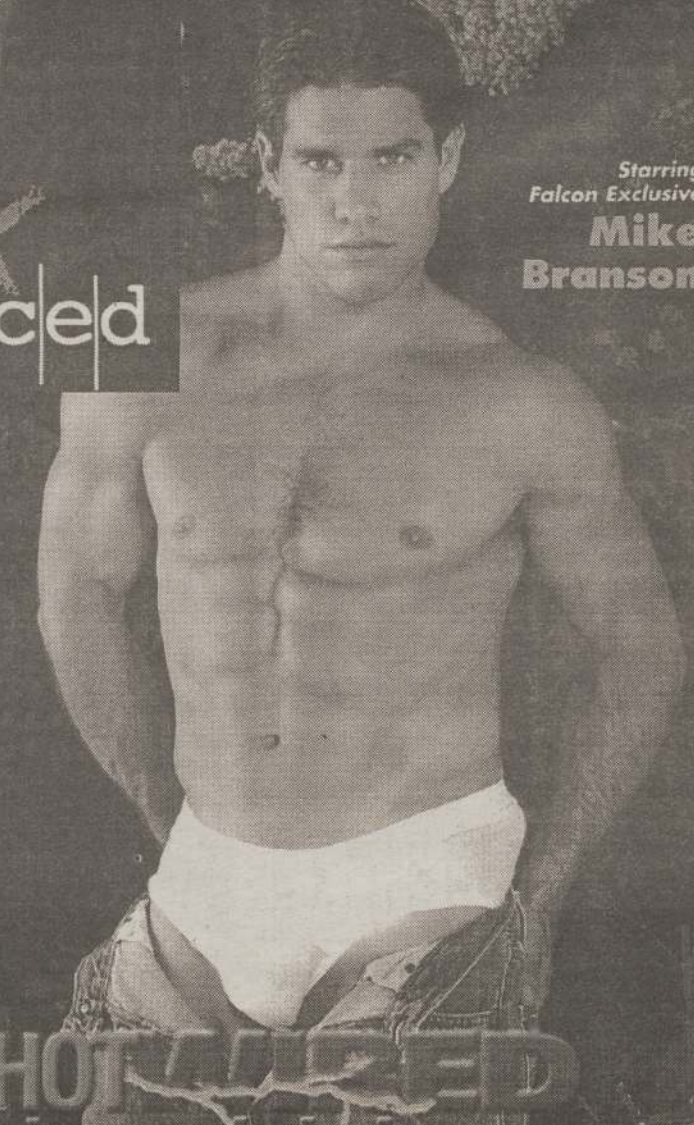
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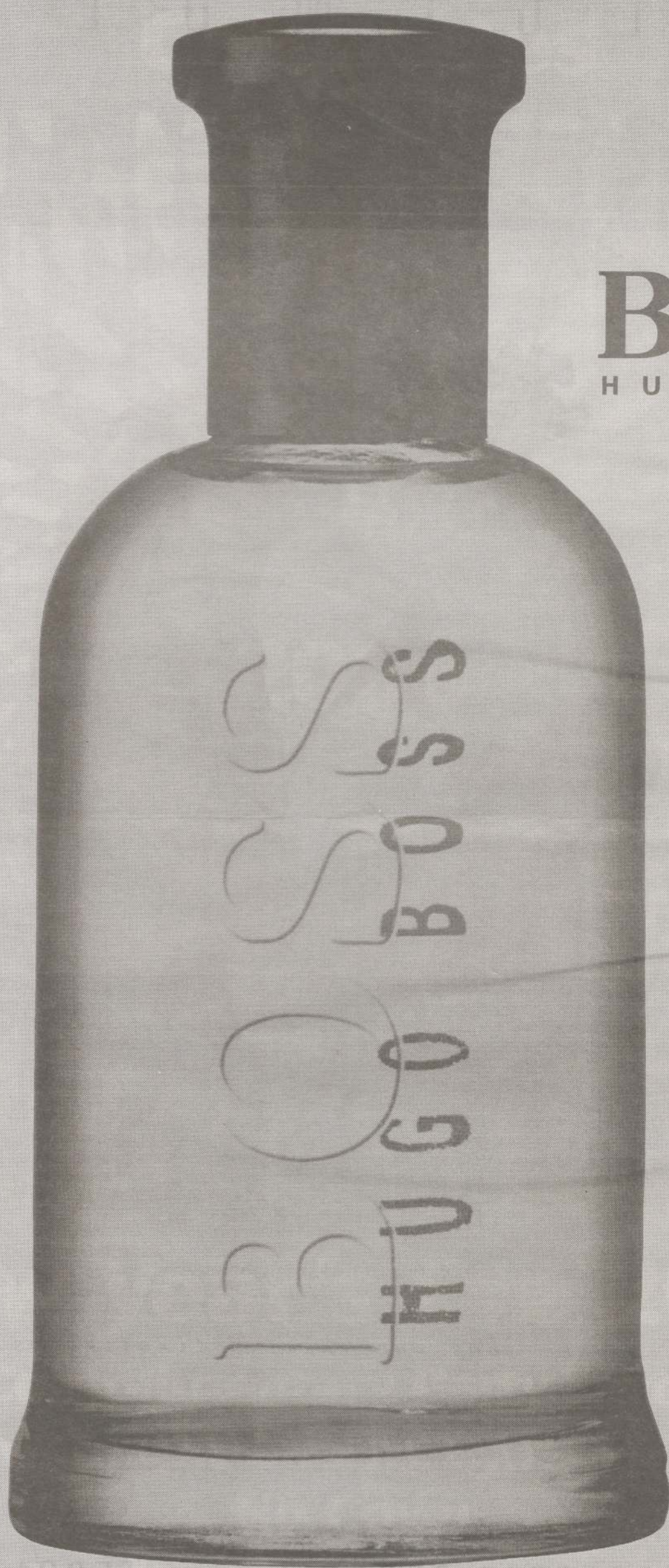
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