



GAY MARRIAGES BEGIN

Arizona couples celebrate historic day



KELLY PRESNELL / ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Robert Gordon, left, and Stephen Kraynak were among the first gay couples to get married at Pima County Superior Court on Thursday.

‘Astonishing’ news brings droves to courthouse here

By Luis F. Carrasco
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Wanting to be a part of his-
tory and to join the celebration
in Arizona, **Robert Gordon**,
71, and **Stephen Kraynak**, 67,
became one of the first same-
sex couples to get married in
Tucson.

“It’s a validation by the state
of Arizona that we’ve been
waiting for since we moved
here,” Kraynak said. “We nev-
er thought Arizona would beat
the state of Ohio in terms of

marrying same-sex couples,
but here it is happening today.”

The couple, who have been
together for 16 years, moved
to Tucson from Columbus al-
most four years ago.

Dressed in matching guay-
aberas, Gordon and Kraynak
tied the knot Friday outside
Pima County Superior Court,
part of a wave of same-sex
couples who wasted no time
getting their marriage licens-
es after Attorney General **Tom**
Horne said he would not fight

the landmark decision yester-
day morning striking down
the state’s gay marriage ban.

Pima County Superi-
or Court Clerk **Toni Hellon**
said about 65 marriage li-
censes were issued Friday by
6:30 p.m., which is double the
usual number on any given
day. The court will not keep a
breakdown of same-sex cou-
ples seeking a license because
it is discriminatory, she said.

Hellon said her office also
received several telephone

calls from people who were
disgruntled with the new law.

For some couples who
rushed downtown Friday, the
sudden end to years of waiting
seemed unreal.

“Coming down here, we
weren’t really believing that
this was going to happen,” said
Kristin Gunkel. “Even walk-
ing in we were going, ‘Do you
think they’ll really do it?’”

Gunkel and her partner,

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Federal judge nullifies ban; no AZ appeal

By Howard Fischer
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — Gay couples are now legally
marrying in Arizona.

The historic move came just moments af-
ter Attorney General Tom Horne said Friday
that he would not appeal a decision earlier
that morning by U.S. District Court Judge John
Sedwick declaring Arizona’s ban on same-sex
weddings unconstitutional, ordering the state
to “permanently cease enforcement of those
provisions of Arizona law declared unconsti-
tutional by this order.”

That followed a similar ruling earlier this
week by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals
voiding similar laws in Nevada and Idaho.

“The probability of the 9th Circuit reversing
today’s District Court decision is zero,” Horne
said at a hastily called press conference just

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Friday’s ruling could have
implications on other state
laws **Page A7**

Attorneys offer practical
tips to gay newlyweds
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their views on same-sex
marriage **Page C4**

Find an overview of benefits
offered by some local
employers **Page C4**

Obama announces plan to tighten card security

Government will
replace magnetic
strips with chips

By Marcy Gordon and Josh Lederman
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Saying
more must be done to stop data
breaches affecting consumers,
President Obama announced

on Friday a government plan
to tighten security for the debit
cards that transmit federal ben-
efits like Social Security to mil-
lions of Americans.

Cards issued by the federal
government will now have an
internal chip replacing mag-
netic strips to reduce the po-
tential for fraud. Concern is
growing over the security of

Americans’ financial data,
with an estimated 100 million
people having been affected by
breaches in the past year, in-
cluding at big retailers like Tar-
get and Home Depot.

In addition, the government
will apply the security chips
and personal identification
numbers, called PINS, that re-
place signatures to all existing

and newly issued government
credit cards, Obama said.
Payment terminals at federal
government facilities will be
equipped to handle cards with
the new technology.

In remarks at the federal
Consumer Financial Protec-
tion Bureau, Obama said that

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EVAN VUCCI / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Obama signed an order to improve
security for government credit and debit cards.

COMING SUNDAY

COLLEGE ATHLETES: The push to have players get a cut
of the millions made by the NCAA and schools is growing.



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