

The ~~BRANDING~~ IRON Curling

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 16363, Phoenix, Arizona 85011

4B THE WICHITA EAGLE Sunday, October 20, 1991 ★

KANSAS IN BRIEF

Gay rodeo this weekend

Between 2,000 and 3,000 people are in Wichita this weekend to participate in or attend events of the International Gay Rodeo, being held in the West Bank stage area.

Promoters of the event did not issue press permits for rodeo events and requested no coverage by local media.

Well, doesn't that just about cover it? Hardly, but that's all the coverage we wanted from the Wichita Eagle.

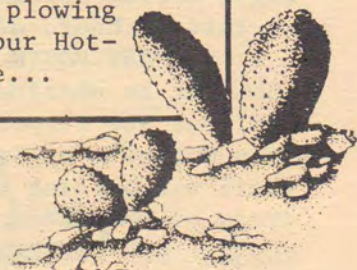
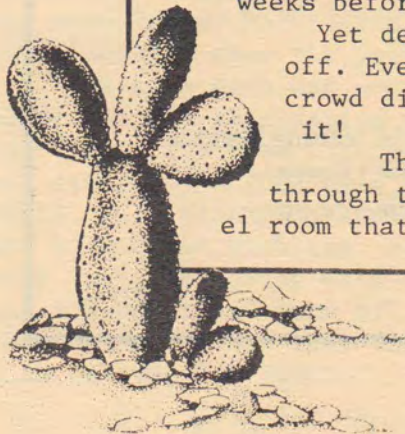
IGRA's Finals Rodeo 1991, has come and gone. Another new Rodeo year is about to start in Dallas, Texas. But before it does, let's look back at this year's Finals.

Overall results? It worked! Everything went smoothly and successfully, which is a near miracle considering the obstacles that Kansas, and the GPRR group had to deal with beginning just two months ago. At that time you'll remember, the Wichita press ran an article heralding the appearance of Gay Rodeo in their City. Nice article, but it tipped off the local homophobes, who stormed our scheduled Arena and caused them to back out of their contract with us. Approval for the second site was delayed by their City Council for awhile (probably fears over more trouble in conjunction with their ongoing battle with the Anti-Abortion wackos). And then apparently someone associated with the original Arena, who was going to continue to help us out at the new site, also backed out, leaving the Rodeo organizers in the lurch just weeks before "showtime".

Yet despite these, and other ongoing hassles, they pulled it off. Everybody seemed to be having a good time (we know the AGRA crowd did) and the GPRR Organization is to be congratulated for it!

Think we'll just do a "hit and miss" job here, plowing through the mountains of notes scattered through-out our Hotel room that weekend.

Continued next page...



AGRA's Rodeo Contestant's results are listed later in this issue, congrats to GREG OLSON, and CANDY PRATT who took the All-Around honors. Candy's from TGRA.

In the Mr/Ms/Miss Competition, our new title-holders are Mr JIM CARTER from OGRA, Ms RC QUELLAR from CGRA, and Miss ROXIE HEART from KGRA. Don't know RC, though she seemed real nice, Jim's just a sweetheart, and Roxie's a hoot. Should be fun having her on the Circuit this coming year. She'll be great in helping "her kids", upcoming Rodeo Royalty Contestants as well.

Our own "on-site" Royalty were just wonderful. While CONSUELA RODRIGUEZ (JOE RUBIO) didn't take any titles, she sure got the compliments all weekend. "Elegant", and "Regal" were among them, from both the Judges and the audience members. HOLLIE WOODS (DAVID ANAYA) IGRA's reigning, and then stepping down Miss also just stunned the crowds. Gay and straight alike we might add. Her farewell set garnered several standing ovations as she went from Hollie to David, and ended singing a GARTH BROOKS song, live. AGRA Members kept the tears flowing on both of our "girls" by presenting them with flowers at the end of each of their sets.

Hollie's MARILYN MONROE numbers and look on Saturday had the straight crowds bowled over as well as our own. Must have been wedding receptions or something going on at both the hotels. Lots of boys in tuxes, and girls w/ corsages. Girls seemed fascinated with Hollie, boys seemed... terrified. Just too pretty.

Lots of "terrified" going on all weekend with the anti-abortionists staying at the back-up hotel w/ us (who booked those two groups together anyway?!) but they kept their slacked-jaw and disapproving looks at a distance. Needless to say, since we were winning by intimidation, we all took full advantage of the situation. Lots of hugging and kissing in the lobbies. Staffs from both hotels were great, seeming to favor us over some of their other clientele. Understand we had some additional press coverage as well, which must have brought in some of the sight-seers, but no problems for any of us that we heard of.

FANTASY/SOUTH FORTY COMPLEX was shoulder to shoulder all weekend, and fun! Bar was tipped off to a visit by the Fire Marshals on Sat. night, so their staff was herding what seemed to be hundreds of us out onto the patio areas. Shades of "Charlie's" at earlier Rodeos.

WILDA BEAST, now there's a subject! Just don't think that some of the Judges/IGRA Officials know what to do about Wilda, but the crowds sure do. Relax, have some fun, and enjoy her! Wilda got a standing ovation when first introduced at Sunday's Awards ceremonies and we think actually (or finally?) got embarrassed when the crowd starting chanting "Wilda, Wilda" during the announcement of the Miss Winners. Keep it up Wilda, you're great for UGRA and IGRA!

Here's some extremes... IGRA President BOB PIMENTEL looking absolutely parental over the weekend with his new friend, and friend's three year old son in tow. Must have killed the pro-lifers! Other extreme.. someone tell TREVA LONDON to start wearing underwear if she's gonna be flipping upside down in public while wearing dresses!

NSGRA and ASGRA gave great parties on Fri and Sat. nights, which doesn't explain the gang of naked men allegedly running up and down the halls on the 13th floor of the Plaza. Who were they, and where were we?

Which AGRAer was suffering from "sore tits" from all that shaking in the rough ride up to Wichita? She'll kill us if we tell you, so we won't.

FRANK BOLANDER, and DOUG WAGNER had a lovely and touching reunion of sorts at SOUTH FORTY on Sunday night... on the pool table. We heard that they both kept tight hold of their respective hotel keys.

And speaking of Doug, he and RON ERICKSON will hereafter be referred to as "The Sybil Twins" from Kansas City, due their constantly changing personalities, towards each other, and the world in general. Poor SEAN (did we spell that name correctly guy?) must be absolutely crazed living with them both on the same block.

And that was our Finals weekend. Next year, we do it in Phoenix!



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another IGRA Circuit Year is done with the completion of Wichita's 1991 Finals Rodeo.

I see lots of changes in us, and IGRA, as I look back over my years of Gay Rodeo. But at the same time, other things never seem to change, they just become more comfortable, like family.

The change in Divisions structures forces us to say goodbye to California this coming year. We'll miss competing for points at future Rodeos with GSGRA people, but know that many of us will still travel back and forth between our Events to keep that part of our family together.

Coming back home to our family, after a year as Miss IGRA, is DAVID ANAYA/HOLLIE WOODS. Thanks for a wonderful year Hollie. People from all across the Country told me all weekend long that IGRA could not have had a better Royalty Representative than you. I agree.

CONSUELA RODRIGUEZ/JOE RUBIO returned home to us as well, after Finals. Consuela may not have finished the Contest among the top three on every judge's sheet, but she sure finishes at the top with us. You made us proud of you Connie, we're glad you're "ours".

My congratulations also go out to all our AGRA Rodeo Contestants, each and every one of whom brought home at least one ribbon. Special congrats to our Runners-Up, and of course to GREG OLSON, for another year as All-Around Cowboy.

That family feeling really hit home when I realized that DONNA BELL, Greg, and I had won this year's Wild Drag Race Buckles. The three of us also won the very first Wild Drag Buckles ever given out, back in November, 1986, for the 1987 Circuit Year. Our same "team" has picked up a total of seven Buckles over the years.

The trip home was another memorable reminder of the friendships that IGRA is based on. Truck, and then tire problems delayed our return by a good half day. Greg, LARRY JONES, KRIS EISENHUT, and I were stuck dealing with those problems. Hollie and TONY were just caravanning with us, and could have cut a good eight hours off their trip if they'd kept going. They didn't. They stayed with us. That's "Family".

Jan Jensen



WHO BE THIS WOMAN?

CANDY BELL, that's who!

Do you ever notice CGRA's WAYNE JAKINO's ongoing comments about how he can always tell where Candy is, whether in the Arena, or at an Awards Ceremony, by her blue felt hat? Well here's the picture explaining why. Some years ago, we don't know how many, so don't ask, Candy won the "Miss Boulder Montana Western Weekend" Contest. She was wearing this same hat. It now serves as her "good luck" hat, restyled, and worn at every IGRA Rodeo function.

Seems to work too, with another three Ribbons picked up by her at this year's Finals. Don't lose the hat Candy, we need ya more than ever now!



GREG OLSON A

LARRY JONES

CINDY McCORMICK OUT OF T

The good news from Finals '91 was the Awards brought back home by our AGRA Members. GREG OLSON again took the International All-Around Cowboy Buckle this year. LARRY JONES was awarded the Buckle for 2nd Runner-Up All-Around Cowboy, and CINDY McCORMICK took home the 4th Runner-Up Buckle for All-Around Cowgirl. Yes, Cindy McCORMICK, stated as a full name! Course everybody has known all along who "Cindy of California" has been, but we finally got her approval to drop the alias and use the full name. Now the down side to Finals. We finally get to use Cindy's full name, and she leaves us to go back to GSGRA! Has to do it, unfortunately, since we will not be in the same Division as California starting this year. We'll miss ya Cindy!

Another bummer from the weekend's events, was the loss of part of Greg's thumb. Doesn't that just look sick, now that we see it before us written on paper?! Greg lost it during Sunday's Team Roping Event, when it got caught in his rope. Rushed to the hospital, the Doctor's pronounced him fine without the little piece that was missing, wrapped him up, and sent him back to the Awards Ceremonies in time to pick up his All-Around Buckle. We appreciate your enthusiasm Greg, but losing body parts to the AGRA cause is just a bit above and beyond the call of duty that we expect from our Contestants, take it a little easier next time okay?

Buckle winners for this year were...
Calf Roping on Foot, taken home by Greg Olson.

Goat Dressing, won by DAN IVERSEN and Greg Olson.

Steer Riding, also won by Greg Olson.

Wild Drag Race, won by the ongoing trio of DONNA BELL, Dan Iversen, and Greg Olson.

Everybody who competed won something this year, the daily listings are as follows....

SATURDAY

Barrel Racing -

- 3rd - Larry Jones
- 6th - Cindy McCormick
- 7th - Donna Bell
- 7th - Greg Olson
- 8th - Angie Darnell

Breakaway Roping -

- 3rd - Cindy McCormick
- 5th - Larry Jones

Bull Riding -

- tie for 2nd - Greg Olson

Calf Roping on Foot -

- 1st - Larry Jones
- 4th - Greg Olson

Chute Dogging -

- 5th - Dan Iversen

Flag Race -

- 4th - Cindy McCormick
- 5th - Kris Eisenhut
- 7th - Donna Bell

Goat Dressing -

- 2nd - Dan Iversen & Greg Olson
- 3rd - Larry Jones & Eric Smith

Pole Bending -

- 6th - Angie Darnell
- 7th - Kris Eisenhut
- 7th - Cindy McCormick
- 8th - Donna Bell
- 9th - Larry Jones

Steer Decorating -

- 4th - Cindy McCormick
- 6th - Angie Darnell & Greg Olson

Steer Riding -

- 2nd - Greg Olson
- 3rd - Candy Bell

Team Roping -

- 4th - Cindy McCormick

FINALS RODEO

AROUND COWBOY

2ND RUNNER-UP

THE CLOSET AND 4TH RUNNER-UP

Wild Drag Race -

- 1st - Donna Bell, Dan Iversen, and Greg Olson
- 3rd - Colleen Barry & Kris Eisenhut
- 6th - Larry Jones & Cindy McCormick

Wild Drag Race -

- 1st - Donna Bell, Dan Iversen, & Greg Olson
- 2nd - Colleen Barry & Kris Eisenhut.
- 7th - Candy Bell

SUNDAY

Barrel Racing -

- 4th - Larry Jones
- 6th - Cindy McCormick
- 7th - Angie Darnell
- 9th - Donna Bell

Congratulations to all the Winners!

Breakaway Roping -

- 5th - Larry Jones
- 6th - Greg Olson

Calf Roping on Foot -

- 1st - Greg Olson
- 4th - Donna Bell

Flag Race -

- 2nd - Greg Olson
- 4th - Larry Jones

Goat Dressing -

- 1st - Dan Iversen & Greg Olson

Pole Bending -

- 6th - Larry Jones
- 6th - Cindy McCormick
- 7th - Donna Bell
- 9th - Kris Eisenhut

Steer Decorating -

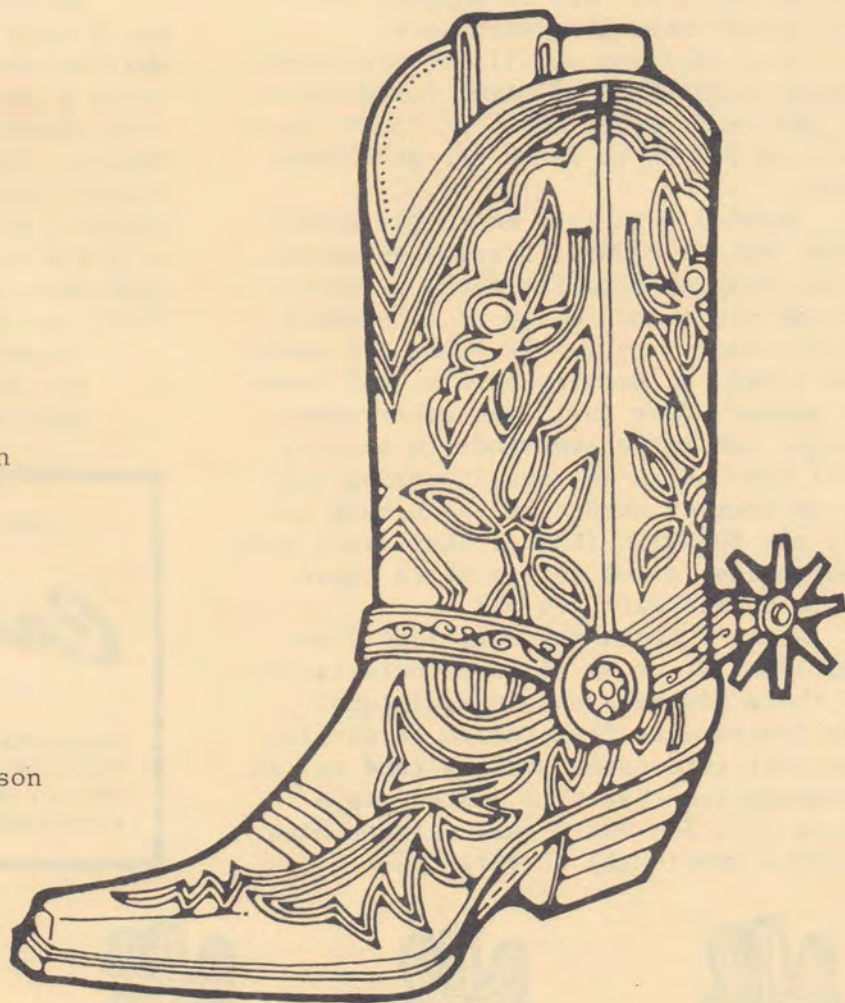
- 2nd - Cindy McCormick
- 3rd - Angie Darnell & Greg Olson

Steer Riding -

- 1st - Candy Bell
- 3rd - Greg Olson

Team Roping -

- 2nd - Cindy McCormick
- 4th - Larry Jones & Greg Olson



ON THE ROAD WITH ROYALTY

Lots going on with Royalty and Royalty Contestants these days... let's just skip around some...

Speaking of skipping around, Mr Contestant KRIS EISENHUT, made his mandatory minimum of \$500. in one night, with a Fundraiser at "CHARLIE'S". Helping him raise the money was GREG OLSON, skipping around as PEG BUNDY at one point, and in one of HOLLIE WOODS' outfits for another set. Apparently people were willing to pay big bucks to get Greg off the floor, and out of those outfits.

Putting on outfits will be Miss Contestant TAMMI CAPRICE (TIM FISCHER), on Tuesday, November 5th at 9:30PM at "Charlie's". And again the evening of Sunday, November 10th at "Cash Inn". Plan on being at both to support Tammi's latest benefit fundraisers.

Also dressing up will be Miss Contestant JACQUELENE DE SAVOI (DREW WASHINGTON) on November 24th, at "307". Be there at 8:00PM to watch her stun that crowd.

Dressed down last month was DAVID ANAYA (HOLLIE WOODS). Dressed as David, he was dragged onto the floor at CASH INN one night and forced to do a TANYA TUCKER song. Many in the crowd had never seen David, or Hollie, before, but loved the number. Poor David was embarrassed though, and swore everybody to secrecy about the entire episode. Swearing people to secrecy naturally leads them to call the BRANDING IRON at their very next opportunity, so we get to share these little events with you all.

Haven't heard any more lately on additional Mr or Ms Royalty Contestants, but there may be a couple additional Miss Contestants from Tucson in our future. All interested parties (and we can guarantee you that this contest is a party) call JOE RUBIO (our current Miss CONSUELA RODRIGUEZ) at #279-3946.

LETTERS AGRA/IGRA ROYALTY

DOES AZ PROUD!

CONSUELA RODRIGUEZ, Miss AGRA 1991, may not have taken the title of Miss IGRA, but she sure represented the AZ title in the fashion that AZ is used to. Flawlessly!

Her talent and western wear parts of the Contest (which is all the public gets to see) was wonderful as usual. Beautiful clothes, and a gracious lady at all times. #1! AGRA can be proud to say that she represents us as Royalty! Congratulations on just being who you are. Thinking of running again?

HOLLIE WOODS, Miss IGRA 1991, what more can I say? Proud is just a word, and that's what we are. Words can't express what we feel about a job well done, and you did just that. Your footsteps are going to be real hard to follow. You have been gracious, loving, and humble through it all, whether David or Hollie, and that's what it takes. Also, fun, a little crazy, and pretty thrown in for good measure. You will always be Miss IGRA 1991, and Miss AGRA 1990, and we love you.

Congratulations! Love to you both.

Ron Erickson

AGRA Entertainment Director

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CURLING IRON/ HEDDA ABUSE

We feel like paraphrasing DAVID ANAYA's lament from last month's interview with him.. "Nobody knows shy little, innocent TIM DOUGHERTY who as Corresponding Secretary puts out the BRANDING IRON, but after Finals Weekend everybody knows HEDDA HOPPER and the CURLING IRON!". We put the following piece in at the insistence of DAN IVERSEN, who swore he'd use the President's column to address a Sunday night brawl if we didn't put it in elsewhere.

Everybody needs an outlet at something as emotional as a Finals Rodeo Weekend. For some odd reason we were picked as that emotional "whipping boy". It was all in good fun, and Sunday night's finale was the topper, when at 2:30AM in the FANTASY's packed restaurant, an entire table full of drunken IGRAers screamed in unison "We hate Hedda!". This elicited much applause, laughter, and chants of "Hit Hedda" (a line stolen from the movie Steel Magnolias). We mourn the loss of our "in the background innocence" that we've so carefully cultivated, but now that we've lost it, we're thinking that perhaps running for Correspondence Secretary for one more year might be a good idea. It would give us a chance to get back at each and every one of the following, soon to be victims...

RON ERICKSON and HOLLIE WOODS, ringleaders of the weekend attacks, and originators of the "Hedda/Curling Iron" names. CONSUELA RODRIGUEZ, and JAMES STIRNAMEN, our Miss AGRA and her other half, as well as MARKUS and TONY, two guys who helped keep our "girls" pulled together all weekend. Consuela, James, and Markus will pay double for their set-up of a Stewardess the next day, who then loudly asked me (sitting amidst several straight men) "Well, Hedda Hopper, what would you like to drink, and what's the latest gossip?". MGRA's outgoing Miss CRYSTAL (we haven't been that close to women's breasts since we thought we were straight) DEVILLE, and Crystal's MOTHER, (how does she put up with all of us?). Also, DOUG "Ernest" WAGNER, and LARRY (past IGRA Royalty and who cares) BRUMLEY for standing up at our table and pointing.

Up for "non-supporting" roles (we saw you all laughing and enjoying the spectacle) are... JEFF COON and LINDA FRAZIER, hope Jeff didn't laugh too much and spit his teeth into Linda's food. MGRA's MIKE ROBINSON, just wait 'til you become an AGRAer and I can give it to you on a regular basis. BSGRA's CODY CRUMM, and incoming Miss MGRA ALYSSA LEE, as well as

MEMBERSHIP

Only one new Member this month? Let's welcome MICHAEL WOLFE from "WINKS" to our fold, and check MAX SUTHERLAND'S jeans pockets for more applications.

Mail returned last month, included pieces to TIMOTHY KROUT, EVELYNE RIOS, and KATHY SMITH. Somebody please have them confirm their addresses with PHIL LOOBY at #934-7970.

GEN. MEETING DATE CHANGE

Important Membership meeting in November, and on a special day. The FIRST Sunday this month (the 3rd) so as not to conflict with the Texas Rodeo. Business taking place will be... Voting for our AGRA Trustee for a new term.

Deciding which charities will get any profits from January's RRRR. Taking nominations for next year's Board of Directors.

Be sure to be at "Charlie's", Sunday, November 3rd, at 5:00PM for the meeting.

QUICKIES

Next year's Saguaro Regional Unit Rodeo has had a date change. The new scheduled dates for Tucson's first Rodeo will be May 8-10th. Our previously scheduled dates have now been taken by CGRA's Pike's Peak Unit Rodeo.

BILL DARNELL says it was all worth it!

A name correction. NATALIE PERRY is the woman who does such a good job at Tucson/Shanti, and was nominated as a Grand Marshal for January's RRRR. Membership by the way, voted that honor to HOLLIE WOODS at October's Gen. Membership meeting.

our new Miss IGRA ROXIE HEART, and Mr IGRA JIM CARTER, titles will not save any of you!

Hope we haven't missed anyone, looks like we may have a busy year coming up already!

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOTE THE SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE THIS MONTH
ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

- November 3rd - Sunday - Board Meeting
3:00PM @ "Charlie's"
- November 3rd - Sunday - General Membership Meeting
5:00PM @ "Charlie's"
- November 5th - Tuesday- Tammi Caprice Fundraiser
9:30PM @ "Charlie's"
- November 10th - Sunday - Tammi Caprice Fundraiser
"Cash Inn"
- November 17th - Sunday - Tucson Satellite Membership Mgting.
For Details call Mike B. @ #888-9087.
- November 24th - Sunday - Board Meeting
3:00PM @ "Charlie's"
- November 24th - Sunday - Jacquleene De Savoi Fundraiser
8:00PM @ "307"

Remember: Please bring a non-perishable food item
to the Nov. 3rd General Membership Meet-
ing. Help us stock Shanti's kitchen.

