Legislative Session Wrap-Up
Queer bashing on the hill reaches new levels

How to Become a Delegate
Equality Utah offers training

Kanab Boycott Urged by Leading Travel Guru

Copenhagen to Host Next OutGames

Oscar Highlights

Williams Hates the Hate Crime Bill
Emerging gay artists to play in Salt Lake
Ruby loves chubby liberals

Q Agenda

Utah’s Gay and Lesbian Newspaper
March 15, 2006
These advertisers make QSaltLake happen.
Support our advertisers, and tell them you saw them in QSaltLake!

Julie Silveous
Real Estate Agent

Julie knows the Salt Lake market, its intricacies, its subtleties, intimately. Julie does her homework. No guesswork, no wishful thinking, she recommends realistic asking prices. Prices that won’t turn buyers away. She invests the time, and the effort. Evenings, weekends, what-ever it takes! She keeps you informed, in the picture. Regularly, and without fail.
You deserve nothing less.

Mobile: 801.502.4507
Office: 801.942.3444

ERA Legacy Realtors
1935 E. Vine Street Suite 380
Salt Lake City, UT 84121

julie.silveous@era.com
www.eralegacy.com
Copenhagen Wins Bid for 2009 OutGames

By Danny McCoy
danny@qsplicate.com

Copenhagen, Denmark — The 2006 OutGames in Montreal have yet to get underway, but officials have already announced plans to host the 2nd Annual OutGames in 2009. The host city? Copenhagen.

Copenhagen is actively pursuing becoming the host city for the Olympics in 2020, according to a spokesperson from the Gay and Lesbian International Sports Association, and hosting the games is their first bid to prove Denmark can withstand an event of such magnitude.

It will be the first major international sporting event Copenhagen has ever hosted. According to GLISA host relations chair Geoff Lyne, the city of Copenhagen has already committed a significant amount of money to phase one of the planning.

“It has been truly amazing to experience the level of commitment from all sectors of the Copenhagen community,” he told The Advocate. “It is clear that Copenhagen has embraced the GLISA model of partnership and collaboration in the delivery of Outgames.”

Martin Geertsen, deputy mayor of cultural affairs said his administration is dedicated to making this an exciting and enriching event.

“I feel an air of excitement all over,” he said. “Therefore we will work to make sure that the OutGames become the biggest and best international sporting event for gays and lesbians.”

Organizers of the event expect as many as 15,000 athletes and 200,000 spectators to attend the OutGames in Montreal this August.

Supreme Court Sides with Military

Washington, D.C. — In an unanimous decision, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a free speech challenge to the Solomon Amendment. The Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights coalition of law schools challenged the constitutionality of the amendment, passed in 1996, which requires universities to grant military recruiters full access to students despite university non-discrimination policies which bar recruiters who discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

Congress had threatened to withhold millions of dollars in funding to schools refusing to comply. In Nov. 2004, the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of FAIR. Today’s court decision overturns the 3rd Circuit ruling. The Supreme Court did not consider the constitutionality of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” in reviewing the Solomon challenge.

“With or without the Solomon Amendment, our armed forces should lead, and best and brightest include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender recruits, too. Every commander and brightest Americans, and the best and brightest staff over and over about who she was and why she was there when I was in the hospital for breast cancer surgery. We never would have had to go through such an ordeal if we were only able to be married,” said Carol Snyder, one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

“We’re grateful that our case has finally made it to the Court of Appeals, and hope the court will recognize how badly families like ours get hurt when we’re denied the protections of marriage.” Snyder and her partner Heather McDonnell live in White Plains and have been together for more than 15 years.

The brief was filed in the New York Court of Appeals on behalf of same-sex couples from throughout the state. The ACLU brought the lawsuit with the New York Civil Liberties Union and the law firm Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison LLP. According to the ACLU, New York’s ban on marriage between gay people from marriage violates the equal protection, due process, and free expression provisions of the New York constitution.

“We know all along that it would ultimately be up to New York’s high court to end the unfairness that lesbian and gay couples face because they are unable to secure marriage protections for their families,” said James Esseks, Litigation Director for the ACLU’s Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

“Same-sex couples who commit to each other and raise families together shouldn’t be treated as legal strangers.”

Mass. Catholics Resign Over Same-Sex Adoption Decision

New York — The American Civil Liberties Union has asked New York’s highest court to strike down a New York law that bars lesbian and gay couples and their families from the protections of marriage.

“My partner Heather was grilled by hospital staff over and over about who she was and why she was there when I was in the hospital for breast cancer surgery. We never would have had to go through such an ordeal if we were only able to be married,” said Carol Snyder, one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit. Snyder and her partner Heather McDonnell live in White Plains and have been together for more than 15 years.

The brief was filed in the New York Court of Appeals on behalf of same-sex couples from throughout the state. The ACLU brought the lawsuit with the New York Civil Liberties Union and the law firm Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison LLP. According to the ACLU, New York’s ban on marriage between gay people from marriage violates the equal protection, due process, and free expression provisions of the New York constitution.

“We know all along that it would ultimately be up to New York’s high court to end the unfairness that lesbian and gay couples face because they are unable to secure marriage protections for their families,” said James Esseks, Litigation Director for the ACLU’s Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

“Same-sex couples who commit to each other and raise families together shouldn’t be treated as legal strangers.”

Save on Things You Do Every Day

DINE

SHOP

TRAVEL

SAVE

Over $20,000 of discounts at www.EntertainmentUtah.com

Empress 30 Krystyna Shaylee

ALONG WITH THE

ROYAL COURT OF THE GOLDEN SPIKE EMPIRE

PRESENT:

“Cancer Awareness Week”

Friday March 17th at 9pm

“Pot of Gold” Solid Gold 70’s show at Heads Up

Saturday March 18th at 8:30pm

“Pretty in Pink” 80’s show at Mo Diggity’s

Sunday March 19th, 7pm

“Live for Life Show” at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

More info at rcgse.org. *private clubs for members
Maryland Republican Threatens Impeachment of Pro Gay Judge

BALTIMORE, M.D. — After years of promising to impeach any judge who attempted to overturn a Maryland state law banning same-sex marriage, Anne Arundel County delegate Don Dwyer of Crofton attempted to do just that this past week when Baltimore circuit court judge M. Brooke Murdock ruled in favor of same-sex marriage.

But his fellow lawmakers didn’t agree, voting 20-3 late Thursday to reject a proposal to impeach Murdock.

According to The Advocate, the committee hearing was held near midnight in an attempt by Dwyer to discourage attendance by the public or the news media.

Dwyer was the same delegate who made a failed effort to get a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage on the November ballot.

Thursday, he attempted to urge his fellow delegates to follow his lead and take action. “I have kept my commitment to the citizens of Maryland that I would hold the court accountable,” Dwyer said. “I have done my duty to protect and defend the laws of Maryland, and I have carried the ball to the end. At the end of the day, I am not responsible for my colleagues’ inaction, but the citizens of Maryland might want to remember this during November’s election.”

Gay Activists Plaster Boise with “Heterosexual Only” Stickers

Boise, Idaho — Gay rights advocates in Boise, Idaho, put stickers reading “Heterosexuals Only” on bus benches and public drinking fountains last week. The activists told KBCI-TV the 150 or so stickers were a protest against a proposed constitutional ban on same-sex marriage approved by lawmakers for the November ballot.

They said the stickers were intended as reminders of past discrimination, namely the “Whites Only” signs affixed to fountains and benches in the South before the passage of civil rights laws. One activist, speaking on condition of anonymity, admitted they risked punishment for littering or defacing property. “But, the activist said, “I hope people will realize this is a model of resistance that falls into a historical basis and they won’t decide to be extremely punitive.” The television station says the stickers were easily removed and were in place only briefly.

Pro-Gay Candidate Withdraws from Arizona Governor’s Race

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Former Arizona Senate President John Greene announced Monday he is withdrawing from the governor’s race because it appears he cannot win the Republican nomination.

Winning the Republican primary “realistically appears out of reach,” said Greene, a Phoenix attorney.

“Many of my traditional supporters, especially in the business, women’s rights and gun-owner communities, have failed to step forward to help me as they have in the past,” Greene said in a statement.

“Many have simply written off the governor’s race and ceded it to the incumbent. As Greene was at odds with many fellow Republicans over a proposed initiative to amend the Arizona Constitution to prohibit same-sex marriages and bar state and local governments from giving marriage-like benefits to unmarried couples.

“It became clear to me that the powers that be did not want a pro-choice Republican for equal rights,” he said.
Equality Utah Holds Delegate Training Session

By Joselle Vanderhooft
joselle@qsaltlake.com

Equality Utah's latest political workshop had a slightly different purpose than its previous training sessions. Held Saturday, March 4 in the University of Utah's Orson Spencer Hall auditorium, the workshop didn't teach its 300 attendees to become lobbyists, a task on which the gay advocacy group has spent much of its time during the 2006 legislative session. Instead, "What is a Delegate and Why Should I Become One?" trained people on another aspect of political participation: becoming the representatives who elect candidates at precinct caucuses.

"I love Utah. To be a citizen here, what could be better, unless you're born different," said Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff, the session's opening speaker. "One of the most important things is to claim your citizenship and to be a part of the political process."

Best remembered for his public disapproval of Amendment 3, the constitutional amendment that eventually banned same-sex marriage in Utah, Shurtleff said members of his own party threatened him for speaking at the session, accusing him of "recruiting people into the gay lifestyle."

"They said, 'why are you teaching certain people to be delegates? They're going to vote us out,'" said Shurtleff. He then told the audience that Utah politics often run counter to the needs and wishes of gay and lesbian citizens because of the people who tend to be most involved.

"Unfortunately in this state, the decision who will be representative is made by a tiny minority of people, often with extreme views," he said. "We should be studying the tactics of the Eagle Forum. Their voice, which is radical, is powerful. So legislators see it and think that's their constituencies."

In the Republican party, if you get over 60% of the delegates to vote for you, you are the nominee. That's the system and you need to understand it."

The day's second speaker, state Senator Scott McCoy, D-Salt Lake, told attendees about his own experience with delegates from his own party. Scott, who replaced the ailing Paula Julander mid-term in 2005, said he owes his office to the delegates who voted for him.

"In a mid-term situation you have to get 50 percent of the delegates' vote to win," he said. "I literally just told people at the precinct that I wanted to be a delegate and explained why I wanted that," she said. "I had my neighbors come and say 'Oh she's a really nice person,' jokingly adding that her neighbors also told people 'oh yeah, she's a big old lesbian," Jones said her orientation wasn't an issue' for those who voted her in. Gleave said that the time commitment for being a delegate was not as heavy as people often think.

"You can be more involved, of course. You can go to regular meetings and obviously it gets busier in even years. But the most you need to do is ten hours a year," she said. In her closing remarks, Equality Utah's Missy Larsen encouraged everyone to take advantage of the power Utah offers to delegates. "It doesn't matter who you are or what you do," she said. "As long as you're registered to vote and over eighteen you can do this."

Equality Utah's delegate training packet, which includes information about Utah's various legislative precincts and districts, as well as contact information for local party chairs, can be downloaded in full at equalityutah.org.

How a Candidate Becomes Elected

Delegates elected at Precinct Caucus Meeting

Tuesday, March 21, 2006.

Delegates attend County Primary Convention

(Held in April during even numbered years)

Delegates nominate the Party's candidates (including county office)
Delegates approve the party platform and vote on platform amendments
Elect State delegates (check party qualifications for eligibility)

Delegates attend County Organizing Convention

(Held in Spring during odd numbered years)

Delegates elect County Party officials
Delegates hear and vote amendments to the County Party Platform

Delegates attend State Primary Convention

(Held in May during even numbered years)

Delegates nominate the Party's candidates (including statewide offices)
Delegates approve the party platform and vote on platform amendments

Delegates attend State Organizing Convention

(Held in May during odd numbered years)

Delegates elect State Party officials
Delegates hear and vote amendments to the State Party Platform

All Registered Voters vote in Primary Election
June 7, 2006

All Registered Voters vote in General Election
November 7, 2006
Call to Duty Tour Heads to Utah

On March 30 the Gay and Lesbian Law Alliance at the University of Utah’s College of Law is hosting the Call to Duty Tour. Seven veterans will argue that the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy needs to be repealed.

The presentation is one of 25 on campuses nationwide and is specifically targeted toward conservative arguments. Bring your conservative friends and join the debate. 7:00 p.m. at the Sutherland Moot Courtroom, S.J. Quinney College of Law, 332 S. 1400 E. on the University of Utah campus.

For more information about the tour visit www.calltoboutody.org. For information about the event write to gella@law.utah.edu.

Utah Queer Scuba Club

The Utah Queer Scuba Club will be diving Blue Lake near Wendover, Nev. on the week-end of March 25-26.

They will be having an altitude specialty involving two dives for the cost the price of the certification card, $20.

The club will also be doing some adventure dives and hope to do an underwater navigation and a search and recovery. For those that do not have their Open Water certification, divers can be signed off as dives are completed. They are also planning a night dive on the first night.

Divers are welcome to come one or both days. For more details or information, go to scubadiving.queerutah.orgs.

Annual Sunday Fireside and Mission Reunion Set for April 2

Affirmation: Gay and Lesbian Mon-oms and Reconciliation have announced their annual Sunday Fireside and Mission Reunion to be held April 2, after the 176th Annual General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The event will take place at the Sacred Light of Christ Metropolitain Community Church, 2823 S. East beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a potluck dinner.

The fireside will feature writer Loren Jenner, who has two books currently in print. Spirited YearlingWounded is a true story about a Mormon woman in the Mountain West who tries to take her life when she realizes that she’s attracted to other women. Spirited comes face to face with questions like, do I live my life according to church doctrine and repress my sexuality to become a Goddess in the afterlife? Do I honor my essence and express my sexual orientation with integrity only to be among murderers and adulterers when I die? Can I be rehabilitated, or does the quest for rehabilitation encourage the repression of my spirit? Is it more important who I love, what I am or how I love?

Warrior in The Med depicts a young spiritual warrior who goes on a quest to battle her own internalized homophobia. Angel Warrior struggles with the internalized belief that she is not worthy of life and love because she is a woman-loving woman. The hero mythology involves a Kahlil Gibran-ish, angelic nature of life and death. Not only can it help one who struggles with internalized homophobia, but also anyone who cannot face or accept a part of themselves.

Jenner coordinates the seasons, times of day and healing process all at once in a mythological prose, capturing the cyclical nature of life and death. Not only can it help one who struggles with internalized homophobia, but also anyone who cannot face or accept a part of themselves.

More about Jenner can be found at her website at lorenjenners.

Soup’s On in Need of Soup

The “Soup’s On” program of the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Community Center of Utah’s Youth Activity Center provides food for hungry queer youth, many of whom find themselves without basic economic and nutritional support that many of us take for granted.

Stan Burnett, Youth Director for The Center is asking the community to donate items to stock the shelves so they can meet the growing need.

Soup's On is in need of:

Canned Goods: soup, stew, “life” fruit (not vegetables or beans)

Single-serving meals: Easy Mac, microwavable meals, frozen taquitos and burritos, oatmeal, individual frozen pizzas, etc.

Other items: energy bars, granola bars, juice, soy milk, crackers, string cheese, plates, bowls, cutlery, and wash clothes.

The YAC provides a safe place for all youth ages 13-20 regardless of race, ethnic background, physical ability, religion, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation/identity.

Stage Right Auditions

Stage Right will be holding auditions for a staged reading of Unde Vanya by Anton Chekhov on Thursday, March 23rd from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Performers ages 18 to 60 are needed. Those interested are asked to bring a one-minute reading from a modern drama, not memorized.

Performances will be April 26th and 27th. There will be four or five rehearsals. Staged readings are a good way to get to know a play without a huge time commitment.

The theater is at 5050 S. Highland Drive. For more information, call 272-3445 or email beth@emission.com.
### HB304 — VOIDING ACTIONS AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY

Another Christensen attempt to thwart efforts of gay and lesbian couples to emulate legal protections enjoyed by married people was HB304. A small, one-line amendment, read, “An arrangement, agreement, or transaction that is unlawful or invalidates public policy is void and unenforceable.” Christensen again invaded Jones vs. Barlow during the debate, complaining that the two had made a private agreement to create a “de facto marriage, de facto adoption, de facto divorce.” The House passed the bill 53:18, but it never reached the Senate floor and, therefore, died.

### HB327 — PUBLIC EMPLOYER BENEFIT PLANS

Angered that Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson’s executive order extending health care benefits to unmarried partners of city employees, Rep. Buttars attacked Anderson’s order and Buttars’ amendment to the bill was expected to sign the bill.

### SB97 — STUDENT CLUB AMENDMENTS

Five of the 16 bills that failed in the final day of the legislative session. The bill was largely driven by the efforts of Rep. Biskupski and legislators, “A biological parent should not allow the state to pay equally for the benefits?” Her amendment failed and the bill went on to pass the House 52:16. Senate Majority Leader Sen. Knudsen, (R-Ish Fork) and legislators gave Litvak a rare standing ovation. After nearly no debate, the Senate passed the bill unanimously on the final day. It is now on the governor’s desk and he is expected to sign the bill.

### HB 393 — PUBLIC EDUCATION CLUB AMENDMENTS

Last year’s hate crime bill had a different look and feel to it when it hit the House floor, and many said it was an attempt to overwhelm the hands of sponsor Rep. Litvak and Rep. Lavar Christensen, rumored to be positioning himself as being the stumbling block over the past nine years of failed attempts at the bill. The bill passed the house 67:5 (Clark, R-Provo; Dougall, R-American Fork; Urquhart, R- Salt Lake City; Dayton, R-Rocky Mount; R-Spanish Fork) and legislators gave Litvak a rare standing ovation. After nearly no debate, the Senate passed the bill unanimously on the final day. It is now on the governor’s desk and he is expected to sign the bill.

### HB314 — PARENT AND CHILD AMENDMENTS

Rep. Lavar Christensen made good on his promise to introduce legislation to limit the rights of nonbiological parents to sue for custody through the court system. The practice of in loco parentis has been part of law for many a moon, yet until a Utah judge awarded visitation rights to the former lesbian partner of Jones vs. Barlow, Republican legislators took little notice. The Deseret News slammed the hundreds of LDS churches on any given Sunday, Christensen alluded to “the list” of his Christensen attempt to thwart efforts of gay and lesbian couples to emulate legal protections enjoyed by married people was HB304. A small, one-line amendment, read, “An arrangement, agreement, or transaction that is unlawful or invalidates public policy is void and unenforceable.” Christensen again invaded Jones vs. Barlow during the debate, complaining that the two had made a private agreement to create a “de facto marriage, de facto adoption, de facto divorce.” The House passed the bill 53:18, but it never reached the Senate floor and, therefore, died.

### SB96 — PUBLIC EDUCATION CLUB AMENDMENTS

One of the most talked-about bills on the bill, also sponsored by Buttars, died in the final day of the session. The bill would have required parental permission for all student clubs and would restrict clubs from discussing sexuality or their purpose be based on sexuality. At least two bills and not the bill were sponsored by Equality Utah and The Center and flyers with the masthead “The Capitol Crimes” and the headline “Buttars’ pet bill that would require principals to tell students that evolution is a theory and other theories exist sailed through much of the legislative process only to be gutted by the House. The bill failed.

### HB309 — STUDENT CLUB AMENDMENTS

One of the most talked-about bills on the bill, also sponsored by Buttars, died in the final day of the session. The bill would have required parental permission for all student clubs and would restrict clubs from discussing sexuality or their purpose be based on sexuality. At least two bills and not the bill were sponsored by Equality Utah and The Center and flyers with the masthead “The Capitol Crimes” and the headline “Buttars’ pet bill that would require principals to tell students that evolution is a theory and other theories exist sailed through much of the legislative process only to be gutted by the House. The bill failed.
Guest Editorials

Reflections on Oscar
By Neil G. Giuliano
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

Sunday night, I watched the Academy Awards amid a predominantly non-LGBT audience — and, like many of the people in the room, I was disappointed that Brokeback Mountain did not win Best Picture. But the group was still plenty for which to be thankful (including Ang Lee’s Best Director award for Brokeback Mountain and Philip Seymour Hoffman’s win for Best Actor).

The film buffs, attending the Oscar Night America party in Miami Beach, were cheering Brokeback Mountain because they genuinely supported the movie. The mere nomination of Brokeback Mountain for Best Film of 2005 marks an advance in the human rights movement. So does the recent decision by the Cayman Islands to permit a boatload of gay vacationers to spend the day ashore.

It was eight years ago that the Cayman’s tourism minister, a man with the unlikely name of Thomas Jefferson, claimed that “careful research” determined that allowing boatloads of gay passengers would not “uphold standards of appropriate behavior expected of visitors to the Cayman Islands.” (Previously, some gay visitors had been seen walking the streets hand in hand.) Landing rights were denied to an entire shipload of gay passengers.

That well-publicized event set off a major change. And last month Royal Caribbean’s plans to avoid Kanab completely.

The issue was ultimately decided by Arthur Frommer’s Travel Guide. Whether or not it won the Academy Award, the mere nomination of Brokeback Mountain for Best Film of 2005 marks an advance in human rights.

Okay, so the Oscars are a small thing. But this year, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences decided to include Brokeback Mountain and No Country for Old Men in their Best Picture nominations. Five movies with gay, bisexual or transgender content were nominated for a combined 21 Academy Awards. The Oscar wins and nominations of these films have created a remarkable level of visibility and discussion of our lives. Every day, LGBT Americans face prejudice and discrimination. And films like Brokeback Mountain, Capote, and Transamerica are a testament to the power of cinema to create greater understanding of who we are.

These are films that, in many ways, capture an important moment in history and the questions we face today. Will we fight for a world where everyone is able to live and love freely? Or will we allow hatred and bigotry to force us to hide in the closet, deny our love and deny who we are?

Last night’s ceremony was an important tribute to films that have invited audiences to open their hearts to our love and our relationships like never before.

Best Director winner Ang Lee summed it up perfectly during his acceptance speech when he thanked the characters of Ennis and Jack: “They taught all of us who made Brokeback Mountain so much about not just all the gay men and women whose love is denied by society, but just as important, the greatness of love itself.”

That most important message — connecting millions of Americans with the greatness of the love that we experience — is at the heart of the work we do at GLAAD. It’s the kind of aspirational that defines the films we seek to create. And it ensures that films like Brokeback Mountain will endure beyond this year’s awards ceremonies and continue to invest in an ever-growing audience in the pursuit of fairness and equality for all.

For all the latest on the big night, including a complete list of LGBT-inclusive Oscar winners, multi-media clips and highlights from the ceremony, visit www.glaad.org.

If Cayman Islands Can, Why Can’t Kanab?
by Arthur Frommer
Frommer’s Travel Guide

Whether or not it won the Academy Award, the mere nomination of Brokeback Mountain for Best Film of 2005 marks an advance in human rights. So does the recent decision by the Cayman Islands to permit a boatload of gay vacationers to spend the day ashore.

Travel market analysts are predicting that this year’s awards ceremonies and continue to invest in an ever-growing audience in the pursuit of fairness and equality for all.

There were no reports of unpleasant incidents. Some destinations, such as Puerto Rico, Fort Lauderdale, Philadelphia and the U.S. Virgin Islands, go out of their way to market to people who happen to be gay. But others have to be scolded into agreeing that equality is a basic American principle. The Sandals Resorts chain, which banned gay couples in 2001, was shamed into retracting that policy in 2003.

Unbelievably, there are places in America that still attempt to discriminate certain types of people. In the same month in which the Cayman Islands withdrew its ban, the city council of the scenic town of Kanab, in southern Utah, adopted a homophobic “natural family” resolution-declaring nonchildbearing and nonheterosexual couples, and declaring (not explicitly, but necessarily) that the first responsibility of state and local government is to protect a family structure that excludes families with foster children, single parents, adoptive parents, grandparents raising children, same-sex couples and single people whose friends are their families.

The major industry of Kanab, Utah, is tourism — the city is filled with hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, restaurants, horseback riding and horse-tour operators, biking, fishing, hunting and paintball firms — and it actively seeks to be a site for TV shows and movies (Brokeback Mountain). A tourist boycott of Kanab has already begun, and the Salt Lake Tribune published an e-mail to the editor from a straight American in a traditional marriage, and stating that “I am resheduling my travel plans to avoid Kanab completely.”

If you value freedom, you may want to take a similar step — but doing so with your money does deliver results. The Cayman Islands, thanks to a boycott by lovers of true equality, have finally joined the wider community of the free world — and Utah may follow.

Arthur Frommer is the author of many travel books including “Arthur Frommer’s New World of Travel.”
Pignanelli countered that at least half of all hate crimes committed in Utah are committed against gays and lesbians, so it made little sense to have a hate crime law that excluded them. Gayle Ruzicka of the Eagle Forum bawled, “Acts of homosexuality are illegal. I can’t believe that you would place a higher penalty on a gang that raped a homosexual youth than on one that raped a deaf-mute young woman.”

On Feb. 25, 1992, the great state of Utah passed its first Hate Crime Bill making it a third-degree felony to intimidate or terrorize a person in violation of their civil rights. Missing from the bill was any reference to sexual orientation or any other class.

The fallout from the exclusion of sexual orientation from Utah’s hate crime caused many gays to become political. The Gay and Lesbian Utah Democrats managed to defeat Rep. Ted Lewis, a Democrat who opposed the inclusion of sexual orientation in the bill’s language, at the state primary which helped elect Peter Suazo to the house.

By 1994, Utah’s hate crime act was deemed by law officials and Utah’s judiciary as worthless. The tracking of hate crimes was meaningless because, as the Salt Lake Police Department’s intelligence unit stated in an article for the Salt Lake Tribune, “Another factor skewing the numbers of reported hate crimes is the police officers themselves.” Sgt. Don Bell said the unit depended on officers to classify crimes and suspicious incidents as hate crimes and if an officer didn’t indicate that his report that the crime had hate-crime overtones, then intelligence never saw it. After Pignanelli left office, Suazo courageously and relentlessly took up the crusade to pass a meaningful hate crime bill that included sexual orientation. He was met by the same ignorance, prejudice and fear that Pignanelli encountered, primarily by Gayle Ruzicka and her Eagle Forum network.

In 1999 Gayle Ruzicka ranted, “Why are we even considering something like this?” and demanded that the law should not protect “illegal and immoral behavior.”

The year 2000 was the first in a decade that a hate crime bill, which included sexual orientation, had a chance of passing. This time it was promoted by Rep. David Litvack, D-Salt Lake City, who took up the cause after Suazo’s tragic death in 2001. Again Ruzicka led the opposition, warning that the law could be used to quash free speech and “religion and conscience.”

In 2003, the year 2004 was the first in a decade that a hate crime bill, which included sexual orientation, had a chance of passing. This time it was promoted by Rep. David Litvack, D-Salt Lake City, who took up the cause after Suazo’s tragic death in 2001. Again Ruzicka led the opposition, warning that the law could be used to quash free speech and “religion and conscience.”

In 2006, thanks to our now good friend Gayle Ruzicka, we have a hate crime protection to a group of criminals.”

Thus, if a judge feels that there is no “gay community” why should he charge a person with a hate crime? Why is this so much better than the gutless hate crime bill that was passed in 1997? More importantly, why was the so-called “minority leader” that we all have to listen to, the Speaker of the House, so biased that he decided to not give the bill a hearing? Unless someone can explain how a crime against a gay person, who has “Faggot” spray-painted on his garage, will be charged under this statute and not with simple vandalism, I will remain very skeptical of this “victory.”

It just seems to me that this law simply placates the powers-that-be so we can continue granting ourselves that we have a hate crime law in Utah.

I don’t feel any safer because of it. If you do please help me understand how.
Where’s Babs? by Ruby Ridge
Fear not, Cherubs, our own iconic Babs de Lay has not been abducted by aliens! I’m talking about Barbara Smith from Channel 4. Am I the only person who noticed that our favorite local news bobble head was conspicuously absent from this year’s OSCAR night AIDS benefit at the Rose Wagner? I was intrigued by her nonappearance, muffins, and let me tell you why. I have been carrying this unshakeable memory of Ms. Smith at a previous OSCAR night AIDS benefit where she was clearly not happy to be there. Perhaps “not happy to be there” is too much of an understatement, darlings, because let me tell you — she looked FREAKED at being around… you know… “diversity.” She looked so uncomfortable and afraid of catching Gay Cooties, she should have been wearing a bee keeper’s outfit and welding gloves with knee high hazmat boots duct-taped to her pants. I remember thinking then, “woman, if you don’t want to be here, this building has plenty of doors… use one.” Perhaps she took my channeled psychic advice to heart and took a pass this year, or maybe Channel 4 gave her conscientious objector status. You know — like those Wal-Mart pharmacists who don’t have to dispense contraception because of their religious values. Who knows, perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really there. Perhaps I’m reading more conspiracy and subtext into the situation than is really...
NEWS ITEM: LOCAL CABLE PROVIDER REFUSES TO AIR QUEER TV

Not getting what you want from your cable television provider? Not getting Logo’s “Noah’s Arc” series, or the John Waters “Fuego”, or “Webcam Boys”? Order DirecTV today through this gay-owned company and $20 will be donated to a gay charity! Will your TV provider do that?

Order DirecTV today
• Get receivers for up to 4 rooms FREE
• Get TIVO FREE after $100 rebate
• Packages start at $29.99 per month
• Logo/Here! on Total Choice Plus at $45.99
• A $20 donation will be made to a gay charity

1-800-315-1722
PROMO CODE: 19941
UTAHSAT.COM
Two events shaped Mike Justice’s identity as a gay man growing up in Baltimore in the 1970s: discovering, at age twelve, the local gay paper, and then finding the gay bookstore Lambda Rising shortly after. It was here he began a thirty-year interest in comic books, gay comics in particular.

“Lambda Rising was your Barnes and Noble of gay bookstores,” Justice, an employee of Night Flight Comics, remembered. “At this time — this would be in the late ‘70s, early ‘80s — they carried a magazine called Gay Comix.”

Yes, that’s the correct spelling. According to Justice, the “x” denoted an underground title, much like R. Crumb’s Zap Comix from the 1960s. Though the anthology would later adopt a more traditional spelling under Andy Mangels’ editorship, its several comic strips were always by and about gay and lesbian people. Many of the stories left an impact on Justice.

“It had stories about dating, like Leonard and Larry, which was about a committed couple and their ever-widening circle of friends,” he recalled. There was also Poppers, Jerry Mills’ “harder-edged” humor strip, its name a reference to the street name for alkyl nitrates inhaled to enhance sexual intercourse and known for being popular among some gay men. Described by Justice as “Queer as Folk before Queer as Folk,” Poppers featured the misadventures of two gay men at the bar, the beach or the club, and characters such as Larry the Louse—a talking public loafer’s because you see those stereotypical themes, but it was never said outright.”

Though Gay Comix died out some time ago, the creators of the gay comics genre have not followed suit. Instead, says Justice, they’ve moved on to other companies like Sin Factory, an imprint of RadioComics.

Gay and lesbian characters have also been appearing in mainstream comics for several years, including superhero titles like X-Men, Justice League Task Force and, most recently, Green Lantern. In issue #54 of this DC flagship title, the Green Lantern’s young, gay assistant, Terry Berg, is assaulted while walking down the street holding hands with his boyfriend. Judd Winick, whose comic Pedro and Me chronicled his friendship with AIDS activist and fellow Real World roommate Pedro Zamora (who died in 1994), was the mind behind “Hate Crime: Part One.” When it hit newsstands in 2002, Winick, who is straight, told Planet Out News Network that he hoped the story would teach young readers a valuable lesson.

“It would be great for young people to see that the Green Lantern doesn’t care that Terry is gay. He’s a person,” he said.

Justice agreed. “Looking at the bashing story in Green Lantern, if I was 13 or 14 and reading that story, it would probably have scared the hell out of me. But I think it needs to be told because unfortunately in our society things like that do happen. It happens to gays, it happens to blacks and Jews, and it’s done by people who I think are afraid of differences.”

But mainstream comics don’t always portray queer characters in horrifying situations. Often, their sexual orientation is just portrayed as part of who they are, as was the case with Northstar—the first openly gay X-man.

“He’s a mutant with flight powers and super speed who was first introduced as a member of the team called Alpha Flight,” Justice explains. “Once again, it was something they hinted at but was never expressly said until maybe Alpha Flight #50, where he experienced discrimination and gay bashing and actually came out as the first mainstream character in the Marvel Universe.”

Then there’s the Rawhide Kid, a popular Marvel gunslinger character from the 1950s. A shy young man who never dated women and was known for dressing well, he seemed a natural choice to re-introduce as a possibly gay character in Marvel’s Max line, designed for readers eighteen and older. Written by Ron Zimmerman and illustrated by Jon Severin, Rawhide Kid 1: Slap Leather hit the streets in 1999. Though Zimmerman never stated outright that the Kid was gay, fans of the original were offended by the implications and by the series’ campy take on the American Western.

“Have you ever seen the Ambiguously Gay Duo on Saturday Night Live? It was a lot like that,” Justice says. “You could take that he was a little ‘light in his loafers’ because you see those stereotypical themes, but it was never said outright.”

Overall, Justice says he’s glad comic writers and artists are portraying gay characters as regular people with regular problems, as opposed to the miserable and often tragic stereotypes of homosexuals often presented in comics only decades ago.

“They’re presenting characters that are more, ‘I’m me and being gay is a part of me,’ as opposed to ‘I’m gay and everything else is a part of me,’” he says. “That’s what the reality is. Homosexuals come in all walks and colors, so to portray them as such in comics is a good thing.”

For more information about queer comic creators and characters, visit gayleague.com or prisimcomics.org.
EQUALITY UTAH: EQUAL IS RIGHT.

Our look has changed, but our message is the same: Equal is Right. Help us work for a fair and just Utah. Visit us at equalityutah.org, or contact us at (801) 355-3479.
Let Us Build Your Next Event!

We do large and small dinner parties, office luncheons, gift baskets, theme parties and corporate functions. Call us at 801-364-4814 and our site at lavendercatering.com

MONDAY
MARCH 27 8PM
MODIGGITY’S 3424 S STATE
$5 • 832-9000
MoDiggity’s is a private club for members
J: What was the first piece of writing you sold?

AM: The first thing I sold were some text pieces about the comic book artist George Perez. I got an assignment to write a book on him. It was a minor debut, but that's pretty much what most people do for their debut. From there I wrote a lot of magazine articles and got to know different editors and writers and artists. I got to ask questions about the business and how it worked, got to get close to people and find out who to look for work from. That's how I worked my way into the comic world itself.

J: Tell me a little about your work with Super Larry, World's Toughest Man.

AM: I was producing an action and adventure comic series called Super Larry, World's Toughest Man, for Platinum Studios.

J: How have you been able to include this diversity in every universe in which you write? For example, I can't imagine it would appeal to too much in something like Child's Play.

AM: [laughs] You know what, you'd be wrong! [laughs] You know what, you'd be wrong!

J: Have you been able to include this diversity in every universe in which you write? For example, I can't imagine it would appeal too much in something like Child's Play.

AM: [laughs] You know what, you'd be wrong!

J: Have you been able to include this diversity in every universe in which you write? For example, I can't imagine it would appeal too much in something like Child's Play.

AM: [laughs] You know what, you'd be wrong!

J: Tell me a little about your work as editor of the Gay Comics anthologies.

AM: My work has always had some of the themes that appealed to me most are also very popular with other gay people, which are Teen Titans and Wonder Woman. I also liked television superheroes like Isis, which is again pretty typical.

J: What did you do differently in your comic strips?

AM: The first thing I sold were some text pieces about the comic book artist George Perez. I got an assignment to write a book on him. It was a minor debut, but that's pretty much what most people do for their debut. From there I wrote a lot of magazine articles and got to know different editors and writers and artists. I got to ask questions about the business and how it worked, got to get close to people and find out who to look for work from. That's how I worked my way into the comic world itself.

J: Tell me a little about your work with the character named Valerie is instrumental in helping the protagonist escape from prison.

AM: The first thing I sold were some text pieces about the comic book artist George Perez. I got an assignment to write a book on him. It was a minor debut, but that's pretty much what most people do for their debut. From there I wrote a lot of magazine articles and got to know different editors and writers and artists. I got to ask questions about the business and how it worked, got to get close to people and find out who to look for work from. That's how I worked my way into the comic world itself.

J: Tell me a little about your work as editor of the Gay Comics anthologies.

AM: Gay Comics started out as an underground comic. I didn't think it was necessary to have it be a gay comic, but I knew that it was a gay comic, and that it was an important comic, and that it was a comic that was important to me.

J: Tell me a little about your work as editor of the Gay Comics anthologies.

AM: Gay Comics started out as an underground comic. I didn't think it was necessary to have it be a gay comic, but I knew that it was a gay comic, and that it was an important comic, and that it was a comic that was important to me.

J: Tell me a little about your work as editor of the Gay Comics anthologies.

AM: Gay Comics started out as an underground comic. I didn't think it was necessary to have it be a gay comic, but I knew that it was a gay comic, and that it was an important comic, and that it was a comic that was important to me.

J: Tell me a little about your work as editor of the Gay Comics anthologies.

AM: Gay Comics started out as an underground comic. I didn't think it was necessary to have it be a gay comic, but I knew that it was a gay comic, and that it was an important comic, and that it was a comic that was important to me.
16 Thursday
Q: What do you do when you’re invited to a World Premier Musical Comedy? Get your hair done, of course... but don’t touch the scissors, you can put an eye out! Set and styled in Salt Lake City, SHEAR LUCK will curl your toes and leave you rolling in the aisles... permanently. “A hair-raising musical comedy with all the trimmings of a Broadway hit!” A world premier musical created by Utah artists, Brenda Cowley and Kevin Mathie. Directed by Dan Larrinaga. 7:30pm through March 25 at the Grand Theatre, Salt Lake Community College South City Campus, 1575 S State St. Tickets $10–24 available through the Grand Theatre box office at 957-3322 or the-grand.org

17 Friday
Q: Aden Ross’ world premiere of AMERIKA presented by Plan B Theatre Company. Developed from SLAM 2004’s Love Runs Uphill, it is an examination of the relationship between money and power, lies and “terrorism.” 8pm tonight, Saturday, Thursday Mar. 23 and Friday Mar. 24. 2pm Sunday. Studio Theatre, Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, 138 W. Broadway. Tickets $15 through Arttix at 355-ARTS or arttix.org

18 Sunday
Q: Music to rouse the soul will power out of the Salt Lake Men’s Choir during their annual spring concert. ANTHEMS FOR SPRING, in its 23rd year, the choir is directed by Lane Cheney. 7pm, Leona Wagner Black Box Theatre, Wagner Performing Arts Center, 138 W. Broadway. Tickets $10–15 through Arttix at 355-ARTS or arttix.org.

19 Monday
Q: Celebrating 75 years, the Salt Lake Art Center presents an exhibit of paintings by Sophie Matisse, the great granddaughter of Henri Matisse, at the Street Level Gallery. The exhibition, SOPHIE MATISSE: BE BACK IN 5 MINUTES AND ZEBRA STRIPE PAINTINGS, brings to Salt Lake City representative work from two distinct series of paintings, Be Back in 5 Minutes paintings (1997-2002) and the Zebra Stripe paintings (2005). Both series make use of replicated versions of masterpieces from Western art history. The Be Back in 5 Minutes paintings use subtraction as the conceptual device through the elimination of the people and animals from the original compositions, while the Zebra Stripe paintings make use of the addition by the confluence of two painted realities and the reintroduction of people and animals in the copied museum art. Through May 6th. Information at 328-4201 and slartcenter.org.

20 Tuesday
Q: Get your butt into the political process at the grass-rootsiest of levels. Tonight is the semi-annual PRECINCT CAUCUSES for all political parties. Meet with your neighbors and convince them you are the one who should represent them at the county and state conventions to elect the candidates who will go on the ballot in November. If you are a power-hungry bitch, this is the place for you. 7–9pm at locations throughout the state. For locations: Democrats, go to utdemocrats.org. Republicans go to utgop.org. Q: Broadway in Utah brings Utah’s unofficial state musical JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT home. Andrew Lloyd Webber’s first musical is called a “rainbow ride through Biblical Egypt” portraying Israel’s favorite son’s trials and triumphs, betrayal and forgiveness. 7:30pm tonight through Thursday, 8pm Friday and Saturday, 7pm Sunday, 2pm Saturday and Sunday. Capitol Theatre, 50 West 200 South. Tickets $30–57 through Arttix at 355-ARTS or arttix.org.

21 Wednesday
Q: The work of local artist and sculptor Chris Coleman ranges from small sculptures and landscape art to large-scale public art. CHRIS COLEMAN SCULPTURE AND LANDSCAPE ART SHOW includes the “Olympic Welcoming Legacy Cauldron” located in the roundabout in Park City and Garden After Dark fire barrels. You will be entranced with the way this artist uses mixed media, twisting and welding metals into cauldrons, trellises and sculptures. 10am–5pm through March 26, Red Butte Garden, 300 Wakara Way. Admission $3–5, free for members and University of Utah students. Q: Dr. Mary Lou Zoback, from U. S. Geological Survey, will give a public lecture commemorating the 100th anniversary of the great 1906 SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE. 7pm, Salt Lake City Main Library auditorium

22 Thursday
Q: One writer observed that the Overture to Der Freischutz could easily be...
the overture to one of the Grimm’s fairy tales, for the heart and soul of German folklore is embodied in this opera, involving as it does a dark mysterious forest, huntsmen, a friendly hermit, ghosts, evil spirits, a devil and a pair of lovers. Alexander Kobrin, gold medalist of the Van Cliburn piano competition takes the stage under guest conductor Jahja Ling leads the Utah Symphony in Weber: Overture to Der Freischütz. Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 20, and Schumann: Symphony No. 2. Be in Abravanel Hall to witness the pianist who, following in the footsteps of Olga Kern, could be the next to take the music world by storm.

10am today, 8pm Friday and Saturday, Abravanel Hall, 50 South West Temple. Tickets $18 today or $12–42 Friday and Saturday through Arttix at 355-ARTS or arttix.org.

24 Friday
Q: Collaborating on outrageous, surrealistic sets and structures, the DIAVOLO — TOMBÉ DU CIEL team of dancers, actors and gymnasts has developed a movement vocabulary that creates an almost cinematic experience. In Dia-volo, leaping, flying and twirling create an almost cinematic experience. In Dia-volos movements, actors and gymnasts have developed highly athletic, musically driven performances. The event will expose Utah to the visceral and accessible work of this company.

7:30pm tonight and Saturday, Kingsbury Hall, 1395 E. Presidents Circle, University of Utah Campus. Tickets $24.50–34.50 through 381-7100 or kingtix.org.

25 Saturday
Q: Always wanted to be just like Drew Carey and his friends? Improv is having a revival and here is your chance to learn from some of the best. The world-famous long form improv touring duo BASSPROV will be in Salt Lake City for an exciting weekend of performances and workshops. Public workshops in the art of improvisational theatre will help give you what you need to know to enter this form of entertainment.

10am-5pm, University of Utah Performing Arts Building, 240 S. 1500 East. Workshops run 3 hours. Tuition $30 for one or $50 for two workshops. For information, call 891-6397 or go to utahimprov.com.

28 Tuesday
Q: Pop’s rush to raid the cradle continues with this promising 25-year-old Canadian singer Michael Bublé. And while the young vocal star’s good looks are smart enough for a boy band, his muse seems to have sprung from a more sappy and compelling musical era. Mentored by Paul Anka, Bublé sings in the orbits of Darin and Sinatra, covering swing epoch gems and rock era standards with equal aplomb. David Foster’s production is typically slick and played to the back row of the bleachers. 8pm, Abravanel Hall, 50 South West Temple. Tickets $18 through Arttix at 355-ARTS or arttix.org.

31 Friday
Q: In their Utah debut, San Francisco-based FRANTIZ DANCE PROCT performs highly athletic, musically driven contemporary dance. Composed of six diverse works, the event will expose Utah to the visceral and accessible work of this company.

8pm tonight and Saturday, Leona Wagner Black Box Theatre, Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, 138 W. Broadway. Tickets $18 through Arttix at 355-ARTS or arttix.org.

Oscars 2006: Winners, Losers and Highlights from the 2006 Academy Awards

Hollywood, Calif. — Brokeback Mountain may have walked away with the coveted Best Picture prize many in Hollywood thought the film had a lock on, but gay subject matter ruled triumphant at the Mar. 5 Academy Awards, with Broke-back taking Best Adapted Screenplay and Director and Philip Seymour Hoffman winning Best Actor for his work in Capote.

Best Picture instead went to Crash, a film that, while not gay, touches on many of the same issues of tolerance and bias as Brokeback Mountain. Going into the ceremony, Brokeback was favored to win the award, but Crash had begun to pick up steam in recent weeks.

Crash also took home awards for Best Original Screenplay and film editing. Brokeback Mountain, Crash and Mem-oirs of a Geisha each took home three trophies, with the latter winning awards for art direction, costume design and cinematography. Brokeback also had a win in the original score category.

Most of the evening’s wins were fairly predictable, with no surprises in the acting categories. George Clooney won as expected for Best Supporting Actor in Syri-a while Reese Witherspoon pulled ahead of TransAmerica’s Felicity Huffman to win her first Oscar as Best Actress in Walk the Line.

Felicity Huffman and Michelle Williams lost for Brokeback to Hoffman and Best Supporting Actress Rachel Weisz for The Constant Gardner, respectively. The evening’s only other upset came when rap act Three 6 Mafia made history by performing the first rap song on an Oscar telecast, “It’s Hard Out Here for a Pimp,” and then took home the trophy for Best Original Song in a movie. Dolly Parton was widely expected to take home the award for “Travelin’ Thru,” which she wrote for TransAmerica.

The evening offered its typical ups and downs, with host John Stewart scoring some major laughs as first time host. Check out our recap of high-points and low-points.

High: John Stewart wakes up in bed the morning of the Oscar telecast in bed with George Clooney. Offers a big “yes” to the camera.

Low: Ben Stiller salutes the magic of green screen special effects by appearing on stage all in green and proceeding to dance around for ten minutes like Kermit the Frog in footsies.

High: Clooney wins Best Supporting Actor, telling the audience, “I guess this means I’m not winning Best Director.”

Low: The first of several pointless video montages that are allegedly more important than letting folks who just won an award thank people.

High: Dolly Parton brings down the house with a rousing performance of “Travelin’ Thru” from TransAmerica, minutes after telling a reporter she’d run for president, but “I think we have enough boobs in the White House.”

Low: Presenter Jennifer Garner slips and almost falls while walking out to present an award. Reporters later simply did it for attention. Watch your TiVos again, morons. The girl almost broke her neck.

High: To illustrate John Stewart’s new suggested technique of cutting acceptance speeches short, Tom Hanks becomes the guinea pig, taking a dart to the neck and getting hit over the head with a viola.

Low: When Crash wins Best Picture, only one of the two producers gets to thank people. The latter wins an award for attendance. Watch your TiVos again.

High: Meryl Streep and Lily Tomlin’s witty repartee while presenting an honorary Oscar to director Robert Altman, proof of their talents extend beyond the screen.

Low: People like Jessica Alba, Jennifer Lopez and Keanu Reeves look a bit out of place at a ceremony that rewards excellence in acting.
Emerging Gay Artists To Stop in Salt Lake on Tour

by Vince Doherty

Two of the most talented emerging gay musicians in the country, are hitting the road — together.

Starting in Oklahoma on March 8, singer-songwriters Eric Himan and Levi Kreis kick off the KnockOUT Tour, sponsored by PlanetOut Inc. The two will play concerts around the country through May 1, landing in Salt Lake City's McDiiggity's Monday, March 27.

The buff, tattooed and soft-spoken Himan brings a unique blend of folk, rock, blues and even jazz, he says, to his aching songs addressing a range of difficult topics head-on. Kreis uses his soulful voice to sing songs of raw emotion tied together with elegant, piano-infused melodies. The artists' musical styles will definitely play off each other on the double bill.

The tour is "sorta like an acoustic face-off," said Kreis. "Eric had come to me with the idea of creating a tour. [Our] most recent projects are acoustic in nature, but given the fact that we both, I believe, are really powerful in that kind of setting, we wanted to counter the usual suggestion that acoustic music is 'polite' music, and go for a vibe a little more aggressive. I am more excited about partnering up with Eric than with any singer/songwriter I've played with so far. Mammals gonna knock you OUT!"

Himan's manager, Cassandra Buncle, added, "As a tour develops, you never know what might happen. After a couple weeks of playing night after night, we expect their onstage chemistry to really work in the crowd's favor. We expect that after each show, the audiences will want to see the guys perform together — so performing some encore together is definitely planned."

The two musicians will be filming video blogs of their adventures on the road, which PlanetOut will show through the tour. "When we ran features on Eric and Levi on our homepages, they were so popular, we were inundated with emails asking where they could see more of these guys," said PlanetOut Entertainment Editor Jenny Stewart. "That's really surprising, considering they aren't big celebrities — yet. So we decided to ask them if they'd be willing to film themselves on the road, because we already knew there was an audience that wanted to see more."

Levi Kreis Is a Southern Baptist Sissy

by j. poet

"One Of The Ones," the latest album from singer/songwriter Levi Kreis, is a raw emotional document of the ups and downs of love, a stripped-down trip on an emotional roller-coaster marked by Kreis' vulnerable singing and minimal piano arrangements. With the exception of "Kiss You Yet" and "Man Outta Me," the tracks with a small backing band, all the tunes were recorded live with Kreis singing and playing alone in the studio. Kreis writes melodies that are instantly memorable, songs you want to get lost in. Lyrically, he is intimate, almost confessional, with an emotional honesty that can make the songs strike very close to home. "I wanted the albums to be as honest as possible," Kreis said during a time-out from a rehearsal of "Southern Baptist Sissies" — "I wanted it to be just bare-bones, where the lyrics stand on their own. Where my heart can come across without being layered with production."

Kreis grew up in eastern Tennessee and had to take the piano as a child. By the time he turned 15, he'd cut an indie album and toured throughout the South to support it. "I came home from my kindergarten graduation and picked out 'Pomp and Circumstance' on the piano. My parents ran down-stairs and were flabbergasted. They got me piano lessons, and in high school I got a full piano scholarship to Vanderbilt University [in Nashville] that allowed me to do part of my college education while I was still in high school. I was playing piano and preaching at a different church every weekend and studying piano and theology. I had no social life!"

Kreis finished high school and enrolled at Belmont University, a Baptist-affiliated school in Nashville, where he majored in commercial piano and the music business. He began doing demo sessions for fellow songwriters and co-wrote tunes with some of Music City's brightest tunesmiths, including Steve Diamond ("I Can Love You Like That," cut by John Michael Montgomery and Dan Muckala ("Incomplete")."

"I knew I was gay when I was 8," Kreis said, "although I didn't know what to call it. I checked myself into Exodus, without even telling my parents, and went through their horrible program for years. After studying the Bible intensely, I began to realize that God might not care I was gay. I finally admitted I had these feelings to my roommate and he ousted me. I got kicked out of college. I'd also signed a record deal with a Christian label and they dropped me." Ironically, a song Kreis wrote during his Nashville stay, "Timeless," got recorded by the contemporary Christian band Del Shores and made the Top 10 on R&B's Christian Inspirational charts.

In 1997, Kreis relocated to Los Angeles, where he initiated a songwriter circle he called "It Came From Nashville." The shows introduced the talents of a new generation of country songwriters who chose to make their marks in California's more progressive musical climate. His songwriter gigs generated interest from several labels, and he eventually signed with a major that shall remain nameless. "They wanted me to be in a boy band, or be the piano-playing John Mayer; they didn't get what I was trying to do. I finally realized I wanted to be who I was, not what they wanted me to be," Kreis decided to make the album for his own Leekus Peekus logo and made it his official "coming-out" recording. "I usually write with pronouns that are not gender-specific," he said. "In tunes like 'Love in Another Light,' I was free to change the word 'girl' to 'boy,' and stop lying about who I was and who I wanted to be."

Kreis has also been active in acting and musical theater. He was cast in the national touring company of "Rent," one of the musical leads in the independent film "Don't Let Go" (as well as supplying the film's soundtrack) and had a role in Bill Paxton's 2001 thriller "Fraqlity."

For the past four years, Kreis has been concentrating on his singing and songwriting and has contributed music to writer/director Del Shores' "Southern Baptist Sissies." "Right after I got to L.A. I was walking past a theater and saw the poster for "Southern Baptist Sissies," with a Christ on the cross with a buffed-up gym body, and I didn't know what to make of it. By the end of the first act, I was in tears in a fatural position in the aisle. I didn't know other people had been through that same kind of self-hating and self-loathing church experience. Del Shores, who is also from the South, was sitting behind me and said in that understated Southern way; 'Honey, do you need a Kleenex?" Kreis and Shores became friends, and as the play developed, Kreis wrote "Stained Glass Window," based on some of the play's monologues. The tune is now the theme song of "Southern Baptist Sissies" and will be featured in the production's soon-to-be-filmed screen version.

Kreis is looking for more acting jobs and touring to support "One Of The Ones." The album can be ordered directly from www.levikreis.com or from www.CDBaby.com.
Q Buzz

by Ross von Hetzke
buzz@qsaltlake.com

Well, I am writing you from the living room of my suite in the east tower of the Luxor in Las Vegas. I’m not trying to drop that I have a suite . . . or that it’s fabulous. I merely bring this up because, as a 26-year-old guy born and raised in Southern California who has traveled Europe, South America and the Caribbean over, I have never been to Sin City. This is my first trip, and man is this place one big mess of debauchery.

Some interesting tidbits I thought you might like to know.

First off, I spotted Celine Dion — count them nine — times between the luggage carousel and arriving at my hotel. Twice in brochures left lying on the airport carpeting, on a gigantic billboard above the strip and on the mug the lady sipping coffee in the Luxor lobby had just purchased.

But the city itself has mixed reactions to the Canadian chanteuse. While most will admit her show is pretty damn good (which I will find out for myself on Saturday), they also offer varying stories as to why she took the gig — from Dallas to dance at Cheetah’s.

One very drunk woman who just moved here allegedly said she used to travel to and from her home, from Dallas to dance at Cheetah’s.

Another eight nights only.

And everyone is pretty well in agreement who I swear did a week on a “trip to the powder room” last month. Allegedly tripped and fell flat on her face after an “off your rocker” night out.

We’ve got a couple other things happening in Vegas this week. The “best singer in the world” is not Celine Dion but Danny Gans. According to billboard all over town. So who exactly is Danny Gans? Hell if I know, but I can’t help but wonder how anyone actually proves this theory.

And the hot tip is that Nelson Mandela is in the middle of building a luxury condo high-rise on the strip.

Newt Gingrich could be worth millions, or a tour of his ranch. Man, if I won the lottery, I’d really be happy.

And finally, there are the drugs. I just can’t help but wonder what George W. Bush is packing. And if he was caught with the five grams of coke it was after he called the cops claiming someone had broken into his apartment.

And so we’ve finished folks. We’ll return next time to our regular format with bitches, hot men and women and morbid tales of lies and deception live from LA. Until then:

Q Registration Form

4th Annual “Awakening Utah” 5K Walk for Suicide Prevention and Awareness
Saturday, April 22nd, 2006 | Sugar House Park | Northwest Pavilion | 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Names/Addresses/Phone Numbers

Pre-Registration Fees (Children under 18 $5.00, # of children participating)

College Students $20.00 with school ID

Adults $15.00

College Students participating

# of adults participating

Group Discounts Available - Call 801-366-7903 for more information

Pre-Registration Deadline is April 14th, 2006.

Please make check or money order payable to:

The Mental Health Association in Utah
1800 South Temple, Suite 901
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

(Instructions: Include $10.00 per participant, plus all check with form. Note: A $5.00 fee per participant will be charged if registration is received after April 14th, 2006.)
Why Do Salt Lake City Men Always Monkey Around?

because of...

GayMonkey.com

http://SLC.GayMonkey.com

Local News, Events, Job Postings and much more!

Meet Local Guys in your local area, with 80,000+ Members already...

You can't go wrong!
SaltLake photographer Kim Russo catches you out on the town.

- Toni Fitzgerald and Denise Vincent at Toni's birthday party at Paper Moon
- Josh Burton, Markie Johnson and DJ Mike Babbit at the Utah Bear Alliance Mr. Utah Bear and Cub Contest at Club Try-Angles
- SaltLake's Magon Wilson, Mell Mailey and Angie Mettler serving up a redneck feast at the Utah Bear Alliance Mr. Utah Bear and Cub Contest at Club Try-Angles
- Derk Liljenquist, Drew Lopes and Lee Silva at Club Try-Angles
- Danielle Dontas and Christine Carlisle at Paper Moon
- Stephanie Thomas and Lori Bennett at the Women's Bowling League
- Paris Childers, Kennedy Cartier, and Kyra Prespentte at the Trapp Door
- Matt Buchanan, Michael Carberry, Tim Brow and Anthony Evans at the Trapp Door
- Ranie Olerenshaw and Tami Bennett at the Women's Bowling League
- Gwen Glee and Terry Beckstead at the Women's Bowling League
- Craig Booth, Ray Duncan and Rhett Larsen at the Trapp Door
TRAPP DOOR EVENTS!
Fri 17th - St. Patrick’s Day
Wed 22nd - Grand Opening “The Sounds of Sex” with DJ Fabrice
Sat 25th - RCGSE Show
Sun 26th - Grand Opening “Club Pachanga Night” New Promoters. New DJ’s. A whole new party!
+ Loud & Wild Show From RCGSE
Fri 31st - Go Balls Deep Charity For Women’s Swoosh Softball Team

FRIDAY MARCH 31ST
TRAPP DOOR 1ST ANNIVERSARY PARTY!
Get Ready! More Details To Come!

OUR CURRENT LINE UP!
sundays
Esta Noche-Latin Night! Feel The Rhythm! $2 Tequila $2 Corona! No cover before before 11:30!

wednesdays
Your Favorite Dance Music Music Videos - Tons Of Specials!

thursdays
Skaraoke
Costumes Provided! - Nightly Specials! Come Be A Star!

fridays
Tongue n’ Groove
All Request Music! With Your Host Sheneka! $3 Sex On The Beach!

saturdays
Inferno House Party!
w/ DJ Darren Weight! Arrive Early! No Cover Before 10pm!

TRAPP DOOR
615 West 100 South
HOTLINE - 533-0173
www.trappdoor.com
a private club for members

NOW OPEN
1330 SOUTH STATE

EVENTS:
FRIDAY MAR 17
POT OF GOLD
SOLID GOLD 70s SHOW
SUNDAY APR 2
CP BALL 2006
NIGHT OF TV CLASSICS

WATCH FOR NEW DANCE AREA SOON!

MARCH 15, 2006 Q SALT LAKE Q 23
I WANT MY QUEER TV
Comcast not giving you what you need?
Sign up for DirecTV through this gay-owned and operated business and a $20 donation will be made to a gay charity.

UTAHSAT.COM
YOUR DOGGY’S DAWG WALKER/JOGGER
Morning schedules avail. Liberty Park. Classes forming now. Private pet services offered. 801-759-0372
EXTRA SPECIAL MASSAGE
Receive and reply to e-mail from other members, Signal other members you’re interested, Browse the vast friends or family for just $25 or 6 months for $15 donation will be made to a gay charity.

YOUR DOGGY’S DAWG MASSAGE
UTAHM4M.COM
GET A FREE LAPTOP
desk PC. Totally Free! TotallyFreePC.com

DENNIS MASSAGE
Dennis is Utah’s only physique print model & massage therapist. See why he is so well liked at www.dennismassage.com (801) 598-8344
GIVE THE GIFT OF QSALTLAKE
Give a full year–26 issues–of QSaltLake to your friends or family for just $25 or 6 months for $15. Go to QSaltLake.com/subscribe or call 1-800-806-7357 today!

UTAH4M.COM
IT’S FREE TO BE A MEMBER!
It’s free to...
Receive and reply to e-mail from other members, Signal other members you’re interested, Browse the vast TangoWire worldwide network.
Upload up to 5 Photos (or we’ll scan them for FREE), Fast and Easy Registration. Be Online in Minutes! 

UTAHGAYDATE.COM
Some say all the good ones are married or gay. They’re right. Chat room. Match profile.

Q MARKET
NEWS ITEM: LOCAL CABLE PROVIDER REFUSES TO AIR QUEER TV
Not getting what you want from your cable television provider?
Not getting Logo’s “Noah’s Arc” series, or the John Waters “Fuego”, or “Webcam Boys”?
Order DirecTV today through this gay-owned company and $20 will be donated to a gay charity. Will your TV provider do that?