

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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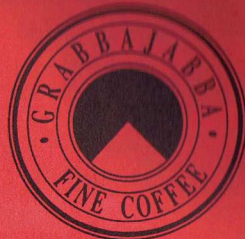
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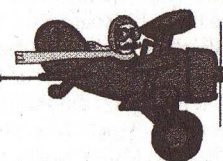
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Time For A Break...
We'll See You In September!



Just a reminder that this issue of Outlook is a combined one for July and August '97.

We'll be back on the stands September 15 after a much needed rest.

Feel free to continue sending in your submissions during this time period. We'll check our email, P.O. Box and voice mail on a regular basis.

Have a safe and happy summer!
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Canadian Gets Marriage Leave

(NewsPlanet)—The Canadian government must give marriage leave to a gay employee – and EGALE sees it as one more step down the aisle towards equality.

Marriage leave has been granted to openly gay federal employee Ross Boutlier and his male partner by a Canadian Public Service Staff Relations Board, in what Canada's national gay and lesbian organization EGALE (Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere) says is the nation's first ruling to value a same-gender relationship equally with traditional marriage.

The ruling by Board chair Yvon Tarte said, "The granting of such family-related leave in situations such as the one I am faced with in this case, merely recognizes the fact that the homosexual community possesses the right to establish families in pursuance of their sexual orientation," and also asserts that, "The law is never static. It moves over time to reflect the values of the society it regiments."

Cunanan Among "10 Most Wanted"

(NewsPlanet) – As communities across the U.S. continue their cooperation, the FBI has upped the ante in the search for suspected gay multiple murderer Andrew Cunanan.

Openly gay suspected multiple murderer Andrew Cunanan (also known as Andrew Phillip DeSilva) was added to the FBI's famous "Ten Most Wanted" list of fugitives on June 12, with a \$10,000 reward posted for information leading to his arrest. In his official description, he is a white male born August 31, 1969, 5'10" tall, 180 pounds, with dark brown hair and brown eyes – but it's already been discovered that altering his appearance was something of a pastime for him. He is also "armed and

dangerous" and individuals are advised to call authorities rather than make any attempt to apprehend him themselves.

Cunanan was a popular figure in the San Diego club scene as well as a frequent visitor to a number of other gay communities across the U.S., and those who knew him were shocked when in late April he became a suspect in a series of murders from Minnesota to Illinois to New Jersey. Before the killings, Cunanan always flashed a lot of cash, which he's believed to have been given by a series of older lovers. There have been many reported sightings of Cunanan, particularly in the wake of his being featured on several broadcasts of the TV show "America's Most Wanted," but authorities believe he could be anywhere in the country. Gay and lesbian communities around the U.S. have done their utmost to cooperate in the search.

After a farewell party he threw for himself in San Diego, ostensibly before relocating to San Francisco, Cunanan is believed to have flown to Minnesota to visit two friends, one a former lover. Jeff Trail was found dead in the apartment of David Madson, whose own body was found later in a lake some miles away. Cunanan is believed to have driven Madson's car to Chicago, where it was found near the home of real estate magnate Lee Miglin, who was murdered in his home and his car stolen. Signals from Miglin's cell phone were detected in the Philadelphia area. Cunanan is believed to have driven Miglin's car to New Jersey, where a cemetery caretaker was found dead and his truck stolen. Questions have been raised as to whether Cunanan may also have been responsible for other killings both before and since. In the cases of Trail and Miglin, Cunanan is believed to have spent a number of hours in the presence of the corpses, including preparing and eating meals. Miglin and the caretaker are now both believed to have been targets of opportunity chosen to obtain cars and cash, without any prior connection with Cunanan.

Investigation has been hampered by the lack of a full set of fingerprints on file anywhere for Cunanan, who had never been arrested. A thumbprint was found from a California driver's license application, but at last report it had not been possible to match it to prints found in the cars or at the crime scenes.



Andrew Cunanan

It has also been a challenge to the numerous jurisdictions involved to work out some form of cooperation. Even though the Minnesota murders occurred first and the first charge laid against Cunanan there, Minnesota authorities have agreed to give Chicago the first chance to try him should he be caught – Illinois has a death penalty and Minnesota does not.

Victoria Raid on Gay Club Costs Police Millions in Damages

(Data Lounge) – VICTORIA, Australia – A 1994 police raid on a predominantly gay and lesbian nightclub in Australia has cost the metropolitan Victoria Police Department almost \$4 million (\$3.2 million US) in compensatory damages to patrons, the Sydney Star Observer reports.

Almost all of the 463 people, including 130 women, at the Tasty nightclub on August 7, 1994, were collectively strip-searched and forced to stand together naked with their hands above their heads in a grueling three-hour ordeal. An inquiry later found there was insufficient evidence to justify the police action.

More than 250 have filed and collected damages against the police department for false imprisonment and assault. If the remaining individuals file claims, as seems likely, the police department may be forced to pay out an additional \$2 million.

"The police did the gay community a great big favour because they taught us all how to stand up for ourselves as far as the Victoria Police are concerned," Tasty Promoter Gavin Campbell told the Observer.

Joseph O'Reilly, executive director of Liberty Victoria, a gay civil rights advocacy group, said the size of the financial award would be "a huge disincentive to do this sort of thing again. It's a very effective way of reminding the police that they have to weigh the consequences of their actions."

O'Reilly noted that actions against the police have always been difficult, even more so if compensatory damages were being sought. But in this case, he said, "the facts are irrefutable."

The Dalai Lama Meets With Lesbian and Gay Leaders

In a historic meeting in San Francisco on June 11, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, for the first time ever, discussed issues of homosexuality, human rights and Buddhism with a small group of gay and lesbians leaders. His Holiness expressed his strong opposition to discrimination and violence against gay and lesbian people. He voiced his support for full human rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation. The Dalai Lama was moved by personal stories of loss and discrimination related by the participants, and urged respect, tolerance, and compassion for all. He made it clear that gay and lesbian activists could rely on general Buddhist principles as a foundation for their struggle for full equality.

"His Holiness the Dalai Lama's support for our rights is very significant," said Tinku Ali Ishtiaq, co-chair of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. "The Nobel Laureate commands tremendous respect among people of the world and is highly respected for his words of wisdom. I hope that his message of non-discrimination and respect for our rights will have considerable impact on non-Buddhist religious traditions as well."

In a warm, relaxed meeting, the Dalai Lama sought to clarify his understanding of traditional Buddhist texts concerning sexuality and empathized with participants' concerns and frustrations about the unfairness of the prohibitions for gays and lesbians. Traditional Buddhist teaching prohibits certain sexual activities for practicing Buddhists, including homosexual acts for men (and by implication, he said, for women). He expressed his willingness to consider the possibility that some of these teachings may be specific to a

particular cultural and historical context. He stressed that he does not have the authority to unilaterally reinterpret Buddhist scriptures, but urged those present to build a consensus among other Buddhist traditions and



His Holiness Dalai Lama

communities to collectively change the understanding of the text for contemporary society. His Holiness expressed interest in the insights of modern scientific research and its value in developing new understandings of these texts.

"His Holiness the Dalai Lama was characteristically open and non-judgmental. As Head of State of an occupied country and as a celibate religious leader, I think he has not spent much time considering issues of sexuality, gay rights, and homophobia. Yet he welcomed our suggestion that these issues be explored in conjunction with upcoming conferences," said Eva Herzer, President of the International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet.

José Ignacio Cabezón, a former Buddhist monk and Professor of Philosophy at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, said, "I feel heartened and encouraged by this dialogue. It is wonderful to see a religious thinker of the caliber of His Holiness the Dalai Lama grappling with issues of sexual ethics and especially the rights and responsibilities of gay and lesbian people in such an open, empathetic, and rigorous fashion. As a gay Buddhist, I am grateful for this opportunity."

Lourdes Arguello, a professor of education at the Claremont Graduate School and a board member of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship summed up her observations as follows: "It is always amazing to see how His Holiness rises beyond the culture-bound context of his own tradition and grapples with seemingly absurd proscriptions to focus on the complex needs and desires of human beings in the here and now. I left the meeting with both the understanding and the feeling that this is a first stage in an exciting and

provocative dialogue between His Holiness and other Buddhist teachers on the one hand and gay and lesbian Buddhists and human rights activists on the other."

"This open, honest discussion of Buddhist traditional doctrine, with the participation of one of its most outstanding teachers, is 20th century Buddhism at its best," said Steve Peskind of the Buddhist AIDS Project.

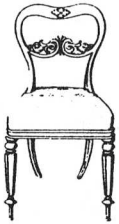
Ven. K.T. Shedrup Gyatso, Spiritual Director of the San Jose Tibetan Temple, said regarding today's meeting, "As an openly gay, celibate, fully-ordained Buddhist monk, I am very pleased with what His Holiness had to say. I can now go back to my temple and tell our gay, lesbian and bisexual members that they are still Buddhists, that they are still welcome, and that they are as well-equipped for the Buddhist path as anyone else."

Southern Baptists Boycott Disney...AGAIN!

(NewsPlanet) – You won't need ears as big as Mickey's to hear the Southern Baptist Convention's outcry about Disney's "betrayal," but now that the boycott is officially on, will it matter?

"You can't walk the family side of the street and the gay side of the street in the Magic Kingdom at the same time," said Richard Land, president of the morals and ethics committee that's been monitoring the Walt Disney Company over the last year for the Southern Baptist Convention. At that committee's recommendation, the 12,000 "messengers" attending the annual Southern Baptist meeting in Dallas, Texas agreed by an overwhelming majority June 18 to boycott all products and services of Disney, primarily to punish the company for its gay-friendly policies and productions.

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The alleged offenses range from domestic partner benefits for employees to the gay clergy in the movie "Priest," to the coming out of Ellen DeGeneres and her sitcom character "Ellen," to what's perceived by some as a gay relationship between two critters in "The Lion King," to gays and lesbians being allowed to gather in the Disneyworld theme park for "Gay Days" (which the park in no way hosts). As far as doling out effective retribution is concerned, however, neither the denomination's 40,000 churches nor its 15.7-million members are bound by the resolution, and the more than \$21-billion annual revenue Disney empire is so pervasive as to be nearly impossible to avoid, reaching into film and video, broadcast and cable TV, radio and audio, magazine and book publishing, sports teams, merchandising for all of the above, and of course theme parks.

Why pick on Disney, when hundreds of other companies provide benefits to domestic partners and other theme parks are also frequented by gays and lesbians? Precisely because of the company's historically ultra-clean image, which left Land with "a sense of betrayal and outrage." Certainly not because a boycott is likely to have any major direct impact on the company – boycotts by the highly-organized American Family Association and the much smaller Assemblies of God and the National Association of Free Will Baptists have proven that already. While Land blustered that "Disney is going to find out just how many regiments and just how many divisions of godly people Southern Baptists have," others at the conference were ready to admit that it was more a question of taking a stand than of doing damage. As Convention president Tom Elliff said, "The issue is not Disney coming down. The issue is Baptists going up to the level of God."

Disney's official response was to avoid comment on the resolution directly, but to assert that, "We're proud of the Disney brand. We create more family entertainment of every kind than anyone else in the world." And that statement's simply true – there's a real paucity of so-called "family entertainment," and even less of comparable (though some would say dubious) quality, to be found outside of Disney work. So while the so-called "pro-family" folks are spiting Disney for not making every single

product of its 100 or so entities entirely safe for every toddler, they're equally rejecting what's practically a monopoly source for any material that is suitable for children.

Media coverage has been extraordinarily intense, beginning days before the denominational meeting actually opened on June 17. Once the vote was taken, it was eagerly reported that Disney stock had fallen 1-1/2 points to 82-1/2 – not always with the context that the Standard & Poor 500 had fallen by 5.33 and the Dow Jones Industrials by 42 points in what was distinctly a downturn day on the New York Stock Exchange.

**Gay Couple Sues New Jersey
for Adoption Rights**

(The Data Lounge) – HACKENSACK, N.J. – Two gay men have filed suit in a Bergen County New Jersey Superior Court to jointly adopt a cocaine-addicted baby they painstakingly nursed back to health over 18 months, The Record newspaper reports.

Jon Holden and Michael Galluccio are challenging New Jersey regulations which restrict adoption to married couples and unmarried single parents. "They gave us a sick kid nobody else wanted, we turn him around, and more than a year later, they say we can't adopt him," Holden told the Record. "We're family enough to take a sick kid, but we're not good enough to adopt him now that he's healthy?"

The state of New Jersey would allow one of the men to adopt and the other to petition the court later for second-parent recognition, but that kind of "second-class treatment" is of no interest to the two. They are pushing for a full revocation of ban on gay couple adoptions. It is not just a matter of principle, they say, though that is certainly important. Second-parent adoptions cost at least \$2,500 and can take up to a year to process. In the meantime, if the adoptive parent died, the baby would have no legal guardian and would become a ward of the state.

Michael Adams of the American Civil Liberties Union told the Record, "The government cannot make life harder for some people unless there's a legitimate reason." The ACLU national office is filing a class-action suit

on behalf of all unmarried gay couples wishing to adopt listing Holden and Galluccio as representatives.

As the second-parent adoption route becomes more secure, the ACLU contends the pattern of discrimination becomes more glaring. "What rational government interest is recorded by this regulation?" Adams told the Record. "It's like the state saying, 'It's not that you can't adopt as a gay couple. We're just going to make you jump through more hoops.'"

Criminal Penalties Proposed For People With AIDS In Costa Rica

In a new outbreak of psychological violence against people with AIDS in Costa Rica, the President of the Costa Rican Medical Association, Dr. Marco Antonio Batalla, has called for severe criminal penalties for HIV positive persons who continue to have sexual relationships without informing prospective partners of their HIV status. Dr. Batalla's recommendation received extensive coverage in an edition of LA NACION, the country's largest daily newspaper.

A law pending in the Costa Rican Senate since last year proposes prison terms of 3 to 8 years for people who do not inform their sexual partners of their HIV status. Penalties would increase to 12 to 20 years if a person is infected as a result of a given sexual act. Public hearings are now being held on the law.

"These types of laws have nothing to do with prevention of AIDS," said Richard Stern, Health Coordinator of Costa Rica's gay lesbian Association Triangulo Rosa. "They are unenforceable, but they promote the witchhunt mentality that already exists here. On a worldwide level it is a known fact that prevention has more to do with empowerment and education, than with punishment and fear. Here we have an AIDS affected population that remains underground and fearful, and the proposed law will only maintain their invisibility and perpetuate

the epidemic. Violations of the human rights of people with AIDS, continue to occur on a daily basis here," he added. "We will now have police officer following AIDS victims to try to see who they sleep with."

Dr. Batalla also called for the elimination of provisions in the law that recommend providing new medical treatments to people with AIDS, which he called "super-expensive."

Triangulo Rosa has been promoting a series of activities in Costa Rica designed to promote access to the new retroviral medications which are not provided by the government here. About 300 Costa Ricans are currently in need of these medications.

Guillermo Murillo, Coordinator of Triangulo Rosa's patient empowerment, called for Dr. Batalla's resignation from the position of Director of the Medical Association. "His statements reflect an attitude of prejudice and lack of awareness that should not be tolerated by an Association dedicated to the health and well-being of the population," he argued.

PFLAG To Receive Biennial Human Rights Award At International Gay Spirituality Conference

Los Angeles - Parents, Families and Friends of Gays and Lesbians (PFLAG) has been named the recipient of the 1997 Human Rights Award presented by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). The announcement was made by the Rev. Troy D. Perry, founder and moderator of UFMCC.

The international award will be presented on

July 20 in Sydney, Australia during opening ceremonies for UFMCC's General Conference XVIII. UFMCC's Human Rights Award is presented biennially to organizations and individuals who have furthered the cause of social and political justice.

Previous recipients of UFMCC's Human Rights Award include Amnesty International and the International Lesbian and Gay Association.

Nancy McDonald, president of the board of directors of PFLAG, will accept the award in Sydney, Australia. A mother and grandmother, McDonald is a long-time community activist and educator who envisions "a time in which all children are treated equally, and all people can respect each other's differences."

UFMCC will also present an award to salute the pioneering work of PFLAG Australia. Heather Horntvedt, vice president of PFLAG Australia, will accept the award on behalf of the Australian organization. Horntvedt was instrumental in lobbying the West Australian Parliament to enact gay-rights provisions into its laws.

"We recognize the invaluable contributions of PFLAG in strengthening the cause of human rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, said the Rev. Troy D. Perry, UFMCC moderator. "We are pleased to salute PFLAG's ongoing, three-fold commitment to support families, educate the public and advocate on behalf of equal rights."

"PFLAG has combined the work of social justice with a spirit of love and compassion that is helping to transform our world one family at a time," Perry added.

This year's UFMCC General Conference XVIII will feature a public rally at Sydney's historic town hall, keynote addresses by internationally recognized human rights activists and theologians, business and

planning sessions, and an extensive list of social and sightseeing options.

Workshops and seminars will explore gay sexuality, spirituality, activism, gay parenting, outreach to the g/l/b/t/ communities, addressing the faith concerns of the gay community, AIDS ministry in a new era, and the use of technology on behalf of gay spirituality.

The international theme of UFMCC's General Conference XVIII is taken from the words of Christ, "You are the light of the world." Extensive information on this year's conference is available through UFMCC's website at <http://www.ufmcc.com>.

UFMCC was founded by the Rev. Troy D. Perry, who serves as moderator of the fast-growing denomination. A frequent international speaker at churches, universities, and conferences, Perry has appeared on 60 Minutes, Phil Donahue, Tomorrow with Tom Snyder, and The Mike Douglas Show. UFMCC's story has appeared in virtually every international news magazine. Perry is the recipient of awards from the American Civil Liberties Union, the Human Rights Campaign, and the Gay Press Association.

UFMCC is composed of more than 300 local congregations in 19 countries. With a combined


budget in excess of \$10 million, the UFMCC churches comprise the largest predominantly gay organization in the world.

Additional information on UFMCC's General Conference XVIII is available by writing UFMCC, 8704 Santa Monica Boulevard, Second Floor, West Hollywood, CA 90069, by phoning (310) 360-8640, by e-mail at UFMCCHQ@aol.com, and at the denomination's website at www.ufmcc.com.

Zimbabwe's Banana Denies All

(NewsPlanet) -- After weeks of silence, ex-

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president Canaan Banana laughed off multiple charges of sexual harassment and assault, claiming accusers had been offered big bribes – sources and motives unspecified.

Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe's first post-colonial president, has flatly denied all charges of sexual harassment and sexual assaults against other men in a June 19 interview with Harare's "Zimbabwe Independent." The allegations first came to light in late February during the murder trial of police constable Jefa Dube, who testified that he had been sexually assaulted by Banana when serving in the palace guard during Banana's 1980 - 1987 presidency. Further testimony indicated that high police officials had been aware at the time of complaints not only from Dube but from others as well, but that no action had been taken because of Banana's political power. When police began to investigate, they told the media they were inundated with additional allegations from others who had served as aides during Banana's presidency, from members of his soccer team, and from his students in the religion department at the University of Zimbabwe. Police said they had turned over nine of those cases on June 13 for prosecution on charges of sodomy and homosexuality. The Methodist Church, in which

Banana is an ordained minister, has also been carrying out its own investigation.

Banana had remained silent until the "Independent" interview, in which he was joined by his attorney Amos Chirunda. He said, "The so-called allegations are a mortuary of pathological lies, a malicious vendetta of vilification and character assassination." He also called them "nonsense," "laughable" and "the biggest joke in living memory" – and laughed heartily to prove it. Banana claimed that some people had come to him claiming they'd been offered bribes as large as Z\$500,000 to testify against him, although he had no idea who was making the offers. His main argument was that it should not have taken alleged victims ten

years after the end of his presidency to come forward – a somewhat disingenuous statement, given that he remained closely allied with current President Robert Mugabe and his ZANU-PF party. Banana said he had never discussed the allegations with Mugabe, who has gained an international reputation for his vehement pronouncements against gays and lesbians.

Chirunda emphasized that the only case actually before the court right now is a civil lawsuit filed by Dube.

Banana said he is "innocent" and "not a troubled man." He denied that his wife Janet had left him because of the allegations, saying she has never left him. He also declared he has no intentions of making a political comeback, but he said he is still treated with "respect" and that the Organization for African Unity – which Mugabe now heads – has further plans to use him as a mediator in Liberia. However, Banana

was notably not invited to a large rally earlier this year in celebration of Zimbabwe's independence.

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President Offers Congratulations to Celebrants of Gay Pride

(The Data Lounge)
WASHINGTON – President Clinton extended greetings June 23 to the country's lesbian and gay community as communities across the

country – and indeed, all over world – mark the anniversary and birth of the modern gay rights movement. The celebrations, most of which are held in June, commemorate the 1968 Stonewall riots in New York City. The full text of the President's message is printed below.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Warm greetings to all those participating in the 1997 Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration.

Throughout America's history, we have overcome tremendous challenges by drawing strength from our great diversity. We must never believe that our diversity is a weakness. The talents, contributions, and goodwill of

people from so many different backgrounds have enriched our national life and have enabled us to fulfill our common hopes and dreams. As we stand at the dawn of a new century, we all must rededicate ourselves to reaching the vital goals of acceptance and inclusion. America's continued success will depend on our ability to understand, appreciate, and care for one another.

We're not there yet, and that is why our efforts to end discrimination against lesbians and gay men are so important. Like each of you, I remain dedicated to ending discrimination and preserving the civil rights of every citizen in our society. We have begun to wage an all-out campaign against hate crimes in America – crimes that are often viciously directed at gay men and lesbians. I have also endorsed and fought for civil rights legislation that would protect gay and lesbian Americans from discrimination. The Employment Non-Discrimination Act now being considered in Congress would put an end to discrimination against gay men and lesbians in the workplace

– discrimination that is currently legal in 39 states. These efforts reflect our belief in the right of every American to be judged on his or her merits and abilities, and to be allowed to contribute to society without facing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. And they reflect our ongoing fight against bigotry and intolerance in our country and in our hearts.

My Administration's record of inclusiveness is a strong one, but it is a record to build on. I am proud of the many openly gay men and lesbians who serve with distinction in my Administration, and their impact will continue to be significant in the years ahead. I pledge to you that I will continue striving to foster compassion and understanding, working not simply to tolerate our differences, but to celebrate them.

Best wishes for a memorable celebration.
Bill Clinton

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New French Government To Deliver On Couples Pledge

PARIS (Reuter) - France's new leftist government will deliver on a campaign promise to give homosexual couples the same legal rights as heterosexual couples, Justice Minister Elisabeth Guigou said Monday.

"This is a promise we have made, and we will keep it," Guigou told the French daily Le Monde.

"Homosexuals raised the question, but they are not the only ones concerned," Guigou said. "One cannot describe the union between two people solely in terms of marriage."

During the campaign leading up to the June 1 parliamentary election which swept the left into power, the Socialists pledged to create a "contract of social union" granting legal status to gay and lesbian couples.

The contract would give such couples a formal legal status ensuring them equal rights with heterosexuals in such matters as housing, inheritance and taxes.

French law does not now recognize gay or lesbian marriages although a handful of cities issue certificates of cohabitation to same-sex couples.

The certificates have no legal weight but entitle gay couples to certain rights such as discounts on the national rail system.

Conservative Movement Condemns Lesbian Marriage Ceremony

(The Jerusalem Post) - Israel's Conservative movement condemned a marriage between two women performed by a Reform rabbi, saying that it had crossed the "red line" in terms of Halacha (Jewish law) and it was a mistake to carry out such a marriage at this time.

The ceremony was performed in Tel Aviv by Rabbi David Ariel-Joel, rabbi of Jerusalem's Har-El Congregation. During the ceremony, held under a talit (prayer shawl), the two women exchanged rings and each broke a glass.

Rabbi Einat Ramon, spokeswoman of the Conservative movement, said the movement opposes such rituals. "We see no way, according to Halacha, to make homosexual marriage a halachic norm, even though we recognized the rights of the gay community for civil rights," Ramon said, adding that it would also be a mistake to make such a marriage a norm, especially at a time when heterosexual marriage had to be supported.

Although Ramon did not mention the talks which were still continuing between the coalition and Reform and Conservative movements over a compromise agreement regarding conversions carried out by the two movements in Israel, she did say that she thought the timing of the marriage was "irresponsible."

MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) said the wedding between two women is just additional proof that the Reform movement is only interested in destroying Judaism.

"The Reform are not really interested in conversion or marriage or in helping people. They are only interested in overturning Judaism," Gafni said. The Reform, he said, had rejected the Torah, which was the basis of Jewish survival during all the centuries of persecution.

The Council of Progressive Rabbis, the central body of Reform rabbis, denied the ceremony had been a marriage, but rather a "bonding ceremony" intended to make the relationship public. Rabbi Yoram Mazor, secretary of the CPR, said that Ariel-Yoel had allowed a talit to be used as a canopy, contrary to the decision of the CPR, but there had been no traditional marriage contract, no wedding blessings, and the rings had been exchanged without halachic

formulas.

Mazor said the CPR had been discussing homosexual ceremonies during the past two years, and while its rabbis had expressed themselves in favor of the basic need of every human being for love, warmth, and companionship, it sees the sanctity of the union of marriage between a man and a woman as the ideal. The CPR sees no possibility of conducting homosexual marriage ceremonies according to the law of Moses and Israel, Mazor said.

Federal Court Orders US to Reconsider Asylum Denial

SAN FRANCISCO - The San Francisco Examiner reports the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco has ordered the federal government to reconsider its denial of political asylum to a Russian woman who was forced to undergo "psychiatric treatment" to counter her lesbianism.

Alla Pitcherskaia came to the United States in 1992, fleeing routine arrests, detentions, and beatings by Russian police for her work with fledgling lesbian and gay organizations in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

The government claimed Pitcherskaia was not eligible for asylum because Russian authorities "were attempting to help" her when she was threatened with forced psychiatric institutionalization. The three-judge panel scoffed at such an interpretation.

"The fact that a persecutor believes the harm he is inflicting is 'good' for his victim does not make it any less painful to the victim, or, indeed, remove the conduct from the statutory definition of persecution," the Examiner quoted the court. "Human rights laws cannot be sidestepped by simply couching actions that torture mentally or physically in benevolent terms such as 'curing' or 'treating' the victims."

When she was denied asylum a second time last December, Pitcherskaia was told by U.S. Immigration officials Russia had changed sufficiently in the last four years to no longer present a threat to her safety.

Under U.S. immigration law, anyone who can prove that they face persecution or has "a well-founded fear of persecution" because of their social group is eligible for asylum.

Canadian Women's Prison Riot

(NewsPlanet) - Staff homophobia or tension between lesbian and straight inmates - an internal investigation tried to sort out which was the cause of the Nova Institution uprising in Truro, Nova Scotia.

Lesbianism and homophobia played a significant role in the September 5 inmate uprising at a Nova Scotia women's prison, according to a report released last month. Inmates flooded their cells, set their mattresses on fire, and smashed toilets, windows, doors, floor tiles, and furnishings for an estimated total of \$4,740 in damage to the year-old Nova Institution in Truro. The Information Commissioner of Canada used the Access to Information Act to force publication of Corrections Canada's 45-page internal investigation report, although the public version has been heavily censored. It reveals claims by lesbian inmates of staff homophobia, reports by non-lesbian inmates of discomfort with displays of lesbian affection, and confusion on the part of staff who had no clear policies to follow.

"Some inmates...were claiming they were being discriminated against because they were gay," says the report from a three-person board of inquiry. At the time of the uprising, openly lesbian inmate Mona Boutilier claimed she had started it as a protest against homophobic staff. However, the investigators reported finding no evidence of staff homophobia.

Investigators did find non-lesbian inmates disturbed both by lesbianism and by the way staff handled it. "Other inmates claimed the entire matter [of lesbianism] was making them uncomfortable, particularly the outward display of affection in inappropriate settings. Inmates articulated a concern relating to the level of antagonism and violence surrounding same-sex relationships," the report says. "Inmates claimed that staff were not consistent in managing and controlling inappropriate behavior, in relation to same-sex relationships, and this was causing frustration." The board of inquiry believed all these tensions were building up in the period before the uprising.

If staff were inconsistent, it was not because of homophobia but rather of a lack of clarity as to policy, the board of inquiry found. "Most primary workers interviewed indicated that they

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do not understand clearly how to deal with the issue of same-sex relationships and find it to be a gray area.... there is no clear direction or understanding of this issue and its inherent difficulties in a prison setting, which has resulted in confusion for staff." Existing guidelines call for staff to intervene where sexual activity is coercive or predatory, offensive to others, or against the standards of the larger community. Corrections Canada spokesperson Richard Steele told the press that, although sexual activity between inmates is not "condoned," "the service does recognize certain contemporary realities."

The report finds fault with the prison staff on a number of unrelated issues, as did the separate board of inquiry convened after another smaller uprising occurred only two weeks later, but Steele believes many of those problems have been corrected. Although the warden and another senior official have since been transferred, as well as several of the women, the Nova Institution continues to have problems, including a pair of recent escapes.

Beer Ad Stalls on Lesbian Kiss

(NewsPlanet) – Candy dandy, liquor quicker? A Canadian licensing board isn't comfortable with that image – no matter whose candy or who's dandy.

It's hard to imagine any North American audience surprised that a liquor ad would imply that booze will get you sex, but Ontario's provincial Liquor License Board says it's withholding approval of a new spot for Molson Dry for just that reason – not because of the nature of the sex suggested by the particular ad in question. Yet it seems a bit odd to several observers that the regulation restricting presentation of alcohol as a key to sexual relations should just happen to be applied to what Molson believes is the first beer ad to feature a same-gender couple. The company's not worried, claiming that ads are often held up in the process of review by the liquor board and Advertising Standards Canada, which brewers submit to voluntarily to avoid having their ads pulled from the air.

The scene is a bar, where a woman catches the eye of a man. He sends over a beer which she accepts, and he starts to head over to speak

with her. But while he's en route, another woman comes in, sits next to the first, and kisses her passionately. The man returns to his own seat, sends over another beer for the second woman, and all three characters smile at each other.

Molson has been a leader among Canadian companies in supporting gay and lesbian community events. If the ad is ultimately released, it will air only in Ontario.

EuroPride Draws Hate in Paris

Massive raids targeting child pornography and pedophiles have sparked the rage of the French populace – and the fallout is hitting Europe's premier lesbigay pride event.

France has been pursuing its first major criminal justice offensives against child pornography and pedophiles, and flyers posted in Paris were aimed to turn the public's rage towards gays just days before the June 28 EuroPride march. "Homosexuals of today are the pedophiles of tomorrow" reads one, reinforcing a connection suggested by media reports that child pornography videos were advertised in gay publications. Another flyer lambastes the government for offering reduced train fares for those travelling to EuroPride. On



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June 25, several gay and lesbian organizations asked authorities to remove the flyers and prosecute those responsible for their posting.

Only one poster indicated a source, the far-right National Inter-University Union (UNI), but the group denied responsibility. Ironically, two men now under investigation for producing child pornography have been found to have right-wing extremist connections themselves, one of them with the National Front.

While late to join in Europe's near-hysterical anti-pedophile reaction to the 1996 deaths of children involved in the notorious Brussels operations of Marc Dutroux, France leaped into the fray in most dramatic fashion. Seventy-two men are currently being tried for charges relating to one video distribution network in the nation's first big pedophilia trial, while a smaller group are being tried in Calais for raping minors under age 15. A week ago, following more than a year of investigations, some 2,500 police officers searched 814 homes and arrested more than 600 men, most for possession of pornographic videos; 201 were placed under formal investigation of possession of videos involving minors under age 15 and another 34 were arrested on more serious charges including several rapes of children. The highly-publicized sweep has been blamed for five suicides so far.

World of Pride


(NewsPlanet) – In Rio de Janeiro, more than 1,000 paraded for two hours to the beat of Afro-Brazilian drums in the third annual Lesbian and Gay Pride march down Copacabana beach under cloudy skies June 29. House of Deputies member Fernando Gabeiro participated. One highlight was a pair of lesbians in long white wedding dresses who exchanged vows at the end with transgender bridesmaids in attendance.

June 29 was Toronto's 17th annual Gay Pride

parade, with a crowd believed to be bigger than last year's event which was variously estimated at 650,000 - 750,000 people – a far cry from the 1,000 who marched in the first event in 1981. Several blocks of Church Street were closed off for a street fair whose booths included the very mainstream Snapple, Pizza Pizza and Starbucks. Parade floats also showed the corporate influence, with entries from cosmetics and liquor companies. While dykes appeared on bikes and topless (toplessness being a hot issue there right now), they also had their own second annual Dyke March on Saturday, June 28. Pride in Halifax drew 500 marchers.

EuroPride joined Paris pride for the first time June 28. Threatening clouds didn't dim the exuberance of the 5 km line of marchers (variously estimated by police at 120,000 - 145,000, by "independent" sources at 200,000, and by organizers at 300,000). About 100 floats making the journey from Place de la Republique to Reuilly ranged from ropewalkers and striptease artists to a black-draped "Ignorance is your enemy" float from ACT UP (the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power). Participants came from all over Western Europe and from northern Africa as well. One favorite chant was "Equal rights without sexual discrimination in France and Europe." Distinguished guests included Environment Minister Dominique Voynet, a sponsor of the domestic partners "contract of civil and social union" legislation introduced June 27, and former Culture Minister Jack Lang. The march was followed by an all-night concert. More than 20 corporate sponsors supported the march. To the dismay of conservatives, the Paris Transport Authority RATP provided special "pink" tickets for discounted bus and subway fares.

June 28 was Christopher Street Day in Berlin, with marchers variously estimated from 10,000 by police to 60,000 by organizers. Many marchers carried placards demanding equal



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recognition for gay and lesbian relationships. As Berlin has been celebrating the centennial of the gay and lesbian movement that began with Magnus Hirschfeld, actors portrayed historical figures on a stage along the march route, including a concentration camp inmate wearing the pink triangle.

A transgendered person lead Saturday's parade down the Paseo de la Reforma in Mexico City. A favorite chant was, "No political freedom without sexual freedom."

Pride Scotland was celebrated in Edinburgh on June 21 in an observance organizers called the biggest and best ever. The anti-gay Christian group "There is Hope" had prayed for rain, and their prayers were answered, making the festival grounds a slough of mud that forced the transfer of events from the main stage to the Women's Tent. But 6,000 marchers led by Deputy Lord Provost Margaret McGregor didn't seem to mind the all-day soaking and the rainbow flag flew, however damply, over the council chambers.

Probation for Killer of Texas Gay

(NewsPlanet) – Another one gets away: the second defendant in the case of a Texas gay

man's murder is found guilty, but only guilty enough for probation.

Daniel Bean was given a life sentence in the brutal stabbing death of open gay Fred Mangione, but his half-brother Ronald Gauthier has been given 10 years' probation for the same crime. The Harris County, Texas jury found Gauthier guilty of murder and could have selected any of a range of punishments up to life imprisonment. One juror told the "Houston Chronicle" that the jury felt the prosecution had failed to prove that Gauthier was actively involved in the stabbing itself. Gauthier claimed he was not in

Mangione's van when Bean killed him there, while the prosecution argued that Gauthier had held Mangione during the stabbing. When Gauthier and Bean were arrested soon after the slaying, there was no blood on Gauthier's shirt or jacket, although some was found on his pants legs. Gauthier had joined Bean in bragging about the crime to the arresting officer and in threatening to mess with the "fags" beforehand.

Texas State District Judge Werner Voigt placed a number of conditions on Gauthier's probation when he handed down the sentence on June 30. Gauthier will remain in jail until he can enter Harris County boot camp, which may be several months. He must avoid all contact with Bean, with whom he's been very close, and with hate groups, such as the German Peace Corps in California whose tattoo Bean wears. He must also shun guns and knives. He must write letters of apology to Mangione's long-time partner Kenneth Stern and to the people of Harris County. He must pass a high school equivalency exam, attend community college and hold a job, while also performing 1,000 hours of community service. The judge has every intention of sending Gauthier to jail if he violates the terms.

Gauthier is also ordered to stay at least 150 feet away from Stern. Shortly before Stern discovered Mangione's body, Gauthier had suddenly attacked him in the Katy, Texas bar where the four men met. Gauthier is currently living in the same neighborhood as Stern, leading Stern to fear for his own safety.

On January 4, 1996, Stern and Mangione had gone out to look at wedding rings in anticipation of their upcoming anniversary. They stopped at a neighborhood bar they frequented and Mangione worked the tables trying to sell Avon products. His effeminate manner annoyed one patron who

made some homophobic remarks. When Bean and Gauthier appeared ready to intervene to protect Stern and Mangione, it opened a friendly conversation among the four men.

In reality, Bean and Gauthier had reassured the angry patron that they were going to harm the "fags."

But when the four went out in the van to buy cigarettes, Stern was under the impression that Bean and Gauthier were not only companionable but possibly interested in sex. When they returned to the bar, Stern was the first to enter. Gauthier then came in and started beating Stern. Bean followed and threw a bloody knife on the bar. Bean and Gauthier fled, only to be picked up shortly after by a police officer who at first thought they were youth violating curfew. Stern went out to the van to check on Mangione and found him dead of 35 stab wounds from a large knife.

Restauranteur's Death is Called 'Suspicious'

(Lou Chibbaro Jr.) – The police chief in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, has described as "suspicious" the June 8 death of the co-owner of the Cloud 9, one of the town's popular gay restaurants and dance bars.

Paige Berdini, 33, was pronounced dead at 4:28 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at Beebe Medical Center in Lewes, Del., and doctors and the state medical examiner have yet to determine the cause.

Rehoboth police said a Rehoboth 911 emergency operator received a call about one hour earlier from a friend of Berdini's who called to report that she was unconscious and not breathing in his apartment at 35 A Baltimore Ave., which is located on the property of the Blue Moon, another gay restaurant and bar.

Upon their arrival at the apartment, ambulance and paramedic workers discovered Berdini on the floor in one of the apartment's rooms, police said. They attempted to resuscitate her at the apartment and during the trip to the hospital, but were unable to revive her, according to a police statement.

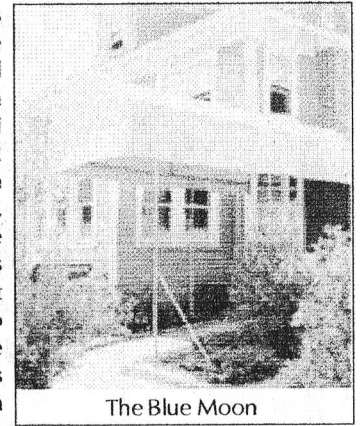
The Delaware State Medical Examiner's office in Wilmington said an autopsy was conducted and the office was awaiting the results of toxicological tests. A spokesperson for state

medical examiner Richard Callery said the cause of Berdini's death could not be determined until those tests are completed, which could take several weeks.

Berdini, her husband John Berdini, and three others opened the Cloud 9 in 1994. The establishment became a popular dining spot for both gays and non-gays during the early evening hours and a popular gay bar and dance club during late evening hours. Paige and John Berdini had each worked in other gay bars and restaurants in Rehoboth in the past and had a large circle of gay friends in both Rehoboth and D.C., according to friends of the couple.

Friends said Berdini appeared in good health and good spirits the night before her death when she tended bar at the Cloud 9 and then joined friends for drinks at the Blue Moon about 10 p.m.

Friends said she called John Berdini about 2 a.m. on June 8, saying she was reluctant to drive to the couple's home in Lewes



The Blue Moon

because she had been drinking and decided spend the night at the apartment of the couple's longtime friend, Gabby Beel. Beel's apartment is located at 35 Baltimore Ave., on a floor above the Blue Moon's business office.

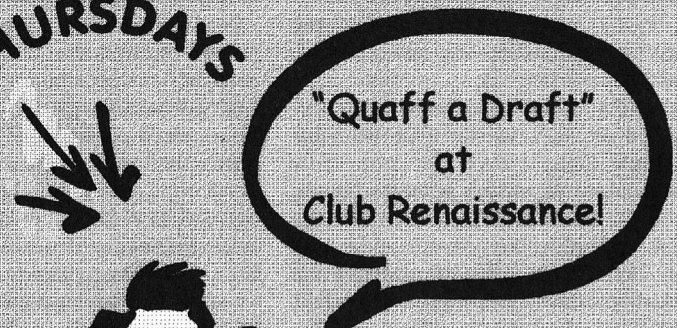
Beel reportedly told friends that Berdini appeared to be sleeping when he left his apartment late in the morning. He reportedly discovered her unconscious about 3:30 p.m. after he returned home.

Rehoboth Police Det. Keith Banks declined to disclose whether police have uncovered evidence indicating that foul play was involved in Berdini's death. He said police characterized the death as suspicious, in part, because Berdini appeared to be in good health and the cause of death has yet to be determined.

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Detroit Gay's Home Firebombed

Detroit - Officials can't say yet whether two gasoline bombs make it arson, but a gay man's home is gone, his pets are dead, and the Triangle Foundation wants it called a hate crime.

The home of an openly gay Detroit man was hit by at least two gasoline firebombs early on the morning of June 29, burning the house almost to the ground and killing some 30 animals he raised in the yard - his dog, four Dalmatian puppies, and more than two dozen prize-winning Angora rabbits. One bomb was thrown through the bedroom window and would have killed Donald Sullivan if he had been home at the time. Sullivan suspects some of his neighbors who have abused him with homophobic language in the past, and Detroit's gay and lesbian Triangle Foundation has asked that the attack be considered a hate crime, but police and fire officials are not yet ready to say more than that the fire was caused by arson. A \$5,000 reward has been posted by the fire department for information leading to the arrest of the arsonist.

Sullivan says he's lost more than 90% of everything he ever had, and his home was not insured.

Canadian Scientist Reports on Lesbian Monkeys

(Capital Xtra!) - "Female Japanese macaques [monkeys] engage in sexual behavior not necessarily to reproduce but for sexual gratification—because it feels good," says primatologist and University of Montreal doctoral student Paul Vasey. And many of them often prefer females over males.

"A lot of people feel that homosexuality occurs because there isn't any opposite-sex alternative," Vasey said. "What I've found with the Japanese macaques is that when two females are together, and if a male comes and solicits one of the females, at that moment she has a

choice: She can either go with the male or remain with her female partner. I found that over 90 percent of the time, she remains in the same-sex partnership.

"When you say something like, 'Homosexuality isn't natural,' then you're using animals as your reference point. Clearly my research contributes towards showing that that statement is false. ... Since the Medieval age, people have been using animals as metaphors for what is natural and how humans should behave. ... If we're going to make statements like, 'Homosexuality is unnatural,' then let's actually examine what's going on in nature."

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Waterloo - Wellington Pride
Shines Through

(Outlook) - Rainbow flags flying overhead, the pulsating sound of dance music in City Hall and even rainbow coloured lights in the fountain. Sounds like a celebration to me....PRIDE!

After months of planning and preparation the Waterloo-Wellington Pride Committee has a lot to be proud of.

Approximately 400 members of our diverse community gathered at Kitchener City Hall's Rotunda for the 3rd Annual Pride Celebration where the festivities began at 6 p.m. This is double the number from last year.

It all started with a meet and mingle session complete with refreshments donated by area businesses and a walk around the Rotunda to visit the many tables set up by community groups and service organizations.

Later in the evening the crowd was entertained by a very talented quartet and a finale by a local lesbian singer/performer known to many in the bar circuit.

Throughout the night, a number of speakers expressed their feelings on the theme of this year's celebration which was "Free Yourself". They shared their experiences of coming out, being out in a somewhat small community and the process it took to get where they are today. This was followed by an open-mike session where those in audience were invited to speak; many did just that.

Dozens of area businesses sponsored this year's event by donating food, drink, table linens, balloons, and media equipment. Many donated prizes that were either raffled off or given as door prizes at the Pride Committee's fundraising events held at Club Renaissance and the Robin's Nest prior to the big event. Smart looking Pride t-shirts were also a part of this year's fundraising.

As the night went on, as more people were arriving at and departing from the celebration, phase two of Pride '97 was just getting underway. Everyone at the Rotunda was invited down to Club Renaissance where the party was to continue late into the night. More food, drink and yes...more prizes, complete with an actual Prize Queen!

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Melrose Place Drops Gay Matt

Prepare to bid farewell to U.S. TV's longest-running gay character – now that he won't be on screen, you may even be able to give Melrose Matt a kiss goodbye!

Last month was the last week taping for U.S. television's most senior continuing openly gay character, "Matt Fielding" of the FOX network's "Melrose Place."

The character introduced in 1992 will make only two special appearances in the 1997 - 1998 season, one in the season opener. It's not entirely clear to what extent actor Doug Savant's exit is voluntary: while he'd begun last month to discuss leaving the series to pursue a film career, he had been expected to return for 13 episodes in the new season. One version has scheduling adjustments due to star Heather Locklear's pregnancy making it impossible for Savant to do both "Melrose Place" and the upcoming movie "Godzilla." But the show is undergoing drastic cast changes, leaving only two of the original ensemble aboard, and rumor has it that Savant was also involved in a salary dispute.



Doug Savant of Melrose Place

The contrast between Matt's ultra-pure lifestyle and that of his ruthless, bed-hopping heterosexual neighbors was almost a running gag in the gay and lesbian community, and it didn't help that all kisses were deleted when he was finally offered some love interest. But it has

been unquestionably a positive portrayal of a gay man who is unselfish, community-spirited, and basically a rather ordinary good guy more engaged with his medical studies than with sexual pursuits.

If the sitcom "Frasier" retains the character of restaurant critic "Gil Chesterton" (Edward Hibbert), who was introduced in 1994, he'll be the new dean of continuing gay and lesbian characters.

All The Rage

"Splashy... Literate... Sexy... Gutsy... Irreverently Funny... Sophisticated... Disturbing... Totally true to its subject... What gay cinema has been waiting for!"

These are just some of the things readers have been saying about the new gay screenplay, ALL THE RAGE.

ALL THE RAGE is based on Roland Tec's play, A BETTER BOY which played to a standing-room-only crowd when it premiered at the Boston Center for the Arts in 1993. Since then, it has been adapted for the screen by the playwright, who is currently preparing to produce and direct the film in Boston.

Christopher is every gay man's fantasy – he's gorgeous, well-built, masculine, charming, intelligent, rich, and successful. His only problem is, he knows it. And because he has worked so hard to mold himself into the perfect eligible bachelor, he feels entitled to expect equal if not better packaging from the men he dates. The result – a lot of unanswered telephone calls.

But all that seems to change when, on a whim, he accepts a last-minute dinner invitation from his friends Tom and Dave, a long-term couple who are forever trying to fix up their single friends. At the dinner he meets Stewart, a somewhat introverted book editor who doesn't belong to a gym – certainly not Christopher's usual type. In spite of the fact that Larry – Christopher's favorite bar-hopping buddy – pronounces the courtship Dead-On-Arrival,



something about Stewart piques his interest and a little romance ensues.

Christopher revels in the public relations of "being in love" but unfortunately cannot escape his old patterns and so in the end, loses the boy. Experiencing

real rejection for the first time causes him to fall back on the one thing that has always been within reach – getting laid.

Unfortunately this time he gets more than he bargained for when the guy he sleeps with turns out to be a discarded number from his past. In a climactic final duel of wits, Christopher is pushed into a corner, out of control, desperately scrambling for an exit and unable to find one. For the first time in the entire story Christopher finds himself in a situation that he does not control and the experience of powerlessness exposes him and us to the hideous rage that has lived beneath the surface of his charm.

Initial response to the script has been fantastic. Several seasoned readers, some of whom read nearly one thousand scripts each year, have commented on the script's high quality. Consistently, ALL THE RAGE is being praised for its dead-on portrayal of gay corporate and gay club life, its naturalistic dialogue, and its well-drawn characters.

Movie Night at the Princess

Tara Subkoff and Alison Folland portray teens with a great friendship but different sexual preferences in *All Over Me*, July 27 & 28.

Attention Leonardo DiCaprio fans...Double Bill! *Romeo and Juliet* explodes all over the screen, a masterful display of cinematic insolence from Australian Luhrmann (Strictly Ballroom), who turns the Bard's vision of raging teenage love into violent kitsch....audaciously brilliant.

Basketball Diaries - DiCaprio's intense portrayal of a teenage basketball star and writer-turned-drug addict carries this translation of Jim Carroll's memorable 1978 memoir to the screen with engaging style. Two shows for one ticket! Tuesday, July 29.

Basquiat - This lively biography of the late artist features an all-star cast including Jeffrey Wright as Basquiat, David Bowie as Andy Warhol, plus Gary Oldman, Dennis Hopper, Courtney Love and Christopher Walken. Presented as an "Arts After 5" event by the Waterloo Regional Arts Council. Wednesday, July 30 at 7p.m.

Another Double bill featuring two films by Kevin Smith - *Chasing Amy* is the first real movie from the director of *Clerks* and *Mallrats*, about a comic book artist who falls for another artist who turns out to be a lesbian. Stylish, sometimes raunchy, interesting and fun. The slacker generation is alive and well in *Clerks*, the low-budget debut from director Kevin Smith. It's an irreverent, slice of life behind the counter of a convenience store, featuring Smith and a bunch of his friends. Both shows for one admission. Thursday, August 7 starting with *Chasing Amy* at 7 p.m. and followed by *Clerks* at 9:05 p.m. *Chasing Amy* is also shown on it's own Friday, August 8 at 9:05 p.m.

Last, but certainly not least, and based on the Tony award-winning play of the same name...*Love! Valour! Compassion!* is a touching, often funny and at times heartbreaking story that beautifully celebrates the fragility of life, love and the human spirit. Toronto Star calls it "a gay Big Chill." August 12 at 9 p.m. and August 13 & 14 at 7 p.m.

Just a reminder...the Princess Cinema will be closed for renovations from Sunday August 24 up to and including Thursday August 28 for painting, carpet replacement and some other surprises.

What's On TV?

Monday, July 14 *Caravaggio*, directed by Derek Jarman. The painter-director's account of the last of the great Renaissance artists and gay icons is as much autobiographical as it is historical.

FIVE DAYS! JULY 18 - 22

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**ALSO PLAYING: "All Over Me" July 27 & 28
and "Love! Valour! Compassion! August 12 to 14**

Starring Nigel Terry with Robbie Coltrane as Cardinal Borghese. UK, 1986. Showcase (Channel 39) 11 p.m.

Monday, July 21 *Wild Reeds*, directed by Andre Techine. This coming-of-age film set in a French provincial town in 1962, examines the reactions of four teens when an Algerian-born war-weary student comes to the school and brings his breed of political and sexual cynicism. Starring Frederic Gorny, Gael Morel and Stephane Rideau. France, 1993. Showcase (Channel 39) 11 p.m.

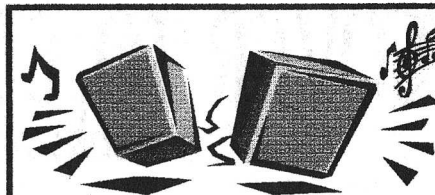
Saturday, July 26 *The Lost Language of the Cranes*, directed by Nigel Finch. This is the story of Owen, a middle-aged man coming to terms with his homosexuality after years of living a married lie. When his son Philip announces that he is gay, Owen wants to start his life over again, this time based on the truth. Starring Brian Cox. Showcase (Channel 39) 11 p.m.

Monday, July 28 *Closing Numbers*, directed by Stephen Whittaker. Jane Asher plays Anna, a housewife, who discovers her husband, Keith (Tim Woodward), is having an affair with another man. Anna seeks out her husband's lover Steve (Patrick Pearson) and finds him caring for a former boyfriend who has AIDS. UK, 1995. Showcase (Channel 39) 11 p.m.

Monday, July 28 on CBC: *Absolutely Fabulous* - Edina and Patsy set off to holiday in France. Things go from bad to worse when their luxury chateau turns out to be a second class chalet with only ping-pong for amusement. Luckily Saffron rescues them with supplies of cigarettes, wine and food. CBC, 8 p.m. Stay tuned later for the Canadian Queen of Comedy *Elvira Kurt* (as seen at Club Renaissance) headlining tonight's episode of *Comics*. 11:30p.m.



ELVIRA KURT



THE GUESTLIST

A Monthly Guide To Everything New and Swell In Spank's Record Box.

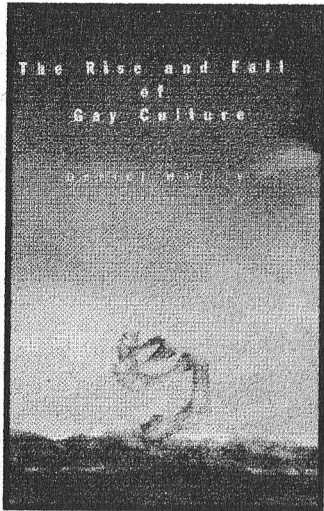
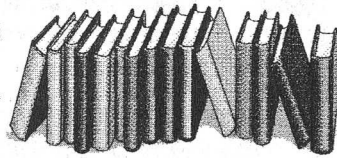
Compiled by Jayson Spank

July/August '97

1. Brainbug / Nightmare (Phat Manhattan Mix)
 2. Olive / You're Not Alone (Oakenfold / Osborne Mix)
 3. Sneaker Pimps / Spin Spin Sugar (Armand's Dark Garage Mix)
 4. Nuyorican Soul / It's Alright, I Feel It (M.A.W. Remix)
 5. Prodigy / Breathe
 6. Sash! / Encore un Fois (Future Breeze Remix)
 7. Funky Green Dogs / The Way (Dirty White Boy Way)
 8. Age of Love / Age of Love (Paul van Dyk Remix)
 9. Angel Moraes / To The Rhythm (Hot & Spicy Remix)
 10. Paul van Dyk & BT / Forbidden Fruit (Food of Love Mix)
 11. Daft Punk / Around the World (Album Mix)
 12. Edina & Patsy / Ab Fab (I Am Thin and Gorgeous) (Junior Vasquez Mix)
 13. BT / Flaming June (White Label)
 14. Kristine W. / Feel What You Want (Dekard Remix '97)
 15. Orbital / The Saint
- Jayson Spank spins house, anthems and late night progressive every Friday and Saturday at Club Renaissance.

COVER TO COVER

Books of Interest



In *THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE* (Hyperion, May 30, 1997), prize-winning essayist and critic Daniel Harris argues that the assimilation of gay culture into mainstream society is rapidly undermining gay men's sense of themselves as a distinct minority. Harris, whose work has been anthologized in *Best American Essays* of 1993 and who is a regular contributor to *Harper's*, *Salmagundi*, and *Newsday*, shows how a once vibrant sensibility, which was originally created in response to oppression, is now being eroded by social acceptance and rampant commercialization. Furthermore, Harris raises crucial questions, not only about the decline of the homosexual sensibility, but about the death of racial and cultural diversity in society at large.

THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE

(May 1997)
by Daniel Harris
Hyperion

America's preeminent essayist Philip Lopate has called Daniel Harris "one of the sharpest observers of American culture—gay or straight—on the scene today." Village Voice writer Gary Indiana says *THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE* contains "the clearest analysis of gay culture I have ever seen in print...this book is a triumph of thinking over sentimentality and weak-mindedness." Bernard Cooper, the author of the prize-winning book *Maps to Anywhere*, says that *THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE* is "often breathtaking in the humor and beauty of its prose" and is "the most provocative and entertaining overview of gay culture, of any culture, you will ever read." New Yorker writer Janet Malcolm calls it "astonishing," "delightful," "provocative," and "entirely unpredictable." Dale Peck calls it "quietly but determinedly brilliant."

With wit, audacity, and penetrating insight, Harris charts the historical development and meaning of the icons and institutions of gay culture in order to assess what is gained and what is lost when the very factors that gave rise to that culture are eliminated. What, Harris asks, lies behind the deification of gay cult figures such as Judy Garland and Bette Davis? When did gay men abandon the natty attire of the fop and begin imitating the appearance of working-class straight men? What role have homosexuals played in society's recent fascination with men's underwear? Why was AIDS—the first disease with its own gift shop—turned into kitsch?

Over time, Harris contends, essential elements

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of gay culture have not only changed, but have changed into their opposites; what were once vehicles of political protest have now become sanitized commodities. The veneration of actresses has become the ridicule of actresses. Butch, tattooed bodies have become effeminate, "decorated" ones. Exotic, playful drag queens have become mean, militarized gender benders. Sadistic leather men have become macrobiotic neopagans. Conservative, assimilationist propagandists have become anti-mainstream radicals.

Harris reveals how changes have occurred not only in the most conspicuous aspects of gay culture, but in the least visible and, at first sight, insignificant ones—from the facial expressions of cross-dressers and the way actors kiss in porn films to the coverage of opera in gay newspapers and the urban homosexual's attitudes toward chest hair and tan lines; from the language gay men use to describe their preferences in bed and the words they use to identify their lovers to the literary

circumlocutions pornographers have created for body parts and sex acts.

Harris writes, "The force behind these changes is the accelerating pace of our assimilation into mainstream society. What is happening to gay culture parallels what has been happening to popular culture on a much larger scale ever since the invention of a metaphor central to our understanding of the historical mission of America: the melting pot... *THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE* traces the circuitous route of assimilation, following the long trail of debris jettisoned by a decaying civilization as it levels the features of the various tribes it comprises in order to create out of a racially pluralistic society a single monolithic culture. By focusing as a test case on the changes that have occurred in the gay community, I describe the gradual dissolution of the ethnic diversity of a country that demands from its minorities nothing less than a voluntary act of subcultural suicide performed to avoid both social ostracism and economic disenfranchisement."

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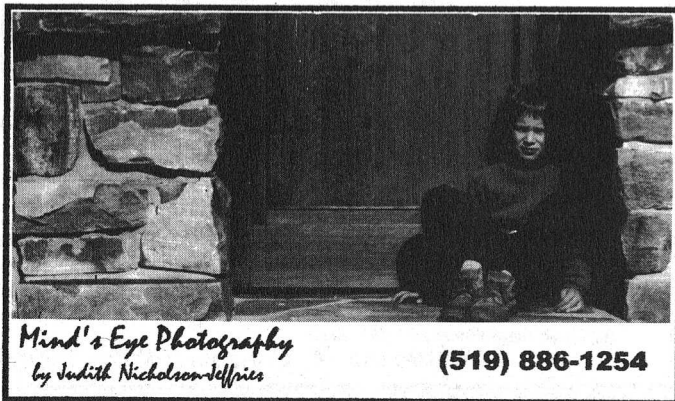
Where the ▼ Community Shows Their Buns!

Can gay culture maintain a separate identity as its major institutions lose their vitality and become both comfortable and familiar? And, what's more, would the demise of gay culture really be as devastating a tragedy as many believe? Only a nostalgic fool, Harris asserts, would want to prevent it from happening, since the flourishing of traditional forms of gay culture depends on the persistence of oppression. Nevertheless, he writes, "the process of assimilation is unpleasant, and we recoil from the sight of the extreme homogenization of American culture, of a monolithically uniform melting pot gobbling up its minorities . . . It is this complex and ambivalent attitude toward assimilation, toward both its necessity and its ultimate ruinous impact on us as a minority, that marks the pages of this book."

At the very moment when many observers maintain that gay culture is reaching its most "mature" and self-aware form, *THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE* claims that it is actually on the verge of extinction. A confrontational and brilliantly inventive work of cultural criticism comparable to Wayne Koestenbaum's *The Queen's Throat* and Camille Paglia's *Sexual Personae*, it is certain to stimulate heated debate on the issue of assimilation, both inside and outside the gay community.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Daniel Harris writes regularly for Harper's, *Salmagundi*, the *Antioch Review*, and *Newsday*. His work has also appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Nation*, and *The Washington Post*. In addition, his work has been reprinted in *Best American Essays of 1993* and *The Anchor Essay Annual 1997*. In 1993, Harris won *The Southwest Review's* award for best essay of that year. He lives in Brooklyn, New York. He can be seen reading from his book on-line on VoiceChannel.



Mind's Eye Photography
by Judith Nicholson-Jeffries

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SELECTIONS FROM THE RISE AND FALL OF GAY CULTURE:

On gay bitchiness:

The fantasy of the vicious, back-stabbing vagina dentata, always quick on her feet, always ready to demolish her opponent with a stunning rejoinder, is the fantasy of a powerless minority that asserts itself through language, not physical violence. Straight men express aggression through fist fights and sports; gay men through quick-witted repartee and caustic remarks. Straight men punch; gay men quip. Straight men are barroom brawlers; gay men, bitches. Given the centrality to the subculture of the image of the arch queen, it is not an exaggeration to say that gay politics grew out of gay wittiness. Wittiness was the first very tentative step towards gay liberation, a vitriolic expression of discontent, of our disdain for American prudery, which we reviled through verbal protest, a compulsion to denigrate, to engage in cutthroat bickering, which eventually reached critical mass and led to concrete political action. Bitching, in other words, was a form of protopolitics.

On camp:

Camp is rooted in the gay man's profound disillusionment with celebrity culture. It expresses betrayal. It is the gleeful sadism of the fan who has been tricked, who discovers he has been complicit in an elaborate swindle, a monstrous lie, who realizes that his youthful cinematic fantasies are false. Out of this loss of innocence, homosexuals have created a

macabre form of ethnic humor in which they dance upon their former role models' graves, reliving again and again the hilarious realization that the diva was not a goddess, that she was flesh and blood, that she got fat just like they did, that she got wrinkled just like they did, that she had a miserable life and horrid children and crippling diseases. Gay diva worship is a cult that requires the blind faith of credulous fans who are content to kowtow and genuflect and never to even think of peeking behind the curtain. Camp is what happens when the curtain is lifted.

On the Kitschification of AIDS:

While all terminal illnesses are prone to sentimentalization, AIDS propaganda has been particularly heavy-handed because of the unusual circumstances in which activists were initially forced to raise money to pay for the enormous costs of research, treatment, and education. In the absence of federal support in the earliest stages of the epidemic, doctors, as well as leaders of the gay community, had to convince the private sector to bear the financial burden of hospital costs, a task they undertook by devising representations of AIDS that appealed to the broadest possible audiences. Because the American public was at best ambivalent, at worst actively hostile, to the first casualties of the disease, it had to be wooed, seduced, and placated with kitsch which activists used as the detergent in which such forbidden topics as anal sex, promiscuity, "bodily fluids," and recreational drug use were laundered. The need for kitsch was a direct consequence of the need for funding, and the more money that was needed, the kitschier the disease became. By packaging the epidemic in clichés, activists reduced potential donors to a state of maximum susceptibility to the plight of the disease's victims, who were paraded before us like mistreated animals at a carnival.

On the gay man's vs. the straight man's body:

In contrast to the gay body, the straight man's body has an extremely short period of perfection, coming to fruition for a few brief years in his teens and early twenties and then quickly sliding into a state of irreversible decline

in which he gains weight, loses muscle tone, and then, within months, spreads and sags into premature old age. The speed with which the heterosexual's body goes to seed testifies to his lack of vanity and self-preoccupation, the girlish narcissism that leads the homosexual to mummify himself in the quack cures of consumerism. In contrast to the careless blue-collar slob, gay men are timeless vampires, Dorian Greys who flaunt their perennial good looks even as their once youthful portraits, locked away in their attics, shrivel and turn to dust. Having become the slave of consumerism, which fed his fears of getting old, the gay man launches a restless, lifelong effort to rid himself of his guilty sense of fakeness, of artificiality, and to recover his "naturalness," which he restores through a series of elaborately costumed impersonations.

On the origins of gay liberation:

Long before homosexuals were accepted by mainstream society, we had become so financially useful to the business world that our integration as respectable Americans was inevitable, for how could any ethnic group that contributed as heavily as we did to the nation's economy be ostracized forever? Gay men achieved economic viability years before they

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achieved political viability. Indeed, the question arises whether gay liberation would even have occurred had society not first recognized our potential as a source of revenue and therefore realized that, because we were less profitable as second-class citizens, it had a vested interest in our assimilation. Liberation happened, not only because drag queens hurled Molotov cocktails, set trash cans ablaze, and uprooted parking meters at Stonewall, but also because we had become too valuable to corporate America to be ignored, relegated to the exclusive fiefdoms that the Mafia had established in every major city. . . . We are inclined to look at gay liberation as the sole factor leading to our acceptance into society, as if we had achieved the progress we have made in gay rights exclusively by locking horns with our enemies and putting up stiff resistance in the face of brutality, when in fact the preconditions for the strides we have made are far more complex. It is not an accident that we were accepted by mainstream America first as consumers and only second as morally respectable citizens. The one did not simply precede the other, it made it possible.

On nostalgia for the gay sensibility:

As the gay sensibility begins to collapse, a tremendous amount of nostalgia is generated among certain homosexual purists who want to protect their ethnic heritage from cooptation, from the pillaging of grave robbers. They cling sentimentally to relics of their history like curators and archaeologists bent on salvaging indigenous subcultural rituals from their destruction at the hands of careless tourists. Sentimentalization is a symptom of the subculture's decline. It represents the wistful longings of a group witnessing the sunset of a sensibility, seeking to intervene in its preservation long after the irreversible process of its absorption by straight society has been set in motion. Our exasperated cries of protest are a requiem for gay culture, an elegy composed by a community in mourning for itself, lamenting its own passing, beating its breast and tearing its hair as stately pallbearers carry the casket into the mausoleum.

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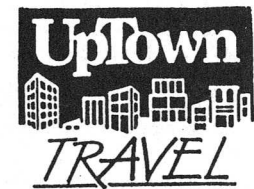
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As you can see from our Gay Travel Calendar listings, the Gay Games in Amsterdam is fast approaching. Limited space is still available for this event of a lifetime, so avoid disappointment! If you are at all interested in attending this event, make yourself known to Mark soon!

The Gay Travel Calendar
Your Guide to Upcoming Events Worldwide

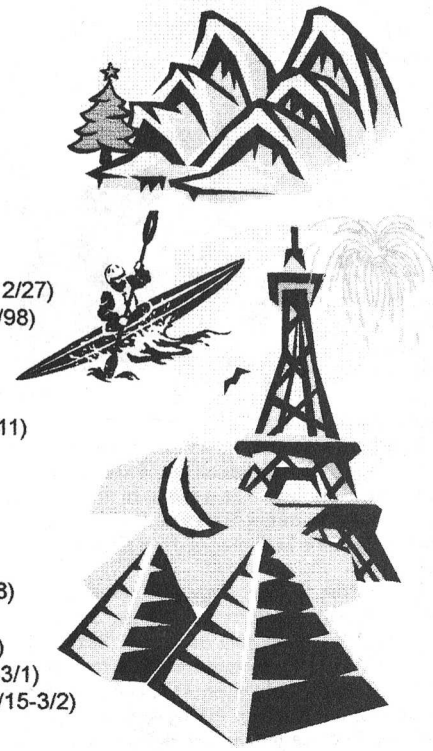
NOVEMBER:
Thailand Adventure (11/5 - 11/18)
Holy Land Tour (11/6 - 11/16)
Club RSVP - Mexico (11/18 - 11/15)

DECEMBER:
South America Cruise (12/1-12/23)
Christmas Shopping in London (12/4-12/10)
Ancient Egypt (12/19-12/29)
Caribbean Cruise (12/20-12/27)
1997 Caribbean Cruise on the QE2! (12/21-12/27)
Creole Christmas in New Orleans (12/22-1/2/98)
Christmas Down Under (12/23-1/2)
New Year's Eve in Paris (12/23-1/3)
Baja Sea Kayaking (12/26-1/6)
Gay & Lesbian tour to South Africa (12/27-1/11)
Bal des Boys - Montreal (12/31)

JANUARY 1998:
Ancient Egypt (1/16-1/26)
Gay & Lesbian Caribbean Explorer (1/19-1/28)
India (1/25-2/9)
HERO Festival '98 - New Zealand (2/13-2/28)
RSVP Caribbean Cruise (2/15-2/20 OR 2/20-3/1)
South East Asia (Including Gay Thailand!) (2/15-3/2)

GAY GAMES IN AMSTERDAM (8/1-8/8)

For further listings,
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Listings are available until early 1998.
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TRAVEL



RIO WELCOMES GAYS & LESBIANS!

- A SHORT TOUR OF THE CITY, THE NIGHTLIFE AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Rio de Janeiro has been a favorite gay travel destination for decades. Falling in love with the city and its people is very easy. Cosmopolitan Cariocas keep a friendly attitude towards gays and lesbians, making you feel welcome virtually everywhere! Language should not be a barrier, as most people you will deal with can at least communicate in English.

Make friends with locals at the beach. In

Copacabana there is a gay area known as "Bolsa". It is almost across from landmark Copacabana Palace Hotel. Ipanema's gay beach is a little to the east of Farne de Amoedo Street. Farne Gay is definitely more fashionable than Copacabana's Bolsa.

In addition to local stars and the occasional international celebrity (such as Jean Paul Gaultier), this is Barbie territory. Before you ask, Barbie is a term used by locals to describe muscular South Side gays. It is not considered offensive, but don't go asking well-built guys if they are Barbies just to break the ice...

If you are not exactly a day person, night life is teeming with endless possibilities. We suggest starting early with a round-up of the gay bars and cruisy spots. Dance the night away at the

clubs and enjoy shows, performances and specials every night. Rave parties are a top alternative for your weekends. They may attract as many as 2,000 people to docks and renovated warehouses downtown. Local DJ's are always coming up with the latest sounds, and stars from NY and Europe are frequently invited.

And then there's also samba, Carnival, New Year's Eve... So much to do and see!

Top Dance Clubs

After working on your tan at Ipanema Beach, enjoying a delicious meal at a favorite restaurant, and visiting the coolest gay bars and cruisy areas it's time to party! You won't be disappointed - there are different clubs to go to every night of the week! As most smart travelers stay in Ipanema, Leblon and Copacabana, this is where our journey begins.

The first stop is right at the North End of Copacabana, near Arpoador and Ipanema, in an area known as Posto Seis. Galeria Alaska is still where it used to be, but times have changed. Sótão, the big gay disco of the 70's and early 80's was closed down long ago. For almost a decade Teatro Alaska was home to the all-male burlesque hit *A Night with the Leopards*. Now it caters to a different crowd, with musical

shows featuring various local artists.

We did not come here on a nostalgia trip, though. We want you to start at the most popular gay disco of the moment - Le Boy, at Rua Raul Pompéia. Frenchman Gilles is the owner of this club, open every night of the week. There are shows at 1:30 a.m. on weekdays and Sundays. Friday's and Saturdays feature an assortment of go-go's doing their stuff. As many as three different dance floors are open at special parties, such as Carnival or New Year's Balls. Many South Side gays and Ipanema Barbies like to hang out here. There are live music shows at Le Boy Bar, and if you are lucky you may see a performance with cult singer Angela Ro-Ro - one of the first openly lesbian artists in Brazil.

There is also a new bar named Blue Angel on

the beach block Rua Júlio de Castilhos. It is a sort of a neighborhood gay bar, with music, some dancing among the tables, good drinks and special snacks. The atmosphere is very friendly. Since you are in the neighborhood, stop by and check it out. The décor features a number of antiques - one of the owners used to run an antique store.

Incontrus is another top gay disco in Copacabana. It is also open every night, and with shows at 1:30 a.m. Some performers, like drag queen Rose BonBon, can be seen at both Le Boy and Incontrus at different nights. You will find it around Serzedelo Correa Square, near Siqueira Campos. Incontrus is just a couple of blocks away from Copacabana's Bolsa, with recommended gay bars and cafés. La Cueva, a traditional gay staple in town next to Brigitte Blair theater, is still where it's always been. Rave parties in Copa are also hot, but that's another story...

Our next stop is Botafogo, a neighborhood with a visible gay population. There are a number of bars lined up along Rua Visconde Silva, and the place is popularly known as Baixo Gay. The dance scene is also interesting. Dr. Smith, the hot disco of the early 90's is closed down. The new addition - Guetto, is open weekly from Thursday to Sunday. It attracts a mixed crowd,

and there are guest DJ's and special attractions. Orna Washington, who used to host the drag show at Papagaio in the good old 80's, sometimes performs here. Girls are also very welcome.

From Friday to Sunday another interesting option is a sort of sleazy joint downtown named Boêmio. Standing right across from the American Consulate, and functions as a natural food restaurant during the day. At night it's a whole different story, though. Dance music, many transvestites, and the big event: performer Laura de Vison. Laura in a Mink is the Brazilian version of John Water's Divine. She is heavy, fun and sooo filthy... On her shows she sings, dances, and invites special guests.

There are gay discos in other areas of Rio. If you think you already know everything try Niterói, the city across the bay. It can easily be reached by car or taxi. Vollúpya and He-Man are the two gay highlights we found in the City of Smiles. Mean Cariocas say that the city earned its nickname because residents smile embarrassed when asked where they live, but the truth is that Niterói does have its charms (like the view to Rio...).

If you feel adventurous you may try Boate 1140 in Jacarepaguá, off- Barra. Please make sure you go with someone who knows how to get



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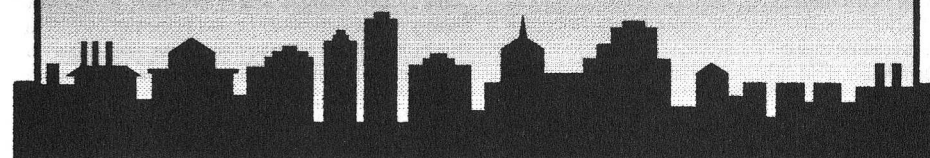
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there, though, or you will get lost along the way. As you are passing by Barra, you might as well stop and see what is going on at Gaivota's, another gay & lesbian club beyond the tunnels. It is a favorite with girls, and it is the only club in Rio with tea-parties on Sundays -- the most popular day.

Cariocas have a late dinner, around 8 or 9. Nightclubs and rave parties are never really busy before midnight.



Celebrating at Carnival

Drag Queens From Ipanema

Of all Rio de Janeiro street bands, Banda de Ipanema is the one that attracts the largest number of drag queens every year. You will run into Carmen Miranda, Snow White, Wonder Woman, Superman, even the Little Mermaid. Costumes may be glamorous, bizarre or

anything in-between. The results are hilarious!

Some drags flaunt a different outfit every day, while others impersonate the same character the whole Carnival through. You never really know what to expect from them, either. They will stop the traffic, hop on busses to kiss the driver... You'd better lock the doors, or they may go right into your car and sit on your lap!

Street Carnival is free, meaning you don't need to buy tickets, or anything like that. People from all over the world come to Rio's favorite neighborhood to participate. Banda de Ipanema opens Carnival in Rio two weeks before the official date - just the excuse you needed to arrive earlier and stretch your stay. Enjoy!

Accommodations Downtown

Downtown Rio, or Centro (scen-trow), as the street signs say, is where Rio started to grow.

When Rio de Janeiro was the capital of the country, this is where the big decisions were made. Many major Brazilian and international companies keep their headquarters in the downtown area. Not surprisingly, many business travellers like to stay here. There are many hotels, especially in the budget category. Several interesting landmark buildings and museums are waiting to be explored. Some districts, like Cinelândia, are quite charming. Green parks and squares are an additional attraction. Night life is booming, with lots of clubs, samba halls, and cool rave parties. Av. Beira Mar is the name of the strip bordering Guanabara Bay.

Flamengo

As we leave downtown, Av. Beira Mar changes names to Praia do Flamengo. Praia is the Brazilian Portuguese word for beach, but Flamengo Beach is along the Guanabara Bay -- and thus unsuitable for swimming. The view is magnificent, though. From here you can see the Yacht Club at Urca, just across the bay. Marina da Glória is just next door. Flamengo has a reclaimed area featuring a huge green park named Parque do Flamengo. There are bicycle trails, museums and free sports courts. This is a neighborhood with tradition, many interesting buildings and cultural activities, several hotels, and it does have its charms. As this is a quick tour, we will keep on riding, and soon we will arrive at ...

Botafogo

As we leave Praia do Flamengo, we will take street Praia do Botafogo, bordering the Guanabara Bay. Take a closer look at the dazzling view, -- sailboats, yachts, the famous cable cars on the Sugarloaf... Time to stop and take a few shots. Botafogo has a rich night life, a lot of personality, and a terrible traffic. There are many cultural centers, health clinics and schools in the area. Not many hotels or flats, but we found a very reasonably priced Youth Hostel! Well, let's go through a short tunnel and on our left we will see one of Rio's pearls.

Leme

Leme is Copacabana's left brother, if you are facing the beach, that is. Av. Princesa Isabel is the borderline, connecting Leme and Copacabana to Botafogo through that tunnel we have just gone through. Leme Beach, with a family atmosphere you will love, reportedly has the cleanest waters in Rio. There are many good restaurants, hotels,

and a bustling night life just across the street! For the single and lonely, Lido's go-go circuit is quite near... Being almost as centrally located as Copacabana, Leme is one of the areas we highly recommend. Now we will take a right turn on Av. Atlântica and go straight into...

Copacabana

This is an area that hardly needs any introductions. It is unquestionably one of Rio's favorites. The Princess of the Sea has just turned 100 and is looking younger than ever with its latest facelift! The avenue along the beach is named Av. Atlântica, and it has been one of the most prestigious addresses in Rio since the golden 40's. It features many first class hotels, charming beachside cafés, and a very busy night scene throughout the year. This is a self-sufficient neighborhood, meaning all conveniences are within walking distance. There is a little (and sometimes a lot) of everything. It has more hotels than any other neighborhood in Rio, including many top budget choices. There are great restaurants, a number of apartment hotels, discos, go-go bars, movie theaters, theaters... Top choice!

Arpoador

Between Copacabana and Ipanema there is a proud little gem named Arpoador. With two beaches and a park to boast, it is very pretty. There are top restaurants, bars, and 24-hour convenience stores nearby. Ipanema and Copacabana are only a few steps away! Excellent hotels and apartment hotels are available.

Ipanema

Tall and tan and young forever... Ipanema spells love at first sight. It is one of those places that will leave a permanent impression on you. Cariocas are very proud of its free, avant-garde attitude. Ipanema Beach is a world legend. Shoppers and travelers from all corners of the world love to explore the first class boutiques and visit the diamond block, featuring the world headquarters of H. Stern jewellers and two top gem museums! Next one in line is also a favorite in town!

Leblon

Av. Vieira Souto becomes Av. Delfim Moreira after a shallow canal named Jardim de Alah (Allah's Gardens). It is the main link between the Lake (Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas) and the

Atlantic Ocean. When the tide is high, fishermen throw their nets and actually catch fish here. Leblon is as fashionable and as affluent as its beach sister Ipanema. Leblon is centrally located, has excellent night life possibilities, first-rate shopping areas, restaurants, shopping, all conveniences within walking distance, etc. Top choice! A part of it is almost strictly residential - the Alto Leblon (Upper Leblon), with spacious upper-class apartments, and many mansions. And talking about mansions...

São Conrado

Keeping on our ride along the Atlantic Coast, we'll take Av. Niemeyer and end up in São Conrado. São Conrado has a number of posh buildings lined up along the beach, and a couple of top resort hotels. There are Hollywood-style mansions, two excellent golf greens, hang-gliders decorating the sky, a premium upper-class shopping mall, and a billionaire strip (Rua Ipozeiras). It is also home to the largest popular community in South America, Rocinha (roh-sinia). The beach is gorgeous, but unfortunately it as well is often unsuitable for swimming. You will need a taxi or car to move around, as regular busses in the area are definitely a no-no.

Barra

After a couple of tunnels, and one of the world's most scenic overpasses ever, we arrive at Barra da Tijuca. Barra is a sort of a self-contained city. It doesn't look much like the other parts of Rio, as it was planned for drivers, not pedestrians. Rent yourself a car if you're planning to stay here. The beach is gorgeous, unpolluted, with over 10 miles of coarse white sand. It is a sort of a surfer's dream come true. Here is the land of megamalls, including the largest one in Latin America with its own monorail system. There are 3 huge megamarkets, several self-sufficient condos... any similarities to North Miami Beach are not coincidental. Make sure to include a visit to Barra on your plans. Not many hotels, but quite a few apartment hotels to choose from.

Even if you are coming to town strictly on business, and just for a couple of days, you deserve to enjoy the best the city has to offer: its healthy, beach-oriented way of life. Hope you enjoyed the tour, now come see Rio with your own two eyes!

Planning a vacation in Rio? Try to get the best deal you can with a trustworthy travel agent, or use the free services of the Rio Hotels Reservation Center available on the world wide web. We hope to see you soon!

Why Did Robbie Kirkland Have To Die?

by Doreen Cudnik

Cleveland--During the early morning hours of Thursday, January 2, fourteen-year-old Robbie Kirkland walked through his sister Claudia's bedroom and climbed the stairs to the attic. He had gone into his father's room earlier the same day, where he found the key to the lock on his father's gun. Before walking away with the weapon and some ammunition, he put the keys back exactly where he had found them.

Alone with his secret and the loaded gun, Robbie decided once and for all to put an end to the life that caused him so much sadness and confusion. Pulling the trigger, he reasoned, would stop the turmoil he felt inside. He wouldn't have to keep his secret anymore.

Robbie Kirkland had grown weary of being different. He was gay; and in Robbie Kirkland's mind, death seemed like the easier option.

"Robbie was a very loving, gentle boy," said his mother Leslie Sadasivan, a registered nurse who lives in the affluent Cleveland suburb of Strongsville with her husband, Dr. Peter Sadasivan, their four-year-old daughter Alexandria, and until his death, Robbie.

She remembered her only son as a very bright boy who was a good writer and an avid reader. "He wrote beautiful poetry . . . he was a very sweet, loving son."

Taught diversity at home

While she was pregnant with Robbie, Leslie's marriage to her first husband, FBI agent John Kirkland, was in serious trouble. She had a difficult pregnancy and nearly miscarried. But with her strong faith to sustain her, she persevered, and on February 22, 1982 gave

birth to a healthy baby boy by Caesarean section.

"Because my marriage was suffering at the time, I felt like Robbie was God's gift to me. I saw this child as part of the reason I kept going. I had to . . . there was this helpless little baby."

She was divorced from Kirkland shortly after Robbie was born. When Robbie was two, she married her second husband, Peter Sadasivan. Robbie seemed to accept his step-dad and developed a close relationship with him over the years.

Robbie and his older sisters Danielle and Claudia were raised in a very religious, yet open and accepting home. (Danielle is presently away at college, and Claudia now lives at her father's Lakewood home, where Robbie was visiting the night he died.)

Because of her deep religious convictions and because her new husband was Indian, Leslie taught her children to respect people of all races and nationalities. This appreciation for diversity included gay and lesbian people.

She remembered a time when she hired a lesbian couple to put up wallpaper in their home. "I remember telling the kids, 'Now, you might see them give each other a hug or a kiss, and that's okay.'"

Conflicting messages outside

While Robbie had so many positive messages given to him at home, at the same time he was receiving conflicting messages from outside. He learned at a very young age that, unlike his mother, not everyone thought that being different was a good thing.

Faith played a large role in determining how Leslie Sadasivan raised her children. A devout Catholic, she took her kids with her to St. John Neumann Church, a large suburban parish that was dedicated the same year Robbie was born. She involved them all in youth-related church activities, and considered the tuition that was paid to provide her kids with a

Catholic education as an investment in their future.

"I saw it as a way to protect them and give them the best education," she said. "I also wanted them to be raised Catholic, because I do believe in the church. I don't believe in everything the church says, but I find my comfort and spirituality in the church. I wanted my children to have that foundation."

When Robbie was in the third grade at St. Joseph's school in Strongsville, he asked to be transferred to another school. He told his mother that the other kids were teasing him. He started the fourth grade at Incarnate Word Academy, the school that his sister Danielle was already attending. As he neared his last year at Incarnate Word, Robbie seemed to flourish academically as well as socially. He made friends and served on the student council.

But the poetry he wrote reflected a deep despair and sense of isolation that went well beyond the problems of most twelve year olds.

While Leslie does not know if the verbal harassment her son endured ever escalated to physical violence, a poem written by Robbie in 1994 appears to be a very chilling account of an assault:

I try to stand and walk
I fall to the hard, cold ground.
The others look and laugh at my plight
Blood pours from my nose, I am not a pretty sight
I try to stand again but fall
To the others I call
But they don't care . . .

As Robbie entered the eighth grade at Incarnate Word, he seemed, at least on the surface, to be surviving all the difficulties that accompany adolescence. Below the surface, however, Robbie had begun searching for answers to the nagging questions about his sexuality.

Exploring the Internet

On January 29, 1996, Robbie wrote a letter to his friend Jenine, a girl he met at Camp Christopher, a resident camp in Bath, Ohio run by the Diocese of Cleveland. Robbie told Jenine why other kids

teased him, and indicated that he was well aware of the price one has to pay for being different.

"I'll tell you why people made fun of me," he wrote. "You see, I talk different . . . I have a slight lisp (S's come out th's) and I'm kinda well, sucky at sports. So people (only like a few people) have called me gay. They don't mean it, if they did I'd be beat up by now. You see, everyone in our school is homophobic (including me)."

In the same letter, Robbie tells her about his new pastime, the America Online computer service. "I love AOL. My favorite thing to do is chat."

The Sadasivans had purchased a computer for Christmas 1995, giving Robbie access to the Internet, a lifeline for many gay and lesbian teens. Like most adolescent boys, regardless of their sexual orientation, Robbie found his way through cyberspace directly to the porn sites.

One day while he was on the computer with his four-year-old daughter, Peter Sadasivan was shocked when images of nude men appeared on the screen. Robbie admitted to downloading the photos, but told his mother an elaborate story about being "blackmailed" as a way to explain.

"At this point, I didn't suspect that he was gay, because he was saying that this man blackmailed him. He was crying telling me this story," Leslie said.

First suicide attempt

Whether it was the shame he felt about the discovery of the downloaded images, his ongoing battle with depression, or that he was really in over his head with the Internet, during the next few months, Robbie began to sink deeper and deeper into despair.

On February 24, 1996, two days after his fourteenth birthday, Robbie attempted suicide for the first time. He took thirty Tylenol pain capsules and went to sleep. In a suicide note left at the time, he wrote: "Whatever you find, I'm not gay."

Only Robbie knows what happened in the month since he wrote the letter saying he loved AOL, and the next letter dated February 26 where he told

Jenine that he had tried to commit suicide. But whatever it was, it frightened him.

Robbie wrote, "The reason why I tried to kill myself was because of stuff that happened that would take a novel to fill. I'll tell you a shortened version: 1. Every day now I fear for my life. 2. I fear on-line. 3. Something weird is going on with me and God--I don't like church masses but I still have faith in God."

He added, "Numbers one and two are connected."

John Kirkland remembers that the situation definitely got complicated as soon as the Internet came into play.

"I'm involved with investigations of people who entice both boys and girls through the Internet. Unfortunately, it's very common. I tried to explain to Robbie that people will try to get you to do all kinds of things through the Internet. But you can't be with a kid 24 hours a day."

Leslie began what would be an ongoing struggle

with her son about his Internet usage, and considered cutting him off completely. "Right from the beginning, he was going on-line more than we allowed. It's almost like he was addicted to the computer and on-line," she said. "I know now that he was going into these gay chat rooms."

On March 29, about a month after the Tylenol incident, Robbie ran away from home.

"He had somebody's number from on-line," his mom said. "He took a bus to Chicago, but because he wasn't street smart, he got scared and turned himself in." Robbie had been gone less than 24 hours when John Kirkland flew to Chicago to retrieve him.

According to his father, Robbie offered no rational explanations for his actions during the ride home, but instead "gave whatever reason he thought he could get away with."

"It was very frustrating to us," John said. "I think he said what he thought would work so people would get off his butt about the real reasons."

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Slowly, tentatively coming out

Clearly, Robbie's trip to Chicago alerted both his parents that their son was in serious trouble. His computer privileges were cut off, and shortly thereafter, he began seeing a therapist. Slowly and tentatively, Robbie began taking his first steps out of the closet, and his family began taking their first steps towards understanding.

Leslie describes her first reaction to Robbie's attempt to come out as denial. "I asked the therapist, 'What's going on here? Is he just confused?' And the therapist said, 'No, he's gay!'"

Slowly, Leslie moved towards acceptance and asked the therapist to recommend some resources for her son. "I said to the therapist, 'I don't care if my son's gay--I want him to be what God meant him to be.'"

Robbie's journey towards understanding and accepting his homosexuality was not an issue for his dad.

"I was not going to lose my son over it," John Kirkland said. "I told him honestly, 'Some people are not going to like you because of this, Rob,' and he already knew that. I told him, 'If you were out dealing drugs, or hurting people, or robbing people, then you and I would have big problem. But I'm not going to have a problem with you over something like this, Rob. If it's what you are, it's what you are.'"

His sisters and his parents all tried to let Robbie know that they loved him just the way he was. "However," John Kirkland said, "he had a tougher time accepting it himself."

Leslie recalled a conversation last May in which Robbie's therapist explained to her that being gay was not something Robbie was happy about. "He said that Robbie knew how hard this life was going to be--especially to survive the teenage years when you have to be so closeted because of what society says."

"I remember sitting down with him on the floor in his bedroom. I held his hand and said, Robbie, I am so very sorry. I didn't understand that this was not something you're happy about." Leslie apologized to her son and told him that she

loved him. "From then on I had a better understanding of what a struggle this was for him," she said.

Said no to support groups

Last summer, between eighth and ninth grade, Robbie found a way to get back on-line. He used a password that belonged to the father of his best friend, Christopher Collins, one of the few peers that Robbie told his secret to. Like Robbie's family, Christopher was open to the news.

"I just accepted it and decided not to stop being friends with him just because of one aspect of his personality," Christopher said.

Christopher's father stopped Robbie's access when he got the bill. Robbie paid him back for the on-line time and apologized for what he had done. Once again cut off from the computer, he began making calls to gay 900-number adult entertainment lines.

When his mother confronted him about the phone bill, again Robbie was apologetic.

"He was always very sorry," Leslie said. "Everything else in his life had always been honest and decent--I always trusted him. This behavior was uncharacteristic for him. This was the one thing that he felt he had to lie about because it was part of his expression of being gay."

Leslie suggested having a gay friend come over and talk to Robbie, and offered to take him to PRYSM, a support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. Robbie said no to both. "I think he was fearful that his cover would be blown," Leslie said.

Macho culture in high school

After graduating from the eighth grade, Leslie let Robbie choose which high school he wanted to attend. He tested well enough to be offered a full scholarship to St. Edward High School in Lakewood, not far from his father's home. Instead, he chose St. Ignatius High School, a Jesuit preparatory school in Cleveland's near west side known for its academic excellence as well as its

championship football program.

"He wanted to be a writer, and he felt that St. Ignatius was the best," Leslie said.

Choosing Ignatius also meant he would be going to school with Christopher Collins, and since Robbie had been having problems, Leslie felt that it would be best for him to be around at least one friend. Each day began with getting the boys off to school, and Leslie and Christopher's mom Sharon took turns making the 40-minute trek into the city.

Robbie's oldest sister Danielle is a sophomore at Miami University in Oxford. She remembered her women's studies instructor, Marcie Knopf, coming out to the class on the first day, and asked her about resources for Robbie.

"One of Danielle's biggest concerns was that she had gone to an all-girls Catholic high school, and she had a sense that for Robbie, entering the ninth grade at a Catholic all-boys high school was a really dangerous and scary thing," Knopf said.

"I'm familiar with the atmosphere at St. Ignatius," Danielle said. "They're very homophobic and driven by masculinity. The few guys that I did know that were gay had to really make a statement about it in order to survive. If a guy's sexuality was called into question, it was a very big deal. I just didn't think that it would be good atmosphere for Robbie."

Danielle was also concerned that Robbie always "had more girl friends than guy friends, and he wouldn't have them there."

Robbie's other sister Claudia, a senior at Magnificat High School in Rocky River, was also well aware of what

her younger brother might be up against. She made the senior St. Ignatius boys that she knew promise not to harass Robbie.

"I told them, 'He's nice, he's sensitive, don't be mean to him!'"

An unfortunate crush

Unfortunately, though, Claudia could not make all Ignatius boys promise to be nice to her brother, and one in particular made his life miserable.

"Robbie had a crush on a boy who was a jock, a football player," his mother said. "This kid was not gay and this kid teased him."

According to Claudia, Robbie knew better than to tell this boy about his crush. "He never really said much about it," she said "He told me he had a crush on this boy, but said that he knew he couldn't tell him or do anything about it." He indicated that knew he was in for a long four years when he said to Claudia, "You know, it's hard to be gay at St. Ignatius."

Besides Christopher, Robbie had told two other Ignatius boys that he was gay. News tends to travel in any high school.

Rejected by the church

The family continued to stay involved in Robbie's

coming out process, reading books that had been recommended by Knopf. They got in touch with Cleveland area resources for gay and lesbian youth and their families, and planned on looking into a church that would accept Robbie just the way he was. Robbie had begun to express his displeasure with the Catholic church. Whether or not he was aware that the catechism of the Catholic church had declared his desires "intrinsicly disordered," and "contrary to natural law," he clearly understood that he was not accepted the way he was.

"A few months before he died," his mother recalled, "Robbie said, 'Do I have to go to church? The Catholic church does not accept me, why should I go to it?' At that point I said, 'Robbie, we can find a church that does accept you, that's fine, we can go to a different church.' But he still went with me to Catholic church with a little bit of protest at the end."

Last November, Robbie signed on to the Prodigy computer service using his mother's checking account and driver's license. Leslie found out about it on the Monday before Christmas. A week later, on December 30, she and Robbie's therapist discussed getting him into PRYSM again, and for the first time, Robbie was agreeable. "It was like he said, 'Okay, Mom's finally going to force me to go to PRYSM!'"

The therapist also told Leslie that, in the meantime, she should put locks on the computer room door and "treat Robbie like a two year old."

Earlier in December, Leslie had also taken Robbie to a psychiatrist who was also gay. "I was glad he was gay," Leslie said of the doctor. "I thought he could be an excellent role model for Robbie."

The doctor prescribed Zoloft, an anti-depressant that takes about four to six weeks before it becomes effective.

Leslie said she grieved that things seemed to happen just a little too late to save her son. Robbie would have attended his first PRYSM meeting at noon on Saturday, January 4, but two days earlier, he was dead. The day Robbie was buried, Leslie had to cancel the locksmith who was to install the lock on the computer room door.

Called to save other boys

Not able to save her son, Leslie felt "called by God" to reach out to other boys like him. The day of her son's wake, Father James Lewis from St. Ignatius met Leslie at the funeral home.

"I mentioned to him about Robbie being gay. I said, 'You must help these boys--you know you have other Robbies at your school.' He agreed that there were other gay students. I said, 'Please tell those who are not nice to gay people to change and learn to be kind and sensitive. Tell those who are already being nice that they are doing God's work.' He just listened to me, and said that the school teaches kindness to all people."

She also asked Father F. Christopher Esmurdoc, an associate pastor at St. John Neumann Church, to say that Robbie was gay and deliver a eulogy that would speak of the importance of being accepting of gay and lesbian people. For whatever reason, he did not.

In the following weeks, Leslie began the long and painful process of putting together pieces of the puzzle that might explain what had happened to push her son over the edge. She wonders if things might have been different if she would have gone into Robbie's room prior to his death. Instead, acting on the advice of the therapist, she was trying to respect her son's privacy.

"I would have found the suicide note. I would have found out how obsessed he was with this boy."

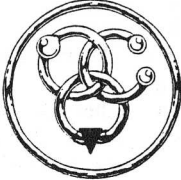
Robbie's therapist told her how he had said that getting over the boy had "left an empty spot in his heart." "But truly," his mother said, "he was not over this boy."

Leslie was further grieved when Christopher told her about some rumors that had been circulating around the St. Ignatius campus. One of them was that the boy that Robbie had a crush on was telling other students that Robbie had written "F**k you" to him in his suicide note.

"This boy never even saw the note," Leslie said. The message that Robbie did leave for this boy was, "You caused me a lot of pain, but hell, love

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hurts. I hope you have a wonderful life."

Leslie called the boy's mother to find out if there was any truth to another rumor that Robbie had spoken to her son on the telephone at 3:00 a.m. the day he died.

"The mother was fearful that if it got out that Robbie liked this kid, it would ruin this kid's reputation--that if the other kids knew, then they might think that her kid was gay. Her concern was that her son would be perceived as gay and would be teased and ridiculed. I said to this woman, 'Please, I just buried my son. Please don't scream at me'."

St. Ignatius declined gay talk

Hoping to have some goodness come from Robbie's death, Leslie spoke with Rory Henessy, who is in charge of discipline at St. Ignatius, and the school's principal, Richard Clark.

"I told Mr. Henessy the same thing that I told Father Lewis at the funeral home--that there are other Robbies at their school. I told him that Robbie's therapist offered to talk to the school. I said I would come and read something about Robbie's life and about his being gay."

The school has politely declined Leslie's offers, and principal Clark reiterated that the "message of the school is kindness and tolerance." He also said that St. Ignatius is planning to do a mass that will focus on the issue of suicide.

"The funny part of all this," Leslie said, "is that Robbie would have wanted to stay in the closet." "I see him laughing at me, saying 'Oh, mom, this is my mom--always trying to help people.'"

"I'm not a public person, but I would read on a loudspeaker if it would help one boy out there," she added.

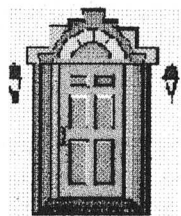
Leslie feels no bitterness toward the school or the church, and wants only good things to come out of this tragedy. "Me and his sisters and his father, and his other father, we all feel that this is a terrible tragedy that we have to live without him for the rest of our lives. We feel that there are all these other Robbies in the world, and if

we can somehow help just one of them. Not just the Robbies, but the people that treat the Robbies badly. If we can help them in any way, then we feel called by God to do it. This is hard for me, I'm not an articulate person. I'm just a mom who loved her son.

John Kirkland is equally as passionate about telling his son's story, and in time, plans to become active with PRYSM or P-FLAG.

"I would tell any parent that I can reach that I tried, and I still lost my son, and it's something that's going to hurt every day for the rest of my life. You can lose them in other ways too. It'll hurt just as much if you lose your son because you alienate him as it hurt me because my son killed himself. You may not think it now, but believe me it's going to. And one day you're going to wake up and realize: That little boy or that little girl I raised, I lost them. I lost them because I couldn't accept them. Is it worth that?"

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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. E.

HIV Clinic - 2nd Floor

Duke St. Clinic - (ACCKWA)

-by appointment only
Telephone: 883-2251

-walk-in first come, first served
Thursday 4pm. - 7pm.

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

-walk-in: first come, first served

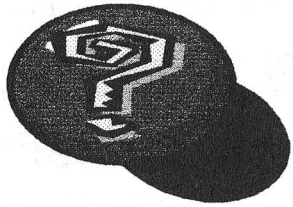
-Tuesday 3 - 5pm.

-Monday & Thursday 3 -6pm.

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

For more information call 883-2251

AIDS/STD Program



What's Happening?



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-██████████ for more information.



COMING OUT DISCUSSION GROUP

GLLOW Coming Out Discussion Group has the following meetings upcoming:

July 16 - Talking About Safer Sex

July 23 - The Role of the Internet and Other Media in Coming Out

July 30 - Same Sex Couples & Marriage & Parenting

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

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 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: 9:00 - 10:00p.m.

Fridays:
Swim 7:30 - 8:30p.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) ██████████



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.



ACGWC DANCE

The AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County is holding monthly dances the first Saturday of every month. These dances are for the gay, lesbian and bisexual community; and their friends. The cost is \$5.00 at the door and the start time is 9:00 p.m. Look for a different theme each month with door prizes, raffles and munchies at midnight. Please call the office at (519) 763-2255 for the location. Our next dances will be held *Saturday, Aug. 2, and Saturday, September 6.* Come on and have a great time

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DANCE ON WATER

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Simcoe County (GLAS) presents...Dance on Water.

-Saturday, August 30, 1997 at 9:00 p.m.

-on the Serendipity Princess at the Barrie City Dock

-tickets now available: \$15 for single or \$25 for couples

For more info. and tickets please call Barb at (705) ██████████

Peter at (705) ██████████ or call G.L.A.S. toll free at 1-800-██████████

AIDS WALK '97

It's time once again to start filling out those pledge sheets.

On Sunday, September 28, join thousands of Canadians just like you in the walk to raise funds and fight AIDS. Pledge sheets are available at ACCKWA. Call the office at 570-3687 and arrange to pick yours up.

You'll walk 'til your shoes fall off, have fun and make a difference! ...and remember, all pledges collected in our area stay in our area!

Club Renaissance

**New Paint!
New Paper!
New Attitude!
Same Great Service!**

Come on down to the Newly Renovated Club Renaissance. 24 Charles Street West. Downtown Kitchener (519) 570-2406

Thanks to everyone who made our 3rd Anniversary Party a Great Success!

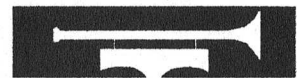
classifieds

House To Share



Beautiful old house to share with lesbian couple near Waterloo Square. Huge bedroom, separate livingroom with gas fireplace, laundry facilities. \$325.00 inclusive. Please call ██████████

Announcements



Thank You!

The Regional Pride Committee of Waterloo-Wellington would like to thank everyone who helped make our 3rd Annual Regional Pride '97 celebration on June 26th so enjoyable. Please send any comments or suggestions for next year's celebration to Regional Pride Committee, c/o 65 Westmount Rd. N., Unit 201, Waterloo, ON N2L 5G6.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD... UP TO 30 WORDS \$5 CALL ██████████ OR E-MAIL: OUTLOOK@EASYNET.ON.CA

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

Community Information



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

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

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 email 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

OUTline
A new support and resource phone line for people dealing with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues at the University of Guelph, in the City of Guelph and the surrounding area. Phone lines open every evening; Sunday thru Thursday, 7 to 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 6-9 p.m. Call (519) 836-4550 or email us at: outline@uoguelph.ca

PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) has a local chapter centred in Guelph that meets every third Friday of the month. For more information, call Grace or Bill at (519) [redacted] or Evie at (519) [redacted] or Sue at (519) [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
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/



Support Local Gay Radio!

Monday- Out & About with your hosts Dave Callandar and Alan Fraser airs every Monday from 9:00 - 10:00pm 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. **Fag Factory** with your host Adam airs at 2pm on Thursdays on CFRU 93.3 FM.

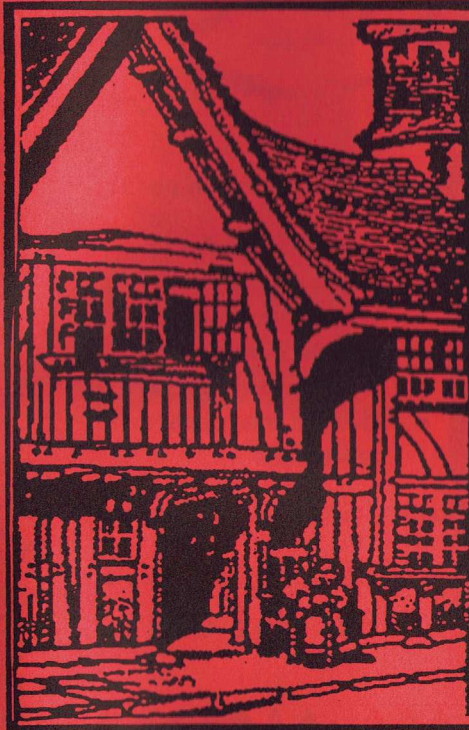
If you know of an organization that should be listed in Community Info, call 570-3453 or email us at outlook@easynet.on.ca

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