

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Outlook Magazine

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OUTLOOK[©]

The Voice of Waterloo Region's Gay and Lesbian Community

Inside This Issue:

- ★ Reactions to Homophobia
- ★ The Door Finally Opens For Ellen!!
- ★ An Interview With John Tutt of The Princess Cinema
- ★ News, Entertainment & A Whole Lot More!



Carrie Chesnut

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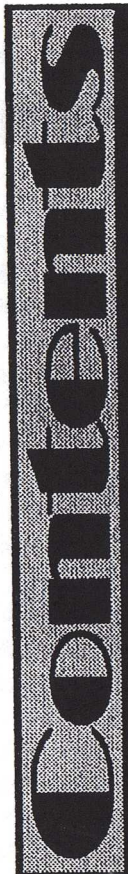
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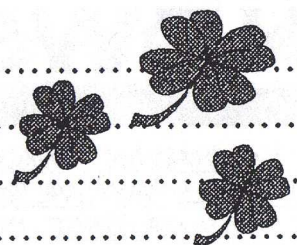
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NEWS..... FROM

CANADIAN CHURCH ENDORSES GAY CIVIL RIGHTS, MARRIAGE

(Out.com) -- The Religious News Service reports the Christian Reformed Church in Canada has provoked heated debate within its ranks over its endorsement of Canadian legislation protecting the civil rights of gay men and lesbians.

The decision by an official council in the Canadian arm of the church to endorse expanded gay rights has apparently infuriated many members in the United States. The denomination is based in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In addition to supporting equal access to housing, employment and other services, the Christian Reformed Church in Canada also came out in favour of recognizing committed lesbian and gay relationships.

The church statement said, in part, "mutually supportive relationships of a private and perhaps intimate nature other than those understood by the familiar and historic terms" of family and marriage "should be given a wholly new designation," the RNS reports.

SERIAL BOMBER SUSPECTED IN ATLANTA

(MSNBC) -- A bomb blast that injured at least five people at a crowded nightclub -the fourth to rock this city in seven months -has forced authorities to consider the possibility of a serial bomber.

"We truly believe we are dealing with a deranged killer, but one who is very clever as well," Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell said.

The February 21 bombing rocked The Otherside Lounge, whose clientele is mostly gay and lesbian. The lounge was crowded with about 150 people when the nail-packed device exploded in a rear patio.

Memrie Wells-Griswell of Snellville, who had surgery the next Saturday morning, was the most seriously wounded but her injuries were not life-threatening, Campbell said. She remained hospitalized at Grady Memorial Hospital.

"The injuries to the other four were fairly minor. They were treated and released," Campbell said. Hospital officials said the injuries ranged from shrapnel wounds to pain in the ears.

Police found a "suspicious" backpack with a second bomb shortly after arriving. That device, set near a low brick wall in a parking lot beside the building, was detonated by a remote-controlled robot at about 2 a.m. Police shot it with a short, strong blast of water to set it off.

Aspects of this bombing echoed the July 27, 1996, Centennial Olympic Park attack, which killed one woman and injured 100 people, and two Jan. 16 bombings at Atlanta Northside Family Planning Services, which injured seven.

Nails were used as shrapnel in each bombing; like the Olympic bombing, a backpack was used to deliver a bomb, and, like the Northside clinic bombing, a second device, intended for police and medical teams, was used.

And like both previous attacks, there have been no arrests. Authorities drew no immediate connections among the attacks.

"They will be worked as separate investigations but we all recognize the similarities here," FBI agent Woody Johnson said. "We will be searching out the possibility that we have a serial bomber."

AROUND THE WORLD

Authorities have pointed out that the nails used in the latest attack are larger than those used in the Olympic park bombing and that the backpacks used were not the same style. Additionally, the second bomb discovered Feb. 21 was not placed in an area where rescue workers and investigators were likely to go.

And unlike the park bombing, authorities don't know of any warning calls in the latest blasts. Friday's bombing was called into the city's 911 center at 9:58 p.m. as a shooting, said Police Chief Beverly Harvard.

"Several customers thought a lady had been shot," said bartender Rhonda Armstrong, who was mixing drinks when she saw a flash of light and heard the blast. "She rolled her sleeve up and had a spike nail through her arm."

Beverly McMahon, the club's owner, said she's shocked that it happened in her club. "We've had really no problems for seven years in that club," she said. "And our clientele is very mixed. We get all walks of life there."

Police closed off traffic to a six-block, mostly commercial area of restaurants, nightclubs and businesses before exploding the second, more powerful bomb authorities said.

"This is the second incident with two devices we've had," said Jack Killorin, a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent. "We have no information to match them up but we would be unwise not to be prepared for that possibility."

The federal task force investigating the abortion clinic explosions will take over the nightclub bombing, joined by an ATF team arriving Saturday from Washington. A separate team is looking into the Olympics blast. Federal officials sought leads from members of the public through the special ATF hot line, 1-888-ATF-BOMB, as members of the ATF's National Response Team headed to Atlanta from Washington.

Gay rights activists condemned the bombing as a hate crime reminiscent of Ku Klux Klan attacks on black civil rights activists in the South in the 1960s.

"Maybe this was something to scare us, to put us in our place," said Atlanta gay activist Lynn Cothren. "We will not let this bomb or any kind of hate send us back into the closet."

WASHINGTON, Feb 22 (Reuters) - Lesbian and gay rights activists condemned the bombing of a popular gay and lesbian nightclub in Atlanta and urged the Justice Department to investigate if the bombing was a hate crime.

The FBI suspected a serial bomber might be behind the explosion, which injured five and resembled bombings at an Atlanta abortion clinic last month and at the Olympic Centennial Park last July.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force wrote to President Bill Clinton on Feb. 22 pressing him to "speak out loudly" against the attack with a bomb packed with shrapnel.

"The vicious nature of this attack, as well as the similarities with the recent abortion clinic bombings, is consistent with the hate and violence stirred up by the right-wing in this country," the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project said in a statement.

"Hate clearly is a possible motive in these crimes and must be investigated as such," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization.

Birch said her group planned to contact Justice Department officials. Under federal law, the Justice Department can investigate a crime as bias-motivated if it might have been driven by hate against a certain race, religion, national origin or disability. The statutes do not include sexual

orientation. According to the most recent FBI crime statistics, almost 13 percent of offenders in 1995 said their crimes were motivated by anti-gay sentiments.



CATHOLIC GROUP PRESSES CHURCH LEADERS TO ACCEPT GAYS

(Out.com) -- Roman Catholic activists belonging to a group called "We Are Church" staged a series of nationwide demonstrations February 16 and, among other demands, called on the church to end their animosity towards gay men and lesbians.

On the steps of Catholic churches in dozens of cities across the U.S., "We Are Church" members asked that parishioners sign a referendum which calls for the ordination of women, optional celibacy for the clergy, and respect for the rights of gay and lesbian Catholics.

National Coordinator of the referendum, Maureen Fielder, spoke to reporters outside St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. The aim of the group is to collect at least one million signatures to add to the two million collected in Austria and Germany.

The Detroit News reports that a similar call for embracing gay and lesbian Catholics was issued by Detroit's Roman Catholic Bishop Thomas Gumbleton at a speech he made at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio.

The Dayton Daily News quoted Bishop Gumbleton as saying, "We must let them share in the church what their experience of love is as they live out life as a homosexual person." The Dayton paper went on to quote Gumbleton as saying the Catholic church "is asking gay people not to be holy, but to be warped," to be ashamed of and to deny their sexual orientation.

TWO CHARGED IN FLORIDA AIDS LEAK

(NewsPlanet) -- The U.S. medical establishment and its patients were shaken in September when a Florida county health department's confidential listing of names and contact information for 4,000 people with AIDS was mailed to two area newspapers, believed to be the worst breach of confidentiality in the nation's history. Misdemeanor charges were filed on February 13 against two men, former roommates, who made their first court appearance in early March. Each proclaims his own innocence and the other's guilt in an incident prosecutors believe was part of a bad break-up.

Openly gay public health worker William Calvert III had been under scrutiny from the first, since he was named in anonymous letters sent to the newspapers along with the computer disks bearing the AIDS listings. Those letters said he'd been showing off the confidential information on a laptop computer at a gay bar, and that he'd dropped the disk after becoming intoxicated. It was alleged that he used the list to check out men he and his friends were considering dating.

Calvert was investigated at length and maintained throughout that he had not put the list to personal use nor otherwise acted inappropriately. His work with the Pinellas County Health Department made him one of only a few people with access to the information, and he legitimately used the disk and his laptop to record data at doctor's offices and clinics. Calvert was suspended from his job during the investigation, forced to resign, and filed a formal appeal of his termination. The charge against him is misusing confidential information, a misdemeanor with a maximum sentence of one year in jail and a fine of \$1,000.

The other man charged in the case is Gregory Wentz, who was Calvert's roommate and business partner at the time. Wentz is believed to be the one who actually mailed the information to the

newspapers. He also says he is innocent of the charge against him, intentionally disclosing confidential information, a misdemeanor with a maximum sentence of 60 days in jail and a fine of \$500.

A recent case in Florida established that there is no legal basis for civil lawsuits against those who break confidentiality, and a state appeals court let the decision stand.

The lists of patient information were developed under Florida's mandatory AIDS reporting law, which is shared with about half the states. The scandal caused Florida to delay its planned institution of mandatory reporting requirements for HIV infections, which some activists now hope to repeal altogether. Both the Centres for Disease Control and the Florida state health authorities reviewed and upgraded their security procedures in the wake of the incident.

FORMER VILLAGE PEOPLE 'COP' ARRESTED

(Toronto Sun) -- The original lead singer of the Village People, the 1970s disco group was jailed on robbery and drug charges in February.

Vince Edward Willis, 45, of San Francisco, was arrested in his Flamingo Hilton room, where officers said they found about 45 grams of rock cocaine.

Officers went to the hotel after a woman reported that a man struck her and robbed her of an undisclosed amount of money and a bracelet. Police went to Willis' room and found the woman's belongings. The woman, who wasn't identified, told police she had socialized with him earlier.

Willis, who lists his current occupation as a writer, was in the Washoe County Jail, unable to post \$16,500 bail. He was arrested for investigation of robbery, possession of a controlled substance and trafficking in a controlled substance.

Willis was with the Village People from 1977 to 1979, when it recorded such hits as *Macho Man*, *Y.M.C.A.* and *In The Navy*. He played

the cop in the six-member group with its parodies of male stereotypes.

The group broke up in the 1980s, but made a comeback at nostalgia shows in the 1990s, and still tours with four original members.



MEL WANTS TO MAKE PEACE

(A.P.) -- Mel Gibson, accused of demeaning homosexuals in his films, has offered an olive branch to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

GLAAD criticized his characterization of a hairdresser in 1990's *Bird on a Wire*. And in Gibson's *Braveheart*, King Edward I throws his son's gay lover out a window in a scene that drew cheers from some audiences.

In 1991, a Spanish paper quoted Gibson as saying: "Who might think with this demeanor, I could be gay? Do I talk like them? Do I move like them?"

To mend fences, Gibson met with GLAAD members, *Entertainment Weekly* reports. Chastity Bono, GLAAD's entertainment media director and the lesbian daughter of Sonny and Cher, was there.

Gibson did not apologize, but his publicist, Alan Nierob, said it was "a nice dialogue between people who have a lot in common."

WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNOR VETOS A BILL TO BAN SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

(OLYMPIA, WA, Feb. 21 UPI) --

Washington Gov. Gary Locke has vetoed a bill that would have banned same-sex marriages and prohibited the recognition of those performed in other states.

Locke said that he opposes "any measure that

would divide, disrespect or diminish our humanity." He said, "Our overarching principle should be to promote civility, mutual respect and unity, and to reject hate, violence and bigotry. This legislation fails to meet the test."

President Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act last year, allowing states to ignore same-sex marriages that are legally recognized in other states. The law also denies same-sex spouses the federal rights and benefits provided to opposite-sex spouses.

But Locke says prohibiting recognition of marriages legally performed in other states violates the U.S. Constitution.

No state currently allows same-sex marriages. But in a historic case now under appeal in the Hawaii Supreme Court, a judge recently ruled that gay and lesbian couples can legally obtain marriage licenses in that state because there is no compelling reason for prohibiting same-sex marriages.

To date, 17 states have passed legislation either banning or prohibiting recognition of same-sex marriages.

Last year, 21 states rejected, vetoed or failed to advance similar legislation.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. POLICE SEEKING GAY AND LESBIAN RECRUITS

(Reuter) -- The Cambridge, Mass., police department issued a statement last week asking gays and lesbians to apply for jobs, the Boston Herald reported Monday.

Homosexuals will not receive any legal preferences in hiring but the police want openly gay people to know they will not be discriminated against, the newspaper said.

"A lot of people feel they aren't welcome in some cities and towns," Cambridge police spokesman Frank Pasquarello told the newspaper. "We are addressing that by making sure members

of the gay and lesbian community feel they are welcome."

He said he is not aware of any openly gay officers currently on the force. "We could care less if someone is openly gay, as long as they do their job," he told the Herald.

GAY MARINE WINS RETIREMENT BENEFITS AFTER LONG FIGHT

JACKSONVILLE, NC -- The New York Times reports the first openly gay marine to challenge the military's policies on gay men and lesbians has won his four-year court battle.

Justin Elzie, a medical supply clerk stationed at Camp Lejeune, declared he was gay on ABC News the same day Clinton's compromise "don't ask, don't tell" policy took effect in 1993.

At the time Elzie had been accepted into an early retirement program. After his announcement, the Marine Corps removed him from the program and formally discharged him.

A U.S. District Court Judge ordered the corps to keep Elzie on active duty until the case worked its way through court. Elzie is still being given a discharge, but one that he agreed to and on the terms the Marine Corps initially outlined. He will receive retirement benefits and a \$30,000 bonus.

Both Elzie and his supporters contend his case aptly demonstrates gay men and women can serve openly and with distinction. In the four years Elzie has served as an openly gay Marine while his case was litigated, he has received praise from commanders, an official commendation for service and recommended for promotion three times.

Elzie told the Times he hopes other gay men and women in uniform will follow his example. He said one of the frustrations he faced was the realization that he couldn't do it all by himself. "I alone couldn't change the organization, I'm just one cog in the wheel," he said.

GAYS AROUND THE WORLD BEING KILLED, TORTURED

(Reuter) - Homosexuals around the world are being killed, tortured and imprisoned, Amnesty International said in a report on gay human rights on February 19..

"In countries all over the world, men and women are harassed, abducted, imprisoned, tortured and even murdered for their sexual identity," Amnesty said in a report called "Breaking the Silence."

The international pressure group, whose British division put together the report, said gay men and lesbians were particularly vulnerable to human rights abuses and faced prosecution in up to 60 countries for their sexual preferences.

"Amnesty International shines a light into some very dark corners," the report's author, Dan Jones, told reporters.

The report said Colombian death squads target and kill hundreds of gay men and transvestites and call it social cleansing.

In Iran, homosexuality is punishable by the death penalty. "Those found guilty may suffer execution by public stoning," the report said.

The human rights pressure group sought to highlight the plight of persecuted gays by singling out individual cases.

The decapitated body of a Brazilian councillor was found on a rubbish dump after he was denounced for his bisexuality.

"For gays in Colombia, there is no rule of law. The only programme the government has for people like me is a programme to kill us," said Colombian male prostitute Luis Alberto.

A gay Turk named only as Ali said after fleeing his country: "Because I am homosexual, I have been sexually abused and raped many times and in unimaginable ways while being held at police stations."

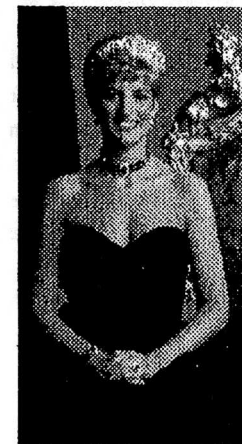
The report praised South Africa for becoming the first nation to include sexual orientation in the anti-discrimination provisions of its constitution. Ten U.S. states were lauded for prohibiting

discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

But Amnesty called for the decriminalisation of homosexuality around the world, citing such countries as Nigeria, Romania and India where it is still illegal.

"The language of these laws varies but the common effect is to stigmatize lesbians and gay men as criminals," Amnesty said.

It said that now that AIDS is often perceived as a gay plague, AIDS prevention activists were suffering from human rights abuses.



PRINCESS DIANA'S BALLGOWNS TO BE AUCTIONED OFF

(Reuter) - Christie's auction house Tuesday unveiled the 80 ballgowns and cocktail dresses being sold for charity by Princess

Diana in what they called a "once in a lifetime event."

The 80 glittering designer gowns, including a blue velvet dress in which Diana danced at the White House with film star John Travolta, are to be auctioned in New York on June 25.

Media estimates have said the sale could realize over \$1.64 million for AIDS and cancer charities but Christie's said it was impossible to put a price on the gowns.

"It is unquantifiable. These sorts of sales are unique... You just can't estimate how much money people will be prepared to pay. These dresses have a sort of magic about them," said Meredith Etherington-Smith, Christie's marketing director.

"Members of the royal family have given dresses to their friends... but they have never actually sold them before. So this is a once in a lifetime occasion," she told a news conference.

London and New York immediately before the sale.

Christie's said Diana herself chose the dresses, which cover her royal life during and after her unhappy marriage to Britain's future king Prince Charles. But the ivory silk wedding dress she wore for the 1981 fairytale wedding is not included.

"The bridal dress remains in the princess's own collection and there, as far as anyone of us are aware, it will remain," said Etherington-Smith.

Princess Diana, who was divorced from Charles last August, told Christie's that the idea for the sale came from her teenage son Prince William.

"I imagine the idea came to him from seeing all these beautiful dresses -- I think it's rather sweet and touching," said Christopher Balfour, chairman of Christie's Europe.

Diana said in a statement that she was extremely happy to be raising money for two of her favorite charities.

"It goes without saying that these dresses which

gave me so much pleasure may be enjoyed by others," her statement added.

February 24, Diana started legal proceedings for libel against a British newspaper that had suggested she would benefit financially from the auction.

Christie's said they expected buyers to include admirers of Diana around the world as well as museums.

But Etherington-Smith made light of suggestions that the shimmering lace, silk and chiffon creations could end up being worn by cabaret artists or transvestites.

"I think the princess might say if she was asked that question -- as long as they enjoy them'. She enjoyed them and now other people can enjoy them," said Etherington-Smith.

Royal commentators shrugged off suggestions that the auction signalled attempts by Diana to leave behind her unhappy royal past and adopt a lower-profile image.

"I don't think it is any particular conscious shedding of image," said Ingrid Seward, editor of Majesty magazine. "You can imagine how much room they take up. I would think she just thought what shall I do with them all?"

ZIMBABWE TRIAL INVOLVES EX-PRESIDENT

(AP) -- A judge lifted a news blackout on a blockbuster murder trial Monday, making public accusations that former President Canaan Banana forced an aide into a three-year homosexual relationship.

The graphic testimony from a policeman charged with murder was certain to embarrass President Robert Mugabe, a close ally of Banana who is cracking down on homosexuals. Policeman Jefta Dube, 36, said he shot dead a colleague who teased him about his three-year homosexual liaison with Banana, 60, a Methodist preacher, theologian and peacemaker.

Judge David Bartlett sentenced Dube to 10 years in prison February 24 for the murder, but said the evidence of Banana's sexual abuse was a mitigating factor that reduced the penalty. Prosecutors had asked for life imprisonment, though the maximum sentence for murder is death.

The case came after Mugabe began a campaign against homosexuals, describing them as "lower than dogs and pigs." Homosexuality is illegal in Zimbabwe. The few gay activists in the country are under surveillance.

In a ruling that took 3 1/2 hours to read Monday, Bartlett said the court must accept evidence that Dube suffered from post-traumatic stress caused by his revulsion to homosexual acts with Banana when he shot a colleague in the head in September 1995.

A news blackout on the trial that began Jan. 27 was lifted with the reading of Bartlett's ruling, which quoted excerpts of Dube's testimony about oral sex, kissing and rape by Banana. Bartlett said he would recommend that Attorney General Patrick Chinamasa and police investigate possible criminal charges against Banana, a married father of four adult children.

There was no comment on the ruling Monday from Banana, Mugabe or official government spokesmen. Some of the testimony quoted by Bartlett portrayed Banana as a sexual predator when Dube was an aide at the presidential residence from 1983 to 1986. In one incident, according to Bartlett, Dube testified he was given a drugged drink by Banana, who then caressed and kissed him and started removing his trousers. Dube told the court he awoke wearing only a shirt to see Banana smile and tell him: "We have helped ourselves."


But because Dube, a married man, was afraid of losing his job, he "unwillingly succumbed to Banana's sexual advances when on weekend duty," Bartlett said. Dube reported the sexual abuse to his police superiors and eventually was transferred. Former senior assistant police commissioner John Chademana told the court he was not surprised

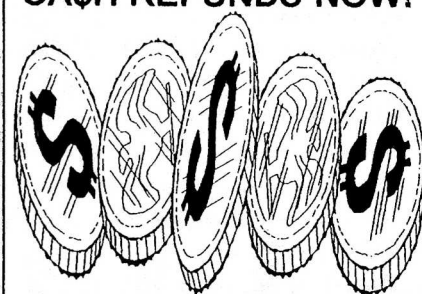
by Dube's complaint against Banana because "there were numerous intelligence reports of a similar nature."

Banana was Zimbabwe's non-executive president for seven years after independence from Britain in 1980 while Mugabe was prime minister and effective leader of the country.

A leading member of Mugabe's ruling Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front party for more than two decades, Banana is an ordained Methodist cleric and theology professor at Zimbabwe University. The Organization of African Unity appointed Banana to help negotiate peace in Liberia and Sierra Leone in 1986. In 1989, he investigated international business contacts with apartheid South Africa.

Mugabe's anti-gay campaign began when his government banned a gay rights exhibit at an international book fair in Harare in 1995. A year later, his supporters assaulted gay rights activists and torched their book fair exhibit.

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SPANISH DEMONSTRATIONS

Demonstrating against homophobia and in favour of a partnership law which includes homosexual partners, almost ten thousand gays and lesbians from all over Spain marched February 22 from Madrid's Puerta de Alcalá to Puerta del Sol. It was the largest demonstration of lesbians, gays and transsexuals since the seventies and was organized by more than forty organizations throughout the country.

Marchers carried flags, posters and banners reading: "Equal rights for all couples", "Partnership law, now", "Yes to the partnership law", while the journalist Maruja Torres and the writer Eduardo Medicutti shared the reading to the crowd of a manifesto of support.

"We demand the end of the defamation and the silence that are the fate within the academic area and in educational institutions of the reality of transsexuals, lesbians and gays. We also demand non-homophobic courses concerning sexuality that reflect the reality of sexual plurality", read Mendicutti.

"We denounce the misrepresentation of the plural image of transsexuals, gays and lesbians that some media propagate, as well as campaigns that present homosexuality as a source of offense and stereotypical conduct", said Maruja Torres.

The manifesto's reading was accompanied by a translation in sign language by an individual atop a truck that was leading the demonstration.

International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) Co-Secretary General Jordi Petit expressed that group's insistence on the decriminalization of homosexuality in Chile, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Romania, and stated that this demand forms part of the manifesto of the Spanish demonstration. Jordi Petit, together with members of Coordinadora Gai-Lesbiana, one of the most powerful gay and lesbian organizations in Spain, located in Barcelona, carried a large ILGA banner which denounced the illegality of homosexuality in those countries and executions

in Middle East countries based on homosexual acts.

Pedro J. Macho, the spokesman of the EHGAM, an organization of the Basque country, was carrying a large banner with the inscription "We must stop homophobia". He stated that two buses had arrived to Madrid from Bilbao to request equal rights.

The demonstration coincides with the discussion of the partnership law in the Congress of Deputies after the presentation by the PSOE (socialists) and the IU (communists) of two different propositions of law regulating unmarried couples, including homosexual ones.

GAY MAN BEATEN TO DEATH IN BOSTON

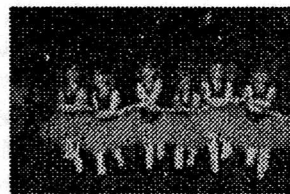
(Out.com) -- A Boston man was brutally murdered near a quiet Bay Village neighborhood late Sunday night, bringing to the surface tensions between an active neighborhood association and a local gay bar, and throwing into tragic relief the ongoing problem of anti-gay violence in the area.

City police told the Boston Globe that three men attacked Lee Thompson, 35, at approximately 2:20 am. Thompson was pronounced dead thirty minutes later in the emergency room of the New England Medical Center. Authorities later arrested Michael Jenner, 20, in connection with the murder. The two other suspects are still at large.

Tom Kauycheck, a member of the Bay Village Neighborhood Association, told the Globe, "Our biggest problem is Jacques's, a gay club on Piedmont Street. They bring crap to the neighborhood." A spokesperson for the club said the comments were part of an ongoing feud between Jacques's and the neighborhood association.

Eric Marion told the Globe that "except for a handful of gay-bashing incidents" each year, the Bay Village neighborhood was very safe. Marion

acknowledged that prostitution and drugs were a continuing problem, though the association has been successful in keeping them relatively isolated. Another man said the area has become a magnet for "low-class people" out to bash -- and apparently kill -- gay men.



SYDNEY'S GAY AND LESBIAN MARDI GRAS ATTRACTS NEARLY 3/4 MILLION

SYDNEY, Australia -- More than 700,000 revelers packed central Sydney over the weekend for the city's annual Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade. The event, started in 1978 as a protest march, has grown into the largest and most spirited annual gay and lesbian celebration in the world. And it gets bigger every year, say organizers.

Reuters reports that a record 200 floats joined the parade on Saturday, the grand finale to a month's worth of gay- and lesbian-themed events. Though the parade demonstrated a serious tone at times -- greater civil rights protection and demands to increase treatment and funding resources for people with AIDS -- the parade is nothing if not a vast and giddy celebration of gay pride.

Men covered in flowing black habits blessed the crowd as they skated past in roller blades and made their way past hundreds of elaborately lighted floats covered in every available spot with dancing men and women. Drag was bawdy and exuberant as were the cheers from crowds pressed in on both sides of a transformed Oxford Street.

Mardi Gras president Bev Lange described the spirit of the celebration to Reuters by saying, "The gay community has been ravaged by AIDS since the 1980s... This is a celebration of life."

GROUP DEMANDS NEW CLONING RESEARCH FOR GAY MEN AND LESBIANS

(Data Lounge)-- USA Today reports on a demonstration that took place in New York's Greenwich Village over the weekend in which 15 members of a largely gay group calling itself the Clone Rights United Front rallied for new research into human cloning. The group says recent breakthroughs in animal cloning may lead the way toward same-sex reproduction.

Founded by New York businessman Randolph Wicker, the group was protesting a bill under consideration in the New York legislature which would make human cloning a felony. "We're fighting for research," Wicker told USA Today, "and we're defending people's reproductive rights...I realize my clone would be my identical twin, and my identical twin has a right to be born."

Activist Ann Northrop says the possibility of human cloning is interesting to gay men and lesbians because, "we're afraid that discovery of a genetic basis [for sexual orientation] would lead to people aborting us, cloning would be a way of surviving," she said.

Northrop added "this has the potential of giving women complete control over reproduction . . . a stunning possibility that could, carried to its logical extreme, eliminate men altogether."

USA Today took pains to emphasize that not everyone in the gay and lesbian community shares the viewpoints espoused by Wicker and Northrop...you got that right.





TRANSSEXUAL TEACHER'S FIRST DAY BACK OK

(NewsPlanet) -
- A British male
t o - f e m a l e
t r a n s s e x u a l
teacher reported
that her first day
at work in her
new gender role

March 6 went "very well." She even received a number of compliments on her appearance.

It signals considerable progress in public understanding in Britain that parental responses to the announcement of the change ran 3-to-1 in her support -- others have not always been so lucky.

David Bradley taught science classes at St. Peter's Church of England School in Exeter for four years, giving his last classes on February 14. Head teacher Mark Perry wrote to students' parents to advise them that Bradley had been diagnosed with "gender identity disorder" and should be treated as a woman on her return. A dozen parents protested, but many more either wrote in support or signed a petition of support.

On March 6, Toni Bradley gave a full day of classes outfitted in black tights, a short black skirt and a long black wig. The only problem she remarked on was some effort required to maintain her voice at a higher pitch when speaking loudly to bring rowdy students into line. Her complete gender reassignment may take 18 months.

Last month Oxford general practitioner Dr. John Browne wrote to his practice's several thousand patients to advise them that he's undergoing gender reassignment surgery and will return to work as Dr. Joanna Browne. His letter tried to explain the concept of "brain sex" differing from apparent physical gender. Browne has not yet returned to work.

But also last month, one of Britain's first gender reassignment patients was denied further appeal of what may have been gross malpractice. "HL" was born a physical male who had lived as a woman since her teens, and was first operated on in 1982. Her constructed genitalia prolapsed, leaving her without sexual function. Cosmetic surgery to soften her jawline left her with double vision as well as dental problems. A series of further surgeries did little to alleviate her problems, which left her deeply depressed as well as disabled and in pain. She first initiated a claim of medical negligence against the local health authority in 1985 without benefit of counsel, and a number of delays ensued. When she was finally ready to proceed in 1994, the court decided it was too late for her to do so. In February, she lost her appeal of that ruling, as justices claimed there could be no fair trial for medical personnel without clear recollections of what had occurred.

CASTRATE GAYS, ZIMBABWE CAMPAIGNER SAYS

(Reuters) -- A former Zimbabwean nationalist leader has launched a campaign to persuade anti-gay President Robert Mugabe's government to punish homosexuality with castration and public whipping.

The crusade, calling for public lynching and castration of convicted rapists and gays, began a week after police said they were investigating charges of homosexual rape against former President Canaan Banana.

"These crimes are on the increase and Zimbabwean laws against sexual perverts, especially rapists and gays, are too soft," Michael Mawema, a former nationalist politician, told the first meeting of his campaign Tuesday night.

Mawema also said the law must punish the kind of witch doctor who is alleged to prescribe rape, incest or child abuse to cure some sexual diseases, including AIDS, or to secure business success.

About 100 people turned up to hear him say both Christianity and Zimbabwe's traditional African culture were unequivocally against "these perverts."

"I am proposing that those convicted of these sexual crimes, such as homosexuality, rape, incest and bestiality, be whipped at least 100 times in a public square, and that, if they are men, they be castrated," he said.

Zimbabwe outlaws sodomy, the charge used to convict homosexuals. Mugabe has led public attacks on gays, saying they are worse than dogs and pigs, but has remained silent over allegations that his predecessor Banana forced a male bodyguard to have sex with him repeatedly.

Banana, 61, a married Methodist church minister who was president until 1987, has not commented on the charges against him, which a court judge ruled were "probably true" and intelligence officials hinted were plausible.

Mawema said the current maximum penalty of seven years for sex crimes was too lenient.

Mike Auret, director of one of Zimbabwe's leading human rights watchdogs, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, said Mawema was wrong to advocate the use of the old biblical law that regards homosexuality as a sin worthy of death.

"We must do something to curb rape, child abuse and bestiality, but gay is a different class," he said.

JENNY JONES GIVES STATEMENT IN CIVIL TRIAL OVER DEATH OF AMEDURE

(Data Lounge) -- Talk show host Jenny Jones gave her deposition Tuesday in the \$50 million civil suit filed against the owners and distributors of "The Jenny Jones Show" by the family of the man who was murdered after his appearance on the show in March 1995.

Jonathan Schmitz shot and killed Scott Amedure, 32, three days after the two appeared together on "Jenny Jones." Schmitz said at his

criminal trial that he was "humiliated" by Amedure's stated attraction to him on the show that the show's producers misled him.

Goefrey Fieger, who is representing the Amedure family, told the Chicago Sun-Times the deposition revealed little new information. "Jenny Jones [says she] is singularly uninformed or intentionally ignorant about virtually everything that goes on her show, however, she cannot explain how she wrote a script in her own handwriting which revealed that the show had lied to Jonathan Schmitz," he said.

Jonathan Schmitz was found guilty of second-degree murder for the shotgun shooting death of Amedure. Schmitz is currently serving 25 to 50 years.

OUT OF CLOSET, INTO CAN

(NewsPlanet) -- Laughs and tears tied for first place at the taping of "Ellen's" coming-out episode. DeGeneres' comment after the big scene: "I'm free."

The long, long, long-awaited episode of "Ellen" in which the title character becomes the first primetime network series lead ever to identify as lesbian or gay, began taping as scheduled on March 7 in preparation for its sweeps-week broadcast April 30. According to openly lesbian comic (or self-identified "fumorist," for feminist humorist) Kate Clinton, her friend and series' star Ellen DeGeneres has had a nervous time of it, primarily in dealing with the nervousness of the upper echelons. Now that it's underway, though, everyone involved is determined to produce the piece with the utmost care, and perhaps it's a little easier for DeGeneres having a couple of other friends participating in the show itself -- openly lesbian Grammy-winners Melissa Etheridge and k.d. lang, in addition to talk show queen Oprah Winfrey.


The live audience was packed with lesbian and gay activists, and the taping brought most of them

-- and the crew -- to tears, as well as laughter. According to one audience member, DeGeneres told a guest afterwards, "I'm free."

Meanwhile, in a curious instance of life imitating art, DeGeneres has purchased a new house, just as her character Ellen Morgan did at the beginning of the season. In DeGeneres' case, however, it's about \$3-million worth of Beverly Hills real estate, a 5,000-square-foot, 3-bedroom, 1930's vintage house on a 3-acre site. In reporting the purchase, the "L.A. Times" real estate section did its own version of a joke from the house-buying "Ellen" episode, headlining their regular weekly "Hot Property" feature, "She's Got Lots of Closet Space."

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THE GUESTLIST

A Monthly Guide To All Things Hot
And New In Spank's Record Box.

Compiled by Jayson Spank
March 1997

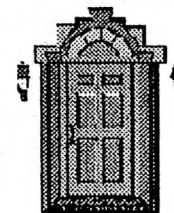
1. Insomnia / Faithless
(Moody Mix)
2. The Flame / Fine Young Cannibals
(Armand Van Helden Remix)
3. Discotheque / U2
(David Morales Remixes)
4. Stay Gold / Deep Dish
5. Toxygene / The Orb
(Way Out West Mix)
6. God Bless America / Dirty White Boy
(Dirty Club Remix)
7. Save A Prayer / Duran Duran
(DMC Remix)
8. Ohmna / Sasha
(Original Mix)
9. Anomaly (Calling Your Name) /
Libra Presents Taylor
10. All Because Of You /
Universal State Of Mind
11. I Miss You / Bjork
(Dobie's Sunshine Mix - Pt. I)
12. Never Forget / Blue Amazon
(Original Mix)
13. Possession / Sarah McLachlan
(Rabbit in the Moon Remix)
14. Inner City Life / Goldie vs. Rabbit in
the Moon
15. Crazy For You / Madonna
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Saturday, March 15

Belle Epoque, directed by Fernando Trueba. Fate brings a soldier, Fernando (Jorge Sanz), to the house of a wise painter, Manolo (Fernando Fernan Gomez) and they become great friends. Manolo's four beautiful daughters arrive from out of town so Fernando decides to find a way to stay. Winner of 9 Goyas (Spanish Academy Awards) Spain, 1992.

Sunday, March 16

House of Angels, directed by Colin Nutley. An enchanting comedy drama about the old versus the new. Erik Zander, (Per Oscarsson) owner of Angels Farm, dies as the result of a freak accident and leaves his inheritance to his gorgeous granddaughter, Fanny (Helena Bergstrom) who the villagers did not know even existed. Along with her wise cross-dressing friend, Zac (Rikard Wolff), age-old hidden conflicts arise in the community. U.K., 1993.

Monday, March 24

Slacker, directed by Richard Linklater. Stunning directorial

debut, giving name to a generation; action shifts from one character to another, with hilarious social satire and wild theorizing about life. USA, 1991.

Friday, March 28

Claire Of The Moon, directed by Nicole Conn. Claire Jabrowski (Trisha Todd), a heterosexual author and Dr. Noel Benedict (Karen Trumbo), lesbian therapist and author of a controversial study on sexual behavior, share a cabin at an annual Women's Retreat where they dispute intellectually, becoming friends and lovers. USA, 1992.

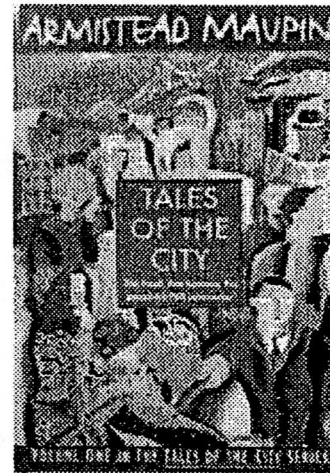
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Maupin's 'City' Still a Hot Spot in TV Land

By JUDITH MICHAELSON, LA Times Staff Writer



Armistead Maupin, whose zesty, provocative and highly acclaimed PBS series "Tales of the City" was honoured by the Museum of Television & Radio, sums up his feelings with an equal measure of bite and delight: "I'm extremely flattered that a show that's 3 years old seems to be lingering in everyone's consciousness so long," he says from his home office in San Francisco, "and that there's so much excitement over doing the second series."

Altogether, 11 programs, chosen for artistic merit, cultural impact or historic significance, are being feted as part of the Beverly Hills' museum's William S. Paley Television Festival. The event was held at the Directors Guild of America in Hollywood.

Maupin's sequel, called "More Tales of the City"--which, he notes, is "lifted directly" from his second novel of the same title--will air in the spring of 1998. Like the original, it tracks a group of offbeat characters living in a San Francisco apartment house in the pre-AIDS era.

Set in 1977, the story line of "More Tales" in part deals with the character of Michael "Mouse" Tolliver who "comes out of the closet when he finds out that his parents--Florida orange growers--have joined Anita Bryant's 'Save Our Children' campaign.

"It has several heterosexual story lines in it as well," Maupin adds. "Some people think because I'm gay my stories are only about gay people."

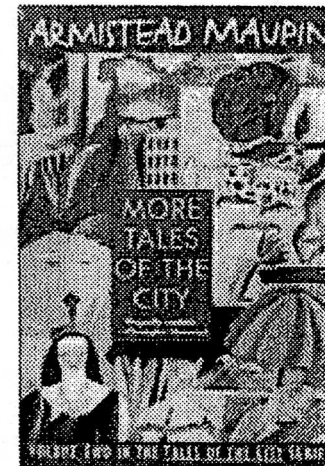
PBS rejected the sequel--although the original "Tales" had been its highest-rated dramatic series in more than a decade--on grounds that it cost too much. Neither Maupin nor a host of others believe that, claiming instead that PBS knuckled under to pressures from the religious right, who opposed "Tales'" uncritical portrayals of casual drug use and homosexuality. PBS has consistently denied that the content had anything to do with its decision.

While a director for the six-episode, six-hour "More Tales"--to be shot this summer in Montreal--is as yet unnamed, Maupin reports that "the majority of the cast are making every effort to return. Laura Linney, Olympia Dukakis and Chloe Webb have said they want to be part of the show."

Dukakis portrayed Anna Madrigal, the exotic landlady who welcomed newcomers to her boarding house by taping home-grown joints to their doors. Linney was Mary Ann Singleton, the naive career girl from Cleveland, while Webb played Mona Ramsey, the resident free spirit, stifled by her job at the Halcyon Ad Agency.

The sequel, Maupin says, "goes all over the place--a cruise to Mexico, a warehouse in Winnemucca, Nev., an amnesia victim with a fear of roses and an elegant sex resort for women over 60."

"Tales" and "More Tales" deals with only the first two of six novels, whose arc of story runs from 1975 to 1988. So, suggests Maupin, there could be sequels to the sequel. ▼





'ELLEN' GETS READY TO OPEN THE CLOSET DOOR

(L.A. Times) -- ABC and Disney give the go-ahead for Ellen DeGeneres' character to come out. The episode is scheduled to air April 30.

"Ellen" will film a long-anticipated episode next week in which the title character of the ABC comedy comes out as a lesbian--ending a six-month guessing game that has left many pondering whether such a turn represents a breakthrough or, at this point, much ado about nothing.

Ellen Morgan falls in love with another woman, then discloses her sexual orientation to her friends and therapist, played in a cameo by Oprah Winfrey. In doing so, the series will become prime time's first to feature an openly homosexual lead character.

As for the decision itself--said to have been approved at the highest levels of ABC's parent, the Walt Disney Co.--the suspense surrounding it has taken on a life of its own that has all but overshadowed the story line's cultural significance.

Revealing Ellen's sexual orientation follows numerous inside jokes throughout the season, such as the star quipping that she might be "left-handed" or "Lebanese." There has been a corresponding evasiveness by ABC and "Ellen's" production company, Walt Disney Television, as to whether such a plot would ever come to pass.

Yet network and studio insiders--who declined to talk on the record--insist they weren't being indecisive or coy as to whether Ellen would come out. Rather, they maintain that initial reports became public at such an embryonic stage in the discussion last September that no one was certain how the issue would be resolved.

Officials were reluctant to take the series in such a direction without information outlining not only how the coming-out episode would be handled, but also where the program would go in subsequent episodes.

"Whatever interest this generates will be over in a week, said one TV executive. "The real question is where the show goes after that."

ABC brass didn't meet with DeGeneres and the producers to discuss specifics until December. ABC offered some notes, then waited to see a draft of the script, which network officials didn't receive until the end of February.

Sources say ABC Entertainment President Jamie Tarses and Disney Television President David Neuman finally convened to go over details and approve the teleplay.

Several misperceptions, meanwhile, linger about what took ABC so long to provide its blessing, as

well as the potential ramifications. They include:

* *Disney's reluctance due to the company's image.* Actually, the studio has a lengthy track record of handling controversial material in the film arena, including "Priest" and "Kids," both released through its Miramax division. Disney also has extended employee benefits to same-sex partners, a move that drew fire from some conservative groups, who called for a boycott of Disney theme parks.

"Disney didn't want to do this and have it be a bad script," a studio source said of the delay. "Nobody wanted it to look like just another sweeps stunt."

Sources say Disney Chairman Michael Eisner signed off early regarding the "Ellen" decision, leaving it to ABC executives to decide whether they were comfortable with the story line. The network's response has been that it was open to the change of direction as long as the material justified it.

* *"Ellen" is a hit show.* Season to date, "Ellen" is averaging just under 14 million viewers each week--respectable, but by no means a major success. By way of comparison, NBC's "Seinfeld" and "ER" attract more than twice that many people. The show ranks 47th in total viewers out of 118 prime-time series broadcast this season on the four major networks and came up on the short end of a head-to-head battle with CBS' "The Nanny" early this season. Ratings only improved after ABC moved the program to Wednesdays, following "The Drew Carey Show."

"It really is not a power show," said Paul Schulman, who runs his own New York-based media buying agency. "It's more of a scavenger show that needs a hit in front of it."

If ratings continue to dwindle, many have assumed that next year--the series' fifth--could be its last. As the producer of "Ellen," Disney can use one more year's worth of episodes to reach the needed number for syndication. Rerun rights have already been sold to the Lifetime cable network, which is partly owned by Disney.

* *This radically affects the status of gays in prime time.* A recent issue of the gay and lesbian magazine the Advocate noted that there are already about two dozen gay or lesbian series regulars in prime time.

"Roseanne," "Spin City," "Friends," "Melrose Place" and even "The Simpsons" (Mr. Burns' closeted assistant, Waylon Smithers) are among the popular shows to currently feature regular or semiregular gay characters. The magazine also cites several TV movies with gay themes scheduled, though most will air on cable channels.

Still, Alan Klein, communications director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), pointed out that supporting characters can periodically disappear, which doesn't happen with a lead. "That's a different ball of wax, he said.

* *Advertisers won't support the show if Ellen comes out.* In addition to heat from religious conservatives who object to what would be seen as validating the gay lifestyle, ABC will probably lose some advertisers but should be able to replace them with others less concerned about such controversy. Moreover, because "Ellen" is a sitcom, it is unlikely to deal with the character's sexuality in a graphic way, as the drama "thirtysomething" did in 1989 by showing two men sitting in bed together. That did prompt many advertisers to pull out, though a recent lesbian kiss on ABC's "Relativity" generated considerably less resistance.

* *Coming out will help or hurt ratings.* When the initial report of the character "coming out" leaked and received widespread media coverage in September, the series premiere a few days later exhibited no appreciable benefits or harm. "The writing on the show has not been very good," Schulman said. "If the writing stays as it is, all her coming out of the closet will mean is a blip on the meter."

The gay community is uniformly enthusiastic about Ellen coming out. ABC did draw criticism from groups such as GLAAD for failing to quickly approve the gay story line. "Because this is a network first, I'm sure it promoted a lot of thought and a lot of discussion," said GLAAD's Klein, adding that despite disappointment in ABC's foot-dragging.

"When this does happen, you've got to applaud them." The gay community doesn't speak with a single voice, however, and some view the drawn-out "Ellen" story as anticlimactic. At a panel last October on gays in Hollywood, Scott Thompson, a gay actor who plays a gay character on "The Larry Sanders Show," said, "At this point, there's no bravery in the act at all. She's ruined it."

Though the show's new direction promises to spur some controversy, a decision makes life easier for ABC's scheduling department. Because executives there weren't sure if or when Ellen was coming out, they felt constrained in moving the series before 9 p.m., when more children are apt to be watching.

"Ellen" began airing at 8:30 p.m. after "Roseanne", but the show will return to a later hour for the coming-out episodes.

DeGeneres became angry, in fact, when she learned of ABC's initial plans to take the series off the air in March and April. Sources say the star subsequently negotiated a hefty raise, from \$90,000 per episode to \$125,000. DeGeneres, who declined comment for this story, has seemed to enjoy milking the issue, including an art-imitates-life appearance on "The Larry Sanders Show" centering on whether she'd come out on that fictional program.

At a Museum of Television & Radio event last fall, she said she hoped to develop her character in a way that would "make a lot of people proud." DeGeneres, who hosted the Grammy Awards on February 26, also presented an award to singer k.d. lang at an event sponsored by the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center.

DeGeneres' movie debut, "Mr. Wrong," didn't fare well at the box office last year, but network sources remain convinced she is a television star--one who hasn't always been well-served by her series, which has undergone frequent producer changes and at times seemed to lack direction.

In fact, insiders hope that coming out may give "Ellen" what the show has been lacking--namely, a sense of identity.



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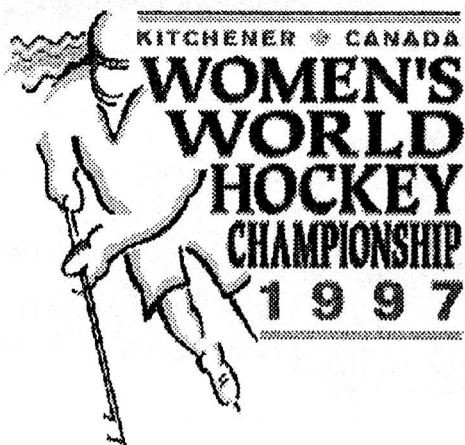
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The stakes in women's hockey have never been higher, now that the Olympics are part of the equation. But the female hockey players who will wear the red maple leaf in Japan are no different from the pioneering women who competed in virtual obscurity. They must interrupt their lives - often at great personal and financial cost - for the privilege of representing their country.

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A Canadian Perspective

Women's hockey has a history dating back to the 1890's which Brian McFarlane chronicled in his book "Proud Past, Bright Future, 100 Years of Canadian Women's Hockey" (1994 Stoddart Publishing Co.) Recent years have seen a tremendous explosion in interest and participation in the sport. The Ontario Women's Hockey Association has experienced remarkable growth in the 1990's increasing from

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CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Round Robin

Date	Teams	Location	Time
Mon. March 31	NOR vs USA	Kitchener	4:00 pm
	FIN vs SWE	Brampton	4:00 pm
	CHI vs RUS	Hamilton	7:00 pm
	CAN vs SWI	Kitchener	7:30 pm
Tues. April 1	SWE vs NOR	Kitchener	4:00 pm
	FIN vs USA	Brantford	7:00 pm
	CHI vs SWI	Mississauga	7:00 pm
	CAN vs RUS	Kitchener	7:30 pm
Thu. April 3	NOR vs FIN	Kitchener	4:00 pm
	USA vs SWE	London	7:00 pm
	SWI vs RUS	North York	7:00 pm
	CAN vs CHI	Kitchener	7:30 pm

Qualifying Round

Fri. April 4	3rdB vs 4thB	Kitchener	4:00 pm
	3rdA vs 4thA	Kitchener	7:30 pm

Medal Round

Sat. April 5	1stA vs 2ndB	Kitchener	1:00 pm
	1stB vs 2ndA	Kitchener	5:00 pm

Qualifying Game (Q)/Seeding Game (S)

Sun. April 6	WinB3-A4 vs WinA3-B4	Kitchener	12:00 pm (Q)
	LosB3-A4 vs LosA3-B4	Kitchener (Kinsmen Arena)	2:00 pm (S)
	LosA1-B2 vs LosB1-A2	Kitchener	4:00 pm (Bronze Medal)
	WinA1-B2 vs WinB1-A2	Kitchener	8:00 pm (Gold Medal)

*Information supplied by WWIHC website.

VOCAL FOCUS

The OUTLOOK Interviews

Featuring Professionals in our Community



This Month:

John Tutt
Owner,
Princess
Cinema

by Mark Jordan

What originally drew me to the Princess Cinema, was the fact that it truly is the *only* cinema in the greater golden triangle area that continuously previews and shows gay/lesbian films, as well as some very good, and interesting foreign features. Of late there has been celebration, controversy, speculation, media attention, renovations and some great movies. Change is inevitable for all business and people. Some forced change is good and some is disastrous. Generally speaking, the market dictates what some of these changes will be. It's the market that also tells an owner of a specific business what changes are necessary, what is missing, what they would like to see in the future, and where and what to spend their money on, for continued success and appreciation. Whether or not the public is listened to is sometimes the difference between success and failure. The public can only base their impressions on what they have felt and experienced, what they have been told by the media and others, including their friends and family and people that they work with

etc.

After some recent changes at the Princess we at Outlook Magazine felt that *perhaps* the whole story regarding various issues had not been told. It seemed that the media in general had focused possibly on one side of the story. And as with anything, you usually hear from all the fringe group people the loudest, and sometimes the main points get lost in the shuffle as they get buried in confusion, disillusionment, exaggeration and heresay. One thing is for sure, as you read this interview featuring the owner/operator of the Princess Cinema, that the cinema as we know it is at a crossroads in regards to how they operate, if they continue to operate and what will be shown in the future. After reading this interview if you feel that you have a better idea of what has transpired at this movie-house and you want to do something to help this *fine* establishment continue to feature the films that are important to our community, get in contact with John Tutt at 885-2950.

MJ: Could you give us a brief history of this building and when you guys entered the scene as the Princess?

JT: We opened in 1985. Apparently there had been a cinema here in the late 70's, called the 'Picture Show'. Then in the early 80's there had been a 'blue movie' house here that only operated for a couple of years. That was in the days when the police station was still up the block. When this venture went belly-up

I think the screen was dark for about four or five years. When we arrived on the scene there was only a partial screen with a huge rip down the middle, no seats and a sliver for a projection room. I was twenty-four or twenty-five when I opened it so I was green and had taken a few business courses in university along with a number of film courses. Originally it came up as a fun thing to do with myself and the people I was hanging around with at the time. I thought that there might be others in the community that might appreciate good cinema that they couldn't get at the Odeons, or cineplexes. Now it's twelve years later, and I have a little guy, a wife etc. and this is what I do. It's my full time job that consumes me everyday.

MJ: What's changed over the last few years in regards to your brand of celluloid choices and this cinema.

JT: Well, at first we were like a second-run theatre. We'd show old movies and classics, in fact we were in 16mm for two years. Now we are considered what's called a 'first-run art house' cinema. The movies that are being shown now are 1996, 1997 release films that are about a month off of what they are shown in say Toronto. The difference is you don't have to go the 'big city' to see these flicks, you can relax here in town.

MJ: What does the term 'repertory cinema' entail? It seems that both your cinema and the bookshelf in Guelph carry this title.

JT: Well, the term repertory concerns itself with a cinema that shows a large repertoire of films. Lots of different films, on one screen, as opposed to the same film being shown over and over again on the same screen. What's happened lately, is the public is demanding more and more of these art films, as opposed to Hollywood blockbusters and the *majors* are getting into these films more and more. 'The English Patient' is an art

film. 'Shine' is an art film, up for two Oscars and 'Secrets and Lies' were all at major theatres. We have to define ourselves more now, on how and what we show that makes us different to the viewers.

MJ: What is your vision for the Princess into the next millennium?

JT: Well, our main focus is to always be here. We are here and want to stay here to show great films to the community that we serve. Over the last few years we have become very community driven as far as what we show, when we show it and how we go about promoting this theatre. At the same time it is a business for Wendy (my wife) and myself. We have to make a profit on this community work to pay the bills and continue. It's a very precarious position to maintain. You want to be a community cinema, and at the same time you have to be accountable to things that occur in running any business.

MJ: Is this staffing issue with your projectionist one thing that has come up lately in this regard?

JT: Yes. Staffing is always something that, over time has to be adjusted depending on the environment of business. Right now, we are trying to operate with less people. The main reasons are, shipping has gone up, advertising is up, film rental costs have gone up, our own building rent has gone up, and we want to keep our prices low. We want to give the community pricing that they have come to know for the last six or seven years and still offer good flicks.

MJ: How many people work here now?

JT: Myself, Wendy and four other part timers. All my staff is very flexible, they can do almost all the tasks equally when called upon.

MJ: On the average night, how many of your audience are members?

JT: On the average, we have 60%

attendance of members.

MJ: Back to staffing for a moment, what actually happened with regards to your past projectionist and the union he belonged to etc.?

JT: O.K., what actually happened was a contract came to an end Dec. 31st 1996 that was a three and a half year contract with the international alliance of stage hands and motion picture technicians. One of our employees here is a member of that union, he projects films. That's his trade in the organization. Back in the fall of '96 I presented them with an idea that we really don't need a full time projectionist, because that's all they do, and, I myself, the owner am a licensed projectionist and my wife is an apprentice as well, both my managers are licensed to show films and it was simply a cost thing since there was definite overlap. To keep this business afloat and keep ticket prices low, we felt

that having this unionized projectionist was a big cost that we really couldn't afford now.

MJ: Just what kind of costs does this position dictate to the cinema?

JT: About \$25,000.00 per year of which we have three people here that can easily, legally do the job at that much of a saving. The important thing to remember is that is *all they do*. They don't help run the concession stand, they don't greet people at the door or take tickets, they don't clean the cinema etc. They simply roll film. All the rest of our staff are flexible enough to do everything from shovelling snow to seating people etc. This issue is solely about small business and staying alive.

MJ: So, what did you offer to the union as a result of this position not being necessary or affordable to this cinema?

JT: We basically said that there was no longer work available full time for their

member, and that they could have this or any other projectionist on call when we needed extra help with the showing of films, for example if myself or one of my managers was sick or unavailable, they could fill in on a part-time basis, an on-call basis. It was a short meeting and they basically said, we'll settle this on the street. And just before they said this, the union guy said what about a severance for this projectionist. I said let's talk severance and the next thing I knew the meeting was over and they were out picketing my theatre on the street.

MJ: Well, once their contract ends, you're under no obligation are you?

JT: Absolutely not. I'm only under obligation to present a new contract to them of which I did. But now considering the criminal charges that have been laid with the police, that whole episode says to me that this person does not even *want* to work here as demonstrated with the destruction of equipment and theatre furnishings. We had to shut down after the damage to repair the projection booth in order to operate.

MJ: What's next in regards to this showdown?

JT: March 5th we present a full severance package to the union. I'll update you before you publish as to the outcome. (*see insert*)

MJ: How has this effected your business relationship with the community you serve.

JT: Well, many lies and misinformation has been offered by the unionist projectionist and his followers. Some nights our patrons have been told by the picketers that we are "closed for business", have "fired all our staff and hired child labour" and other lies that just aren't true. At first we thought that people wouldn't fall for these crazy rantings of the protesters, but now we see that people believe things that are

sometimes told to them without questioning it.

MJ: What was the projectionist charge with?

JT: He was charged with mischief. We have to go to court as witnesses.

MJ: Tell me about this Seagrams deal for an eight-plex theatre complex, just down the road. What does it mean and more importantly how does this decision affect you and the Princess?

JT: Well, it was announced on the news, in the paper and on television at their press conference for Odeon that they were going to go after the 'University community', not necessarily the students, but the arts community that lives in a university town. And that this might mean playing the more literary films. They seem like they definitely are going to go after these people. This is the audience that we have played to and nurtured for the past twelve years.

MJ: What is the capacity of the Princess?

JT: We have about 190 seats.

MJ: How many sellouts within a month do you get presently?

JT: Not nearly as many as we used to have. I can't right off hand remember the last totally sold out show.

MJ: Well, how does Cineplex Odeon expect to fill eight screens with people when you are just making a living with one screen and 190 seats?

JT: The way they are going to do it is show mainstream films along side with art pictures. They will be able to adapt to what the market will bear in the mix of art versus commercial ventures. They have huge advertising dollars and revenues at their disposal and can change very quickly and promote that which will turn the biggest buck.

MJ: So, what will that do to you?

JT: It's the five, six, seven big art films a year that gives us the revenue to continue. If they're being shown at this large cineplex, we will be hard pressed

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make a go of it on the remaining films that they probably won't screen. It will destroy us. It's 'Exotica', 'Margaret's Museum', 'Highway 61' and the 'Secret's & Lies' pictures, the borderline art films that we won't even get to play first, at the same time, or for such long runs, that's definitely going to hurt us. If we only get these films as a second run commodity, after Seagrams etc., then we will only get the remaining people that didn't see the film initially. Second run also means you're right on the heels of video release. Which means that those that didn't go to the show first to see a particular art film, can view it at home, if they wait only a short time.

MJ: What is your plan of action to avoid this obvious catastrophe?

JT: One of the things that we are doing is we have approached the City to designate the Princess a "first-run arthouse", we're trying to get the city to limit this eight screen development to a six screen development, and that way there is less screens available there to throw our product into. As an official 'first-run arthouse' this may allow us to distribute our film guides inside this new complex. What we are seeking for survival is something where the City recognizes us as distinct, different and special to the community and a business that enriches the quality of life within this community. People may want to move here from another community because the Princess is here.

MJ: Have you had any meetings with the City as far as this goes?

JT: We presented a letter to the local uptown councilor and hopefully she's going to be presenting it to council.

MJ: What are your personal feelings towards this announcement? (cineplex)

JT: I think it's a positive development for the Uptown core. It's going to create more activity and maybe more movie-going activity. We just must maintain our

own niche that we have developed without being trampled by multinationals. And I think that it's the responsibility of local government to somewhat protect small local business from the big wheels that pull into town.

MJ: I know that the gay/lesbian community is in great debt to the Princess for screening films that are important to us and serve as a buffer between the straight and gay communities at large.

JT: The gay and lesbian community has supported us I would say from day one. We want to serve this community as well into the future.

MJ: How do other repertory theatres, such as the Bookshelf in Guelph handle the first-run, second run problem with their films?

JT: Well, they have a different set up to what we have. They are the only game in town. Aside from some screens on the edge of Guelph and a plex at the Stone Road Mall, they are the only theatre serving downtown Guelph. They get to show first run movies, art films, blockbusters etc. and they program their business based on a 'only screen in town' ability. This is something that we just don't have the luxury of doing. Do you remember 'The Piano' and 'Strictly Ballroom', when those movies came out, the Bookshelf played those movies for two weeks straight because there are no Famous Players theatres in the downtown core and did very well with them. Where as we had to sit and wait and wait until there first run had been exhausted. For example we are showing 'The English Patient' tonight, (March 2nd), that film opened in Kitchener on Boxing Day. It's being playing for two and a half months through the busy Christmas season and we weren't able to screen it until now.

MJ: Some people I know will make a conscious effort to wait to see a film if they know for sure that the Princess is

showing it. I think they like the atmosphere of your theatre more appealing than the huge, hyped Odeons etc.

JT: That's very encouraging to hear but I'm not sure that there are enough of those people throughout the year to guarantee our success when faced with mega-budget hype. I want to thank them all though, it means a lot to me and Wendy and our staff.

MJ: What's coming up for the future at the Princess provided you can sort out these difficult obstacles you currently face between the union and the Seagrams deal?

JT: We *would* like to make the sound better. The seats we would like to upgrade for our patrons. These and other things will make it more enjoyable for our customers to watch movies at the Princess.

MJ: I wish you all the luck in the world for the future and I would like to thank

you on behalf of those that have enjoyed the long list of gay and lesbian films that have been shown on a regular basis. I would expect and hope that at least the gay/lesbian community and others of course will continue to support you and help you maintain your good record here in Waterloo. Just in closing, I would like to ask you what we as individuals can do to help the Princess survive and flourish into the future considering the adversity?

JT: Well, for now all I can say is come to the theatre and buy a ticket. Memberships that allow discounted admission are always available here. Please continue to support us, and don't necessarily believe everything that you hear or read.

MJ: Thanks John and I'll talk to you soon!

(Be sure to read the insert from John and Wendy Tutt in this issue of Outlook.)

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What's Happening? Community Events

CHURCH SERVICES
M.C.C. RAINBOW CHURCH
 Every Sunday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthias Anglican Church, 171 Kortright Street West in Guelph. Services are under the direction of Pastor Sid Bater. Call 519- [redacted] for more information.

All meetings will be held in Hagey Hall (Humanities Bldg) Rm. 378, starting at 7:30 p.m. Check out the GLOW website at <http://www.csclub.uwaterloo.ca/clubs/glow/> or call the GLOW Line at [redacted]

COMING OUT DISCUSSION GROUPS

Waterloo

GLOW Coming Out Discussion Group has the following meetings upcoming:

- March 19 - Issues Surrounding Age and Age Differences
- March 26 - Dealing With Breaking Up
- April 2 - How Out Can I Be...Or Should I Be?
- April 9 - Internalized Homophobia: From Within Ourselves and Our Communities
- April 16 - Gaydar --Does It Exist?
- April 23 - Dealing With Exes in a Small Community - Old Flames
- April 30 - The Gay Community - Where Do I Fit In?

KW FRONTRUNNERS

KW Frontrunners is a running and walking group for the lesbian, bisexual, transgender and gay community. People of all ages and abilities are welcome. We meet every at the Waterloo Recreation Complex on Father David Bauer Drive. Our schedule is as follows:

- Tuesdays:
Run or Walk 8:30 - 9:15p.m.
Swim: 9:15 - 10:15p.m.
- Fridays:
Swim 7:00 - 8:00p.m.
Out for dinner afterwards.
- Sundays:
Run or Walk 8:15 - 9:00a.m.
Swim: 9:00 - 10:00a.m.
Out for breakfast afterwards.

Admission is free at the times we run, however, there is a \$2.50 charge for use of the

pool. Hope to see lots of you there.
 For more information please call Todd, Mark or Lindsay at (519) [redacted]

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH

A discussion group for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth (16-25) is currently running. If you are interested please give Rob a call at 570-3687.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Regional Pride Committee of Waterloo-Wellington is looking for volunteers interested in organizing this years Regional Pride Celebration.


This years event will be taking place in the Rotunda of Kitchener City Hall on Thursday, June 26th.

Co-ordinators are busy making plans for the event and are looking for assistance in organizing all aspects of the celebration.

If you're interested in helping or would like more information about the event, call [redacted] or check out our website at: www.rainbow.on.ca

It's time to take PRIDE in your community...get involved.

If you have an event that should be listed in What's Happening? give us a call or e-mail us at: [redacted] or outlook@easynet.on.ca




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REACTIONS TO HOMOPHOBIA

by Duane Simolke

We all know the situation: some homophobe -- hands on hips, fingers pointed, or fists clenched -- uses at least one of the tired cliches that follow below. Since we know what to expect, I want to offer possible reactions. Also, I decided to avoid using the words "straight" and "normal" for heterosexuals, because both terms suggest superiority over gays.

"I don't tell people what my wife and I do in bed, so why should you go around telling people what you do in bed?" If calling myself gay means saying what I do in bed, then mentioning your heterosexual marriage means saying what you do in bed. The same goes for when heterosexuals announce engagements, weddings, and anniversaries; when they put each other's pictures on office desks; when they hold hands in public; and when they assume they can always visit relatives as a couple. Are they only heterosexual during sex? Even if I decided to abstain the rest of my life, that wouldn't change who I am or who I love.

"They can be gay, as long as they hide it." Should we accept left-handed people, as long as they use their right hand; green-eyed people, as long as they wear blue contact lenses; people of color, as long as they use skin lightener? Why teach people to hate themselves, betray themselves, and live a lie? Coming out of the closet allows gays to live more honestly, and it allows our heterosexual acquaintances to see gay human beings, instead of hearing gay stereotypes. Hopefully, those heterosexuals will less likely resort to discrimination and hate crimes, after seeing gays as part of their circle of relatives, co-workers, leaders, and friends.

"Gay sex is unnatural." Yes, for a heterosexual. A gay person finds the same gender naturally attractive, which makes heterosexual relations unnatural. A bisexual's attractions stem from personality, rather than gender, so the naturalness comes from the mutual attraction of two consenting adults. To avoid dealing with these differences, society often forces gays into fake marriages, but that usually leads to pain for everyone involved. Why subject them to such dishonest traditions?

"They just haven't met the right person of the opposite sex yet." It will never happen, except as a friend. A fully gay person will only find members of the same gender sexually attractive, and only certain ones of those. No one really understands attraction or tastes. Why will a heterosexual woman only find certain men attractive? Why not all of them? Why can't I make myself like country music, baseball, or asparagus?

"God didn't create Adam and Steve." If we take Genesis literally, as a statement of proper sexual behavior, it endorses incest. After all, who could Cain and Abel marry but their sisters, and who could Adam and Eve's grandchildren marry but each other? Such a reading also fails to account for disabilities and the different races, so why use it against gays? Should we also follow the biblical traditions of slaves, concubines, and multiple wives?

"The Bible says it's wrong." If we want to take some Bible verses literally and out of context, what about the ones saying not to charge interest, judge people, hate people,

curse, marry a divorced person, wear clothing of mixed fabric, mark one's body, spread gossip, tell lies, hold a grudge, act out of anger, get drunk, eat shellfish, eat pork, touch pigskin (so much for football), crossbreed cattle, pray aloud in public, call someone a fool, or let a woman speak in church? (See Leviticus, Proverbs, Matthew, Luke, Acts.) Too many people scream verses that condemn others, but find ways to disregard verses that condemn themselves. The famous list of hell-bound sinners in Rom. 1 covers every person ever born, several times over, but the idea of certain actions causing damnation conflicts with Jn. 3:16. In context, Paul used the list to show that no one should judge, because we all face condemnation by someone's standards (Rom. 2:1). If gays will burn in Hell for violating the list, won't everyone else? Though living in the openly bisexual Roman culture, Christ never mentioned same-sex relations; instead, He taught people about love and acceptance, even going out of His way to meet the rejected half-breeds of Samaria.

"The Bible says God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because of gays." The very term "Sodomy" comes from that deliberate misreading of scripture. Ezek. 16:49-50 refers to the sin of Sodom as hoarding wealth but failing to help the needy; the gospels contain several references to the sin of Sodom as failing to welcome strangers. Consider Gn. 14-19: if we look at the Sodomites as bad and Lot as good, is it good to get drunk, commit incest, or offer one's daughters for rape? Yes, Genesis says some men wanted to know (rape) the angels, but why confuse gay rape with consenting gay sex? Would we also confuse heterosexual rape with consenting heterosexual intercourse? Was every man, woman, and child of both cities gay? If so, who propagated, and why would Lot invite gay men to rape his virgin daughters? If not, why didn't God spare the cities, or at least let the heterosexuals escape?

"The Bible never contradicts itself; therefore, we must follow what it says about gays." The Medianites sold Joseph to the Ish-mee-lites (Gn. 37:28), or to an Egyptian officer (Gn. 37:36). Between Ezra 2:5-8 and Neh.7:10-13, the number of children Arah fathered in his lifetime differs by 100, and the number of children Zattu fathered in his lifetime differs by 200. After a long illness left him shivering and feeble, King David died, with a woman in his bed (1 Kings 1); or a seemingly healthy King David suddenly got into bed, gave some speeches, and died, without the woman in his bed (1 Chron. 28-29). Mary married Joseph, son of Jacob (Mt. 1:16), or son of Heli (Lk. 3:23). Christ requested an ass and a colt for his final visit to Jerusalem (Mt. 21:1-2), or just an ass's colt (Jn. 12:14-15). The number and the words of the angels at the tomb of Christ varies between the passages that begin in Mt. 28:2, Mk. 16:5, Lk. 24:4, and Jn. 20:12. God established the "eye for an eye" philosophy (Ex. 21:24), but Christ attacked that philosophy (Mt. 5:38-48).

"But homosexuality isn't just a sin; it's an immoral lifestyle." Using your tendency to take scriptures out of context and impose them on others, consider how Jesus says anyone who marries a divorced person commits adultery (Mt. 5:32, 19:9; Mk. 10:11-12). Therefore, by your standards, a divorced person in a second marriage is living an immoral lifestyle, and anyone who supports that marriage supports sin. By the same standards, anyone who supports football teams or sells pork is promoting an immoral lifestyle (Lev. 11:7-8). We could even say churchgoers promote an immoral lifestyle by filling up restaurants on Sundays, forcing employees to violate the Sabbath. Many people who work on Sundays consider themselves Christians, though your way of thinking suggests they live an immoral lifestyle. (Actually, the Bible places the Sabbath on Friday night and Saturday morning, but most literalists overlook that faltering from the letter.)

"I love the sinner, but hate the sin." Prove it. Listen to gay issues from a gay perspective; speak out against hate crimes; invite gay friends to the movies or a restaurant; sincerely say "I love you" to a gay friend. Stop turning red and screaming the same eight-or-so Bible verses at gays, because a lot of us know how the textual and historical contexts change their meanings. And please explain this mythical separation of sin from sinner, personality from person, life from

lifestyle, homosexuality from homosexual.

"If there's nothing wrong with it, why's it illegal in almost half our states?" Sodomy laws stay on the books, despite their unconstitutional nature. Lewd conduct laws exist to prevent public sex, so why keep Sodomy laws? They mostly serve to promote discrimination toward gays. We especially see that within courtrooms, as when the dead victims of hate crimes get ridiculed for Sodomy, while the killers get the sympathy of a heterosexual jury -- or when a lesbian loses custody of her child to a man convicted of killing his first wife. Sodomy laws also provide a foundation for even more Orwellian laws. Over 40 states allow employers and tenants to kick people out over their sexual orientation, and several states hope to pass laws that will make it impossible for gays to seek any restitution from hate crimes and discrimination. For a picture of true perversion, look at people who try to monitor the sexual activity of consenting adults, and those who read or write books about what they falsely claim "most gays" like in bed.

"If we weren't so tolerant of gays, there wouldn't be any." No law or taboo can stop gays from existing, from being born. Gays exist in the same number everywhere, from countries where we get the death penalty, to countries where we enjoy equal rights with our fellow human beings, to America -- the country where we find ourselves torn between our patriotism and those who want American freedoms to only apply to themselves. Intolerance creates an atmosphere of hatred and self-hatred, leading to addictions, suicides, hate crimes, evictions, job losses, and disowned children. Tolerance helps prevent those problems.

"Having gay parents makes children gay." No studies support that claim, or the lies that link homosexuality to pedophilia. Male heterosexuals commit most rapes and child molestations. Besides, heterosexuals produce both gay and heterosexual children, so what makes people think gay parents only produce gay children? If anything, children in gay homes, like children in interracial homes, will grow up with a stronger awareness of society's need for tolerance and compassion.

"Gay people should try to be cured." Praying, reading the Bible, receiving electro-shock therapy, getting locked up in insane asylums, masturbating to heterosexual pornography, and receiving gender stereotype programming all fail to change one's natural orientation. However, groups in the ex-gay movement lure lesbigays into an expensive and dangerous scam that claims to serve that very function. These sexist groups dwell on men and masculinity, while ignoring or belittling women. They show their fear of women when they rely on the out-dated Freudian claim that homosexuality results from a domineering mother and an absent or abusive father. Ex-gays love bisexuals, because they can seem cured more easily, giving the movement more temporary success stories. Most victims of this exploitation initially act cured, so their parents and employers will take them back.

"Homosexuality is a mental illness." In their pamphlet Answers to Your Questions About Sexual Orientation and Homosexuality, the American Psychological Association states that this misconception stemmed from the fact that "most studies only involved lesbians and gay men in therapy." Explaining that less-biased research led them to quit referring to homosexuality in the traditional terminology of "disorder" or "illness," the APA warns against attempts to cure sexual orientation.

"If everyone were gay, we'd stop having children, and die out." Should we hate celibate or sterile people for not having children? Will nuns cause us to die out? Should we tell heterosexuals they can't marry unless they plan to propagate? Is life nothing more than birth, reproduction, death? Consider the consistently small percentage of gays in each area, and that many of them enter heterosexual marriages, to protect themselves from discrimination. Maybe nature intended gays as natural population control--something the world desperately needs. If that

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Carrie Chesnutt

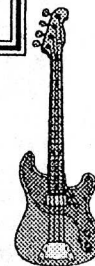
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sounds implausible, explain the frequent homosexuality within the animal kingdom, and please resist the temptation of saying dolphins choose to be gay.

"They deserve what happens to them, because they choose to be gay." Differences from the norm can't justify discrimination and violence. If I chose to join a Baptist church in Salt Lake City, would that justify someone robbing me of my home, job, or life? Contrary to the views of those who could not possibly know what I feel or choose, I disagree with the concept of gayness as a so-called "choice" or "lifestyle choice." Who would choose to become a target for hatred, discrimination, scapegoating, threats, and violence? A young man in the city where I live always believed he could tell his parents anything. One day, he came out to them; contrary to his belief, they disowned him. He killed himself, leaving a note that said he couldn't live without love. That happens all the time. Do you even care?

"Anyone who tolerates gays needs to see The Gay Agenda." Videos like that use gay fringe groups to represent all gays. For example, they will show some gays into S&M (sodomasochism), and claim all gays like that; actually, some gays like S&M--just as some heterosexuals like it. Or they will mention an isolated group of gays throwing condoms at a priest, as a protest to AIDS apathy, and make that sound like all gays. Considering the anti-gay rhetoric of heterosexual fringe groups, why not make the militia movement or Aryan Nation represent all heterosexuals? Why not make the business leaders who frequent topless bars represent all heterosexuals? Though mostly made by religious fundamentalists, anti-gay videos contain many made-up statistics and other lies. Remember the list in Rom. 1, the one people like to use against gays? It also says God won't allow liars into Heaven.

"Gays can't adopt, because their children will get teased, and that isn't fair." In that case, teach children not to hate. Teach them about love and acceptance, even for those with whom they disagree. And when children act hatefully, punish them--not the targets of their hatred. Punishing gays and their children for homophobia makes as much sense as punishing someone for getting robbed. Children learn hatred from their parents, and many of those children grow up to commit discrimination and hate crimes. Stop the cycle of hatred and violence, instead of contributing to it.

"Gays can't teach, because they're a threat to children." Hitler said the same about Jews, gays, and other groups; look how that ended up. Would we not allow famous lesbigays like Walt Whitman, Gertrude Stein, Michelangelo, Shakespeare, Langston Hughes, Barbara Jordan, Alice Walker, or Tchaikovsky to teach our children? Our education system censors classes and textbooks, to keep teachers in the closet, and to keep students from learning about gay contributions, the gay holocaust, etc. In most places, teachers who dare tell the truth will face accusations of "promoting the homosexual lifestyle," before quickly losing their jobs. Gay students live in fear of their classmates, while most teachers and administrators live in fear of trying to stop the abuse, knowing it could lead to the same "promoting" accusation. Such measures only hurt children and society, by continuing the illusion of a heterosexual world where gays should see themselves as isolated freaks who deserve to die.

"Gays can't serve in the military, because that would disrupt efficiency." We heard the same about women and African Americans, but white heterosexual male soldiers must come to terms with America's diversity. Despite this emphasis on cohesion, the military allows its members to belong to Aryan groups -- a slap in the face to all the US veterans who risked or lost their lives defeating Hitler. Others argue on the grounds of sexual morality, but what about all the prostitutes our soldiers keep in business, or all the illegitimate children our soldiers fathered in Korea and Vietnam? What about Tailhook? Still others assume all gay men want all other men; would they also assume all heterosexual women want all men?

"Gays sleeping around are what cause health-care costs to go up." Actually, smoking and violence account for the biggest drains on health care, but our politicians keep accepting sweetheart money from tobacco lobbyists and gun lobbyists, while finding ways to cut AIDS research and education. And what about the costs from so many heterosexuals failing to care for the children they produce? Gays pay the same taxes and health-care costs as everyone else, without receiving the same rights and benefits as everyone else. How many heterosexuals live in fear of losing their jobs, apartments, or lives if someone learns their sexual orientation? Most businesses and governments avoid mentioning the gay dollar, but they certainly like receiving that dollar.

"We can't allow gay marriages, because tradition and scripture protected heterosexual marriage and reproduction for thousands of years." Protected them from what? Gays getting married won't affect whether heterosexuals continue to marry and reproduce. Heterosexual marriage and reproduction still happen in the four nations that currently recognize gay marriages: Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Hungary. Never mind that many American heterosexuals divorce over minutia and reproduce outside marriage. Also, that tradition and scripture argument begs the question of whether we should bring back slavery or go back to forbidding interracial marriage. Both practises received protection from tradition and scripture. Without marriage, gay couples can't receive the equal rights of insurance benefits, joint income tax returns, inheritance, and hospital visitation.

"Surveys prove gays are a threat." Surveys prove nothing but how gullible people become when someone throws around numbers. The surveyors will slant the questions, survey groups, and/or available answers, in order to get the desired results, such as that gays make more money than others. Misnamed "family values" groups often use outdated or disproved statistics, or they only survey the people on their mailing list--the people influenced by their constant barrage of misinformation. Even some supposedly anonymous surveys require one's social security and other identifying information, and the people polled often must answer the questions aloud.

"Surveys prove there are just a few gays, so why should heterosexuals care about gay equality?" Some surveys claim to prove gays only exist as one or two per cent of the population, which supposedly makes it all right to discriminate against us. First of all, keep in mind that most gays live in denial at least part of their lives, and won't even acknowledge their gayness to themselves--much less to a survey. Secondly, as long as we can justify discrimination against any minority group, we should consider everyone's freedom in danger. I like the term "gay equality," because gays want equal rights--not special rights, and not special discrimination. All Americans need equality, if we want to truly live up to the ideals of the Constitution. Therefore, all Americans should care about gay equality.

"The average gay man won't live to be 42." This statistic came from an STD clinic in San Francisco, but only applied to a few of the clinic's patients. Family values groups keep applying it to all gay men, though health-care workers denounce that misinformation. Of course, such groups will say anything to get people to send money. Anyone interested in a real family values group needs to check out the nearest chapter of P-Flag (Parents, Friends, and Family of Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Gays), an organization dedicated to keeping families together and helping those families secure equal rights for each other.

"The average gay male has 5000-15,000 different partners per year." The number varies within that range every time I hear or read it, and sometimes says "in his lifetime," instead of "per year." To make any version of the claim even physically possible, the average gay man must live in San Francisco and somehow remain both eighteen and unemployed his entire life. What if he lives in a small town? Our numbers must exceed what most homophobes admit, if we can

all find so many different partners.

"All the gay men getting AIDS justifies any laws that could discourage homosexuality." African Americans face a higher risk than whites of AIDS, homicide, cancer, and anemia, so why not tell blacks they can't exist? We should no more hate a gay man for contracting HIV than we would hate an obese man for suffering a heart attack or a smoker for contracting cancer. We need to better inform ourselves and each other about HIV, instead of using a disease to validate discrimination. Besides, homophobia and homophobic laws existed long before AIDS; this new reasoning for those laws would suggest we should monitor everyone's sexual activity. I'm sure we could find plenty of volunteers, cameras in tow. By the way, the supposed motivation behind your argument works in favor of (not against) legalizing gay marriages, because such marriages would promote monogamy among gay men, slowing the spread of HIV.

Those last few claims also raise questions about sexism: Why do homophobic lies tend to exclude gay women? Why not mention that lesbians face a much lower risk for HIV than heterosexual women, or that initial research on lesbian relationships shows them as more stable than heterosexual ones? What makes so many heterosexual men get off on lesbian fantasies but see gay men as a threat? Should we look for a connection between homophobia and other insecurities, such as the fear that women will destroy the gap between male and female job opportunities, or the fear that society can survive without male domination?

Homophobia always comes back to the meaning of its last three syllables: Fear. Treat other people's insecurities as their weakness -- not as a reason to hate yourself or remain silent. Try to inform and get along with others, but never base self-acceptance on whether others accept you. Hateful knee-jerk phrases can stick in your mind, like a worn-out song you never liked in the first place, but you should learn to see yourself as beautiful and wonderful. If others fail to see you that way, consider it their loss.

Resources for Reactions To Homophobia

The Advocate . For information, call 1-800-827-0561.
American Psychological Association; 750 First Street, NE; Washington, DC
20002-4242.

Amnesty International. Breaking The Silence: Human Rights Violations Based On Sexual
Orientation . Amnesty International Publications; 322 Eighth Avenue; New York, NY
10001.

Bennett, Roberta (fundraising letter); United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; 100
Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW; Washington, DC 20024-2150.

Day, David. Things They Never Told You In Sunday School . S. Norwalk, CT: Lavender,
1987.

genre . For information, call 1-800-576-9933.

Holy Bible . Read it for yourself, instead of letting others cram it down your throat.

Lambda Rising Bookstore. For information, call 1-800-621-6969.

National Office; P-Flag; P.O. Box 27605; Washington, DC 20038-7605.

Rutledge, Leigh W. The Gay Book of Lists . Boston: Alyson, 1987.

Spong, John Shelby. Living In Sin? A Bishop Rethinks Human Sexuality . San Francisco:
Harper, 1988.

Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches; 5300 Santa Monica
Boulevard, Suite 304; Los Angeles CA 90029.

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stated.

Reader's Corner

Letters * Poetry * Opinions & Viewpoints

Dear Outlook,

I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate what you are doing with this publication and how much I enjoy reading it. It provides a vital service for the community and I am impressed at how quickly it is maturing in it's structure and content. You should feel proud of what you have accomplished so far. Keep up the good work.

-Ralph in Waterloo

You guys are doing a
great job!! I really enjoy
Outlook. Thanks for all
your hard work.

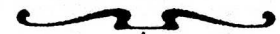
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WestHollywood/5901](http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/5901)



'Dearly Planted After Dawn'

picking flowers,
over and over again
he says,
as I pry the wired door
off, Clenching hinges
bought in Cleveland
he's watching MORE
TELEVISION SIGNALS
I look out the window
and sure enough, in a
pale blue blouse Blonde hair trimmed neatly
tossed towards a mess
he delicately selects
with his digits
best interest -

typically picking
flowers, blue ones,
waving their
perspiration
I reserve a tear
for my eyes to
share
STRONG STEMMED
friends never die,
their minds are well alive
when yours is closed
and you've said goodbye:
"there's a note for you"

I read it under lemonade's tide

"I'm in the
flowers,
dearly planted
after dawn"

xoxox!

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**104 KING STREET SOUTH
WATERLOO, ONTARIO**
Phone: 886-3320 Fax: 886-8328
Toll Free: 1-800-667-0803
E-mail: Uptown@Sympatico.ca



SPRING BECKONS GAYS TO THE SOUTH

Spring is just around the corner and why not get away to festive Folly Beach? Located 15 minutes outside of Charleston, South Carolina, springtime turns Folly into tourist heaven, rather than an annoying tourist mecca! This is a perfect alternative for those who have already experienced Saugatuck or Provincetown and are in search of something different. Gay beaches, friendly accommodations and true southern hospitality are accessible by car (a comfortable two day drive), train or plane. Visit Charleston and marvel in the majesty of southern living - the grand mansions on the Battery and outlying plantations. Shopping, Dining and Nightlife will definitely please. Travelling along the coast south of Charleston lies Savannah, Georgia, a veritable grand dame of southern culture and architecture. Inquire about the south and be the belle of the ball!

YOU'RE INVITED ON OUR NAKED CRUISE!

Haven't you always dreamed of embarking on a tallship adventure chartered by Naked Travel Magazine? Limited space is still available for their next nude number departing June 7 until June 15! This cruise, on which "informality rules" sails from Istanbul, Turkey and visits Ismir, Mykonos, Athens and Samos, not to mention several deserted beaches inbetween. Frolic in true festive freedom - just cover up at dinner!

ALTERNATIVE CRUISES (KEEP YOUR CLOTHES ON!)

Pied Piper Travel offers Gay cruises the year round to a plethora of destinations. Don't miss their fifth annual Transatlantic crossing from England, on the QE2, sailing May 31! On August 13, join the fun on the QE2 for the "Newport Jazz Festival" Cruise from NYC, visiting New England and the Maritimes. Or opt for the Thanksgiving Cruise from LA to Ft. Lauderdale to New York via the Panama Canal, departing this November 26. The Caribbean and Bermuda? Can do! Simply inquire to Uptown Travel for all the fineprint.

The Gay Travel Calendar
Your Guide to Upcoming Events Worldwide

MAY:

- Spring Fling in P-Town (5/3 - 5/5)
- Weekender Cruise on the QE2 - NYC (5/9 - 5/12)
- Italian Theatre Tour (5/9 - 5/19)
- Sailing - Acapulco to San Francisco (5/12 - 5/19)
- Scottish Hiking Tour (5/22 - 6/2)
- Moscow and St. Petersburg (5/24 - 6/1)
- Maui for HIV+ Men (5/25 - 6/1)
- Lambda Literary Awards - Washington DC (5/30)
- WW II History Tour (5/31 - 6/8)



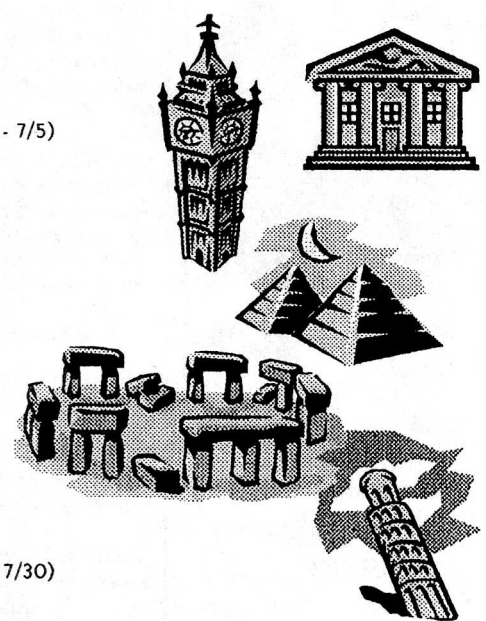
JUNE:

- Alaska Women's Yacht Trips (departing 6/1)
- Bicycling Europe: 7 Day Tours (Mix) (departing 6/1)


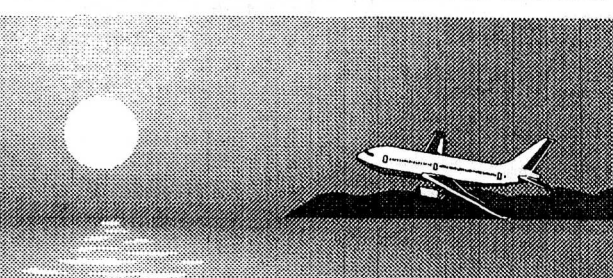
- World War II European History Tour (6/2 - 6/12)
- European Capitals Cruise (Mix) (6/4 - 6/16)
- African Safari- Kenya (6/8 - 6/22)
- London Tour (6/20 - 6/25)
- French Painter Tour (6/20 - 6/30)
- Northern Europe Cruise (Men) (6/21 - 6/28) (6/28 - 7/5)
- National Parks of Utah (6/21 - 6/28)
- EuroPride Paris (6/24 - 7/1)
- The Fourth in San Francisco (Women) (6/28 - 7/6)
- European Panorama (6/28 - 7/13)
- Gay Europe (6/30 - 7/7)

JULY:

- Bicycling Europe: 7 Day Tours (departing 7/1)
- Alaska Women's Yacht Trips (departing 7/1)
- Colorado Backpacking (7/3 - 7/7)
- Greek Isles/Turkey Cruise (Women) (7/4 - 7/11)
- River Rafting- Oregon (Women) (7/19 - 7/22)
- Spain (7/22 - 8/5)
- Alaska Inside Passage Cruise (7/23 - 8/1)
- UTOPIA '97 - Russia (7/23 - 8/1)
- Lesbian and Gay Health Conference - Atlanta (7/24 - 7/30)
- River Rafting - Idaho (women) (7/26 - 7/31)
- Men's Hawaii Gathering/Conference (7/27 - 8/2)



Listings are available until early 1998. To contact Mark at Uptown Travel, call 886-3320, (800) 667-0803, or send E-mail: Uptown@Sympatico.ca

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Community Info

ACCKWA (The AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and Area)
123 Duke Street East
Kitchener, Ontario
570-3687

AIDS Clinical Trials Hotline
Information on FDA listed clinical trials accessible from Canada.
1-800-TRIALS-A

AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County
204-85 Norfolk Street
Guelph, Ontario
763-2255

AIDS Hotline
Ontario Ministry of Health
1-800-668-2437

AIDS Information and Education
205 Queen Street East
Fergus, Ontario
843-2460

Brethren Mennonite Council for Gays and Lesbians
P.O. Box 43031
Eastwood Square,
Kitchener, ON. N2H 6S9

Canadian AIDS Society
Ottawa
1-613-230-3580

Community AIDS Treatment Exchange (CATIE)
Toronto
1-416-944-1916

CKWBL (Cambridge, K-W, Bisexual Liberation)
P.O. Box 28002,
Parkdale Postal Outlet
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 6J8

COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere)
Provides education, support and community on local and international levels.
Contact Sarah at [redacted] or e-mail to: [redacted]

DISTRESS LINE
Kitchener 745-1166

GLLOW (Gay and Lesbian Liberation of Waterloo)
U of W [redacted]

GLOBAL (Gays, Lesbians or Bisexuals at Laurier)
e-mail: 00global@mach1.wlu.ca
website: www.wlu.ca/~wwwclubs/www/global.html

GQE (Guelph Queer Equality)
[redacted]
email: gqe@uoguelph.ca

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Line
1-800-268-YOUTH

Ontario AIDS Network
Toronto
1-416-364-4555

Outline (formerly Gayline)
LGBT Information Line
836-4550

PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
Acton..... [redacted]
Cambridge..... [redacted]
Guelph..... [redacted]

Sexual Assault Centres
KW - 741-8633
Cambridge.....658-0551
Guelph.....823-5806

Substance Abuse Prevention
Kitchener
741-3827

Two Spirited People of First Nations
Toronto
1-416-944-9300

Waterloo Region Alliance for Equal Rights
[redacted]

Women's Centre
U of W
888-4567 extension 3457

WOODS (Women Out Of Doors)
P.O. Box 13,
Student Life Centre P.O.
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 3G0
e-mail: woods@rainbow.on.ca
web: www.rainbow.on.ca/woods/

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Monday- Out & About with your hosts Dave Callandar and Alan Fraser airs every Monday from 9:30 - 10:30pm on CKWR 98.7 FM. Woman Made Collective Show airs Mondays from 6-7 pm on CFRU 93.3 Fingers, Fists and KY is brought to you in part by The Lesbian Avengers and airs Mondays from 10pm - 12am on CFRU 93.3.

Tuesday- Girls Taste Good with your host Kristyn airs Tuesdays at 2pm on CFRU 93.3.

Wednesday- Nowhere To Hide airs Wednesdays from 8-9pm on CKMS 100.3 FM Womenspin on CKMS 100.3 FM airs Wednesdays from 6-8pm

Thursday- Thursdays listen in for Leaping Lesbians on CKMS 100.3 FM from 6-8pm. The Rainbow Radio Network can be heard Thursdays on CHRW 94.7 FM at 10:15pm. Egg Factory with your host Adam airs at 2pm on Thursdays on CFRU 93.3 FM.

-Happy Listening-

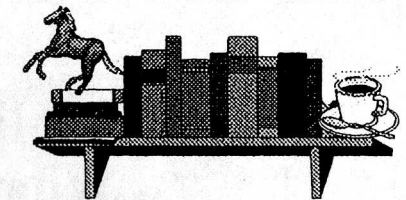
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Some of you may have only known her as the beautiful woman who sang back-up and who played bongos and percussion for Chantal Chamberland's new band. Linda was one of the loveliest women many of us had ever had the pleasure of meeting and knowing. She was always there for her friends and always willing to lend an ear or a hand if needed. She was gentle, loving, kind, giving, caring, supportive, zany, talented and had an incredible smile which we all will miss now. She touched so many people's lives with her gentle ways...if only she could know how much we miss her.

When I was asked to describe her to someone who did not know her, all I could think of was this phrase..."she was an angel in our midst".

Linda, we miss you so much....

She Is Not Gone

She is not here, but someplace where
She finds her peace.

She no longer cries, is no longer in pain
Her spirit is free to feel
the love we will always have for her.
She may not walk beside us
But she is not gone.

She is right here
In every note of music
we hear...

In every beautiful day
rain or shine...
In the words she loved so well
and found her solace within
when she knew
she had to leave.

She left with truth in her eyes and within her grasp....

But she is not gone.





Community Health
Department
AIDS/STD Program

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The only way you can know for sure if you are infected with HIV is to have a specific blood test. In Waterloo Region, you can be tested for HIV at the following places:

1. You can be tested by your family doctor.

2. **Anonymous Testing:** available only from the Community Health Department

Waterloo 99 Regina St. South

Kitchener 123 Duke St. East

HIV Clinic - 2nd Floor

Duke St Clinic - 

ACCKWA

- ▶ by appointment only
- ▶ ☎ 883-2251

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Thursday 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

3. Confidential HIV testing:

Cambridge 150 Main St.

Waterloo 99 Regina St. South

STD Clinic - 2nd Floor

STD Clinic - 2nd Floor

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Tuesday 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Monday & Thursday 3 pm - 6 pm

These clinics offer a service that is positive towards gays, lesbians, straights and bisexuals. "Working" girls and guys are welcome.

for more information: ☎ 883-2251
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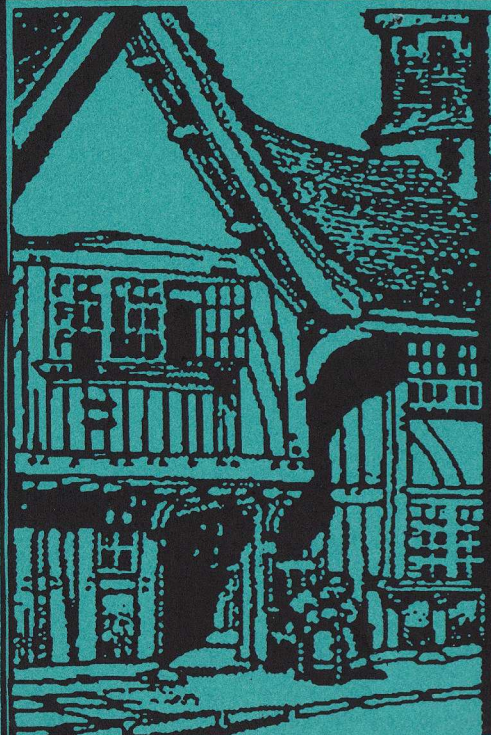


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THE PRINCESS NEEDS SUPPORT

By now everyone is aware that things are changing at the Princess Cinema. In response to existing and future threats from competition and a changing market, we have been forced to make some tough decisions.

The unfortunate but necessary layoff of our main projectionist was one of these, and has been greeted with considerable controversy and misunderstanding. In an effort to remedy the situation, we took part in a March 5th conciliation meeting at which we offered the projectionist a Record of Employment which would allow him to collect unemployment benefits, plus a severance package of \$5000 (the equivalent of 8-1/4 weeks wages).

The union representing the employee refused to accept this offer, which is quite honestly the best we can do as a small business. Their refusal of what we believe is a very fair offer means the pickets will continue outside the cinema.

The Princess is anxious to resolve this dispute. We are not anti-union; we simply can no longer run our small business with three people on staff (snack bar attendant, manager, and projectionist), and have therefore combined the manager and projectionist positions.

The union's response to this is to insist on a contract whereby only owner John Tutt or a union-supplied "manager/projectionist" would be allowed to project. The union would not consider allowing John's wife Wendy as an alternate projectionist.

From our point of view there are several problems with this proposed contract. We are a small and specialized business, and our managers must be skilled in a myriad of areas. Our current manager has been at the Princess for two years, and has a BA in Film Studies, a Conestoga College Journalism diploma and has completed a workterm at IMAX. She is proficient in computer graphics; advertising copy and layout; promotion and publicity; office administration; dealing with distributors and shippers; staff supervision; daily cash reconciliations; and numerous other areas. She is a licensed projectionist's apprentice and will have her license by the end of March. She is also strongly committed to the business.

To comply with the union's proposed contract, we would have to lay off this well-trained employee who is familiar with our special needs and rely on whomever the union supplies for our manager. Not only would we lose control over who is looking after the business, we would also have to bear the costs of training these managers. As most can appreciate, not everyone is "management material" by either training or inclination, and the idea of a stranger looking after the business - even for the occasional evening - is not appealing.

Until we can convince the union of the specialized nature of our business, of our need for flexibility and control over who we hire as managers, and of our need to deal as we see fit with the challenges we face as a single-screen, independent cinema, this dispute may continue.

You can help us during this very difficult time simply by continuing to come out to see our movies, and, maybe by bringing a friend or two with you. As ever, we're grateful for every ticket you buy.

We hope this has cleared the air of some of the misinformation that has been floating around. If you have further questions or a word of encouragement, talk to John, or drop us a note. Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,

John and Wendy Tutt

P.S. There are alternate accesses to the Cinema. Go to any Huether Hotel entrance, make your way towards the billiards room, and enter through the big doors on the left. This will get you into the Princess lobby.