
10% (1994-1995)


Periodicals

Winter 3-1995

10% 03/1995

10% Enterprises

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/ten_p

 Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), and the [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

10% Enterprises, "10% 03/1995" (1995). *10% (1994-1995)*. 1.
https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/ten_p/1

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Periodicals at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in 10% (1994-1995) by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.

10%

Maine's monthly newspaper for lesbians & gay men

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2
MARCH 1995

In this issue...

MSEA contract victory
"Spring for Life"
Women's Film & Video Festival
Radical right groups
Oscar Wilde
HIV and teen suicide bills
Lavender Land Utopia

Supreme Court to hear Colorado appeal

by Rebecca Foster
Editor

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court said Feb. 21 that it will hear Colorado's appeal of a ruling that declared the state's controversial anti-gay rights amendment to be unconstitutional.

The justices agreed to review a Colorado Supreme Court ruling last year that the measure denies gays equal protection under the law. The ruling rejected the argument that the amendment was a valid exercise of state power.

The high court action to hear the case could have far-reaching implications for gay rights battles around the country. The justices will hear arguments in the case in the term starting in October, with a decision likely in 1996.

If the Supreme Court upholds Colorado's ruling, it could nullify or overturn any successful anti-gay referendum effort in Maine.

The amendment, blocked by the courts from taking effect, would have invalidated gay rights laws in Denver, Boulder and Aspen that barred discrimination in jobs and housing based on sexual orientation.

The AIDS Project plans "Spring for Life" auction

PORTLAND - The AIDS Project (TAP) marked its 10th anniversary with a fundraising reception Saturday, January 21. The reception was hosted by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maine and kicked off a year-long commemoration of TAP's work and history.

Several speakers recounted their involvement in TAP's history, including current TAP executive director Deborah Shields who thanked the over 200 day-to-day volunteers that provide services to people with AIDS/HIV. Frannie Peabody accepted a special proclamation from the Maine State Legislature commemorating TAP's 10 years of service from State Representative Herb Adams. Entertainment was provided by the Maine Gay Men's Chorus.

This month, the AIDS Project holds
continued on page 4

CMF sends fundraising letter; targets AG, Diversity Commission

by Terri Jones
Editor

PORTLAND - Letters signed by Carolyn Cosby and Lawrence Lockman soliciting funds for Concerned Maine Families were mailed during the early part of February. As expected, the letters continue familiar CMF claims including the "affluence of the gay community", and that CMF is defending the integrity of the referendum process and civil rights legislation.

A particular target of the letters is the Report of the Governor's Commission to Promote the Understanding of Diversity in Maine released in December 1994. CMF's Vice Chairman, Lawrence Lockman accuses the Commission of proposing a "gay militant-dominated 'Thought Police' brigade empowered to investigate and harass Maine people for any expression of alleged 'homophobia'?"

The letter calls the report a "master plan...for a sweeping new program of gay affirmative action, including taxpayer subsidies to homosexual-owned businesses," that would create "set-asides of Community Development Block Grants," for any business claiming to be gay-owned.

The letter also repeats earlier CMF claims that the Attorney General's Office has inflated the numbers of hate and bias crimes against gays and lesbians. "You may have heard news reports about the prevalence of 'hate crimes' in Maine. These stories are based on bogus statistics cooked up by the state Attorney General's Office. At taxpayer expense, attorneys working out of the AG's office have encouraged homosexuals to file anonymous complaints about non-criminal acts such as name-calling - and even published letters to the editor, if a letter is deemed to be 'homophobic,'" the letter states. "These so-called 'bias incident' complaints are then rolled in with reports of alleged hate crimes. The result is grossly exaggerated statistics implying that Maine is a hot-bed of anti-gay violence and bigotry."

When contacted by 10%, Lewiston Mayor and Diversity Commission
continued on page 4

AN OPEN LETTER FROM CMF'S VICE CHAIRMAN, LAWRENCE E. LOCKMAN

Dear Friend of CMF,

I want to take a moment to let you know how vitally important CMF's ballot initiative is to future of the Maine we all know and love.

You may have heard news reports about the prevalence of "hate crimes" in Maine. These stories are based on bogus statistics cooked up by the state Attorney General's Office. At taxpayer expense, attorneys working out of the AG's office have encouraged homosexual to file anonymous complaints about non-criminal acts such as name-calling - even published letters to the editor, if the letter is deemed to be "homophobic." These so-called "bias incident" complaints are then rolled in with reports of alleged hate crimes. The result is grossly exaggerated statistics implying that Maine is a hot-bed of anti-gay violence and bigotry.

These inaccurate and misleading statistics are the basis for gay militant claims to "victim" status in Maine. Now they want to force their ideology of gay liberation on every family, school, business, and church in our state.

Can you imagine having a state-funded, gay militant-dominated "Thought Police" brigade empowered to investigate and harass Maine people for any expression of alleged "homophobia?" Gay extremists and their allies in state government have already published a detailed blueprint for muffling any written or spoken opposition to their agenda.

Their master plan calls for a sweeping new program of gay affirmative action, including taxpayer subsidies to homosexual-owned businesses.

These shocking radical proposals are outlined in the report of the Commission to Promote the Understanding of Diversity in Maine. If enacted by the Legislature, the Diversity Commission's recommendations would grant protected minority status based merely on how people say they have sex. Any business claiming to be gay-owned or managed would be eligible to apply for the proposed minority "set-asides" of Community Development Block Grants.

The Diversity Commission proposals are nothing less than a colossal scam to help one of America's richest and politically powerful special interests steal from Maine's hard-pressed taxpayers.

CMF has taken the lead in exposing the fraud and duplicity of the gay rights movement, including the outrageous money and power grab outlined in the Diversity Commission report. Frankly, our Maine initiative is the last best hope for blocking legislative enactment of special status and affirmative action based on sexual orientation. We can close the door on the selfish demands of this selfish special interest group. But we can't do it without your help.

Your generous contribution will enable CMF to reach thousands of Maine voters with our expose of the Big Lie of gay extremists. Please accept my personal thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

[signature] Larry Lockman

P.S. So much depends on Maine! Gay militant lawyers have publicly stated that CMF's language is the most formidable challenge they've ever faced - one that could undo 45 years of gay activist gains - one that could set the terms of debate nationally. Please be as generous as you can. So much depends on us!

Copies of the Concerned Maine Families' fund-raising letter began appearing in Maine approximately February 9 asking for donations to help stop the "selfish demands" of "one of America's richest and politically powerful special interests."

The Furies, Portland's feminist theatre company, present....

"LeVender Land Utopia"

A new comedy by Marilee Ryan

with

**an original score by Cathy Poole and
Kate Austin and lyrics by Marilee Ryan**

Oak St. Theatre, Portland

March 24 8pm

March 25 10pm

March 31 10pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Wild Iris Productions proudly presents...



Ann Reed

Saturday, March 18, 8pm

First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland

\$13.50 in advance General Admission \$15 at the door

Tickets available from Drop Me A Line and Walkabout in Portland,

Macbeans in Brunswick and JKS Copyprinters in Belfast.

Special Reserved Seating, (\$18) available only by mail from:

Wild Iris Productions, P.O. Box 17, W. Buxton, ME 04093.

Sign-interpreted

Wheelchair accessible

Maine Won't Discriminate Update

Get involved, join your local chapter of MWD

New chapters of Maine Won't Discriminate have formed across the state making it easier than ever to get involved. Contact the chapter near you!

**Augusta-Hallowell, Contact Person - Cheryl Ring 626-0818,
Aroostook County, Contact Person - Dick Harrison 498-0900,**

Bangor, Contact Person - Jim Martin 990-3420,

Biddeford, Contact Person - Barry Horn 286-3718,

Brunswick-Bath, Contact Person - Punnie Edgerton 729-6429

**Hancock County, Contact People - Ruth Blackburn 276-0503
and Peter Rees 667-2358,**

Mid-Coast, Contact Person - Dorothy Merriweather 594-7873,

Ogunquit, Contact Person - John Cavaratta 646-2122,

**Portland, Contact People - Steve Addario, Jessica Maurer 761 -
1788 (please leave a message and your call will be returned),**

So. western Maine, Contact Person - Janice Campbell 625-3689,

Waldo County, Contact Person - Cary Leah MacLeod 338-4194,

Washington County, Contact People - Betty Deniston 546-2007 and Tom 546-7503,

Waterville/Oakland, Contact Person - Diane Campbell 465-7574.

**Contact your chapter for meeting schedules
and fundraising events. Many events are be-
ing planned. Get involved!**

**The Portland chapter of MWD will meet on
March 13 and 27. Meetings start at 6:30pm for
newcomers with the general meeting starting at
7pm at St. Luke's Cathedral, State St., Portland.**

Referendum Question Text

**The legislative provision that will be voted on should the referendum
question appear on the November 1995 ballot:**

To the 117th Legislature of the State of Maine:

In accordance with Section 18 of Article IV, Part Third of the Constitution of the State of Maine, the undersigned electors of the State of Maine, qualified to vote for Governor, residing in said State, whose names have been certified, hereby respectfully propose to the Legislature for its consideration the following entitled bill: An Act to Limit Protected Classes Under the Maine Human Rights Act.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

5 M.R.S.A. Section 4552-A is enacted to read:

Section 4552-A.

**An Act to Limit Protected Classes Under
Maine Law**

Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or any other provision of law, protected classes or suspect classifications under state or local law human rights laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, charter provisions or policies are limited to race, color, sex, physical or mental disability, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, familial status, and marital status. Any provision of State or local law, rule regulation, ordinance, charter provision or policy inconsistent with this section is void and unenforceable.

This section being necessary for the welfare of the State and the inhabitants of Maine, shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purpose and is not to be interpreted or applied as a limitation or restriction on authority as enumerated in the Maine Constitution.

!?!?

Editorial ... Letters...

Creating the truth

After reading Concerned Maine Families' fundraising letter on page 1, it is tempting to attempt to refute its contents point by point. It is a blatant misrepresentation of the work of both the Attorney General's Office and the Commission to Promote the Understanding of Diversity in Maine. In fact, the letter contains no truth. Even CMF's claim as leader of the drive to protect Maine from the "militant gay lobby" fails to inform the reader that it is a radical right strategy to portray all such efforts as grassroots and locally-driven rather than determined by highly-funded national fringe group.

It would be a tactical error to assume that refuting its untruths is enough to defeat a referendum effort. The undecided public expects opposing sides in a struggle to present radically different views and often must settle for the soundbite, the pr campaign or the knee-jerk response because they distrust the self-interest that is inherent in each side's representation of the facts. Sonia Johnson once said that beating your head against the stone wall that is your oppressor gives it credibility it cannot otherwise earn. Similarly, a protracted point-counterpoint allows CMF to determine the agenda while we waste resources asserting that we are "poor enough to deserve equal rights."

A strategy that returns to the basic fabric of the gay rights movement will be more persuasive and more successful. We are human beings in a democratic society that deserve the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We argue about who's doing the dishes and how to pay the bills like everyone else. We want nothing more than a fair chance, a chance to be judged by our accomplishments and to be safe in our homes and jobs.

The key to ensuring this victory is to tell that truth, that is, our truth. The argument is not how much we earn, rather it's the rights that we deserve as U.S. citizens. Legislation in our country is passed to protect the process, to guarantee the right to vote, to guarantee basic safety and to preserve access to a system to redress grievances. That is the truth, and that's where our truth starts.

While Carolyn Cosby continues to discuss bloated statistics and earnings figures, tell everyone that you're gay, tell everyone about discrimination as you've experienced, and demand the basic rights our society has tried to give to everyone and has protected via civil rights legislation. Tell how a lack of civil rights protection has kept you from the basic rights all U.S. citizens deserve.

Begin the process of creating the truth of the experience of being gay or lesbian in Maine. Write letters to the editor and testify. Legislators need to hear about this issue, significant turnover in the Legislature means a new education effort. Newspapers garner a huge readership and can give people the opportunity to tell their story.

Creating the truth means relaying the history of Maine's gay experience and it describes a journey that leads a community to demand the respect and protection it deserves.

Dykes To Watch Out For





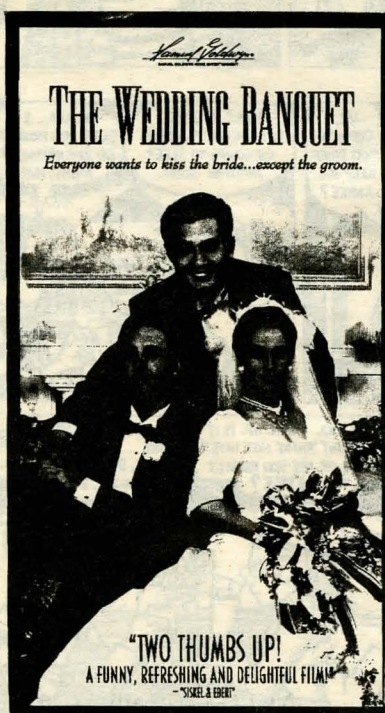
**St. Patrick
eats green
bagels!**

**Order yours
today!**

We bake'em best!

Now Serving 12 locations...

599 Forest Ave., Port. 775-0718
18 Moulton St. Old Port 774-8704
220 Mall Plaza, So. Port. 773-3238
Mill Creek Shopping Ctr. 767-4756
204 US Rt. 1, Falmouth 781-7234
8 Main St., Yarmouth 846-6909
123 Main St., Westbrook 854-5209
336 Center St., Auburn 777-7007
Mid Mall, Bangor Mall Rd.,
Bangor 942-0001
106 Pleasant St., Brunswick
725-6007
and our newest location....
172 Rt. 1 Scarborough 883-0070



VIDEOPORT
Your Movie Store

**151 Middle St.
Portland**

**Open 7 days
775-1999**

Maine News

"Spring for Life" continued from page 1

its 9th annual "Spring for Life" auction on March 18 at the Holiday Inn-by-the-Bay, Spring St. Portland. The auction has grown to be Maine's largest charity auction. This year featured artists will include Alfred "Chip" Chadbourn, David Cedrone, Marguerite Lawler, Dozier Bell, and Michael Waterman. Viewing of auction items will take place Friday, March 17th, 6-8pm and Saturday, March 18, 9-4:30pm.

Admission to the auction is \$10 and includes a bidder's number. Silent auction bids can be made throughout the day and will be tallied at 7:45pm. The live auction, with Tom Satterly, will begin at 8pm. Once again, TAP has secured the assistance of some of Portland's finest chefs for a festive artists' reception from 6-7pm, Saturday, March 18. The reception costs \$25 per person and includes complimentary beverages, champagne, hors d'oeuvres and admission to the auction.

For more information or to purchase tickets for the event, contact the AIDS Project at (207) 774-6877.

Womens' arts events mark Women's History Month

PORTLAND - A women's theatre festival and a women's film and video festival are two Portland events planned for International Women's Month.

Coming off a well-received December production, the Furies, Portland's feminist theatre troupe and the Oak St. Theatre are combining to produce "Lavender Land Utopia" on Friday, March 24 at 8pm, Saturday, March 25 at 10pm and Firday, March 31 at 10pm. "Utopia", written by Furies' creative director Marilee Ryan, creates a mythical utopia called "Lavender Land" that provides an escape for women from war in their society. The play is satirical musical featuring an original score by Cathy Poole and Kate Austin with lyrics by Marilee Ryan. Tickets for the event are \$10 at the door.

Earlier in the month, the 2nd Annual Women's Film and Video Festival will be held on March 3, 4 and 5 at the Portland Museum of Art. The festival features a wide-range of current and past films by women. Included among the offerings are Ida Lupino's "Hard, Fast and Beautiful", "Anchor of the Soul" a documentary about African-Americans creating a church in Portland, "Talk 16" which follows the lives of five 16-year-old girls and Portland filmmaker Kate Kaminski's "A Pagan Place". Lesbian films include "Came Out, It Rained, Went Back in Again" and "Greetings from Out Here".

Weekend passes for the event, over 15 films, are \$25 and are available from Drop Me a Line, Amadeus Music and the front desk of the Portland Museum of Art. Individual tickets for films are also available. For more information and film times, call the Portland Museum of Art at 775-6148.

Ruling finds MSEA contract bars discrimination

AUGUSTA - The Maine Stater, a publication of the Maine State Employees Association (MSEA), is reporting that recent arbitration decision found that discrimination against gay employees violates their collective bargaining agreement although the contract does not explicitly mention sexual orientation in its non-discrimination provisions.

The decision ended a controversy that erupted when Steve Keaten, the grievant, applied for a promotion. Just prior to the interview, interview panelists made "threatening and insulting statements to him" about being gay. When these comments were reported to his director, Earl Getchell, they were ignored and no action was taken.

During arbitration, union attorneys argued that the state workers' contract implicitly barred discrimination based on sexual orientation - a positioned that the State of Maine did not challenge.

The arbitrator adopted this position and found that the director, Earl Getchell, was biased against gays and that he lied during his testimony at arbitration. The arbitrator also found that the State of Maine had violated the collective bargaining agreement by failing to provide an unbiased selection process but did not propose a remedy or impose a penalty.

The publication commends Steve Keaten for coming forward to report the incident. At its convention, MSEA has adopted a position opposing any workforce discrimination and is hailing the decision as an advance for workers experiencing any type of discrimination not explicitly mentioned in the contract.

CMF

continued from page 1

chairperson John Jenkins had no knowledge of the letter and its allegations. He expressed surprise at its claims calling it "amazing, "unbelievable and troubling". He confirmed that the Diversity Commission report contains no proposals to create "set-asides" within federal programs for gay-owned or managed businesses, nor does the report have any references to a "Thought Brigade."

The Diversity Commission report does propose adding sexual orientation to Maine's Human Rights Act and advocates increased funding for both the Attorney General's Office and the Maine Human Rights Commission.

CMF Vice Chairman Larry Lockman could not be reached to respond to 10% questions.

Colorado considers hate crime legislation

DENVER—Attacking or threatening people because they are gay, disabled or elderly would become a hate crime in Colorado under a bipartisan proposal that has cleared its first legislative hurdle.

On Feb. 15, the House Judiciary Committee voted 9-4 to approve the proposal after an emotional hearing that left some lawmakers in tears. Rep. Marcy Morrison, R-Colorado Springs, joined the majority despite political pressure to oppose the bill because of its protection for gays.

"I had phone calls saying don't support House Bill 1257 because of 'those' people," Morrison said. "I guess that sent my red flag up. Thirty years ago, it was black people who were 'those people.' Fifty years ago, it was Jews who were 'those people.' If I had not supported this bill I would not have been true to my own values." Those voting against the bill, including Rep. Doug Lamborn, R-Colorado Springs, said they had a philosophical problem with a law that treats the same crime differently depending upon its circumstances. They also worried it would stifle free speech.

Sponsored by six Republicans and five Democrats, the proposal would expand Colorado's ethnic intimidation law to include physical or mental disability, age and sexual orientation. The current law covers race, color, ancestry, religion and national origin. The law allows victims and their family members to sue perpetrators for civil damages and it stiffens the criminal penalties for some offenses.

Assault or property damage involving hate crimes would carry tougher penalties than those crimes usually do - though that wouldn't be the case for all crimes. For instance, a rapist whose offense included a hate crime probably wouldn't spend any more time in prison unless the judge ran the sentences consecutively.

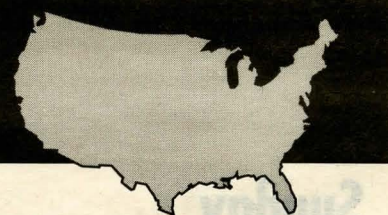
"With the enhanced penalty hopefully will come societal awareness that these things are wrong," said Rep. Ken Chlouber, R-Leadville, the bill's primary sponsor. "There's enough hurt in this world without you going around and beating' up people because of who they are."

Kevin Tebedo of Colorado For Family Values urged the committee not to support what he called a "homosexual advantage bill." Tebedo said voters made it clear when they approved Amendment 2 that they do not want gays to have any specific protection in the law. The measure, passed by Colorado voters in 1992 but put on hold by the courts, would ban laws protecting gays from discrimination based on their sexual orientation.

As he tried to restrain himself from crying, Rep. Bill Kaufman, R-Fort

**VOLUNTEER!! Call
1-800-55-MLGPA**

National News



Collins, recalled how his father, a World War II veteran, had witnessed the carnage of the Nazi death camps.

"Some of the things I've heard in northern Colorado lately make me feel we're headed in that direction," he said. "I've never seen so much hate as I've seen in politics in the last three or four years. And I can't do anything to continue that hatred. I was leaning toward voting against this bill, but I'm going to support it now and when it gets to the floor."

The proposal now goes to the House Finance Committee for consideration.

NGLTF responds to "Barney Fag" comment

The following is the text of a press release by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force:

Washington, D.C. – January 27, 1995 U.S. House Majority Leader Rep. Dick Armey (R-TX) this morning used the term "fag" in referring to Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), who is openly gay. In an interview with radio journalists about the controversy surrounding House Speaker Newt Gingrich's book deal, Rep. Armey said, "I like peace and quiet and I don't need to listen to Barney Fag...er...Barney Frank haranguing in my ear." Rep. Armey told Rep. Frank and reporters that he did not intend to say that.

"Rep. Armey's comment is deplorable and dangerous," said Robin Kane, director of public information at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"For a member of the House of Representatives to use such a childish but harmful slur is beneath that office and must be roundly condemned by his colleagues," Kane said.

The anti-gay slur occurs in the same week that two major media have focused on anti-gay violence in Rep. Armey's home state of Texas. The February issue of Vanity Fair magazine and Prime Time Live this week featured stories highlighting the fact that Texas is the site of eight brutal murders of gay men in less than two years.

"As an elected official from the state of Texas, Rep. Armey should be keenly aware of the impact of such hateful and dehumanizing speech," Kane said. "He represents a state where a murderer of a gay man acknowledged that some young men routinely go 'fag-bashing' as a weekend pastime. Rep. Armey should be denouncing the language that validates such violence, rather than using it himself."

Voters defeat West Palm Beach anti-gay effort

WEST PALM BEACH – West Palm Beach voters have defeated a measure that would have repealed a section of the local human rights charter that bars discrimination based on sexual orientation. The gay rights provision was passed only last September. Sponsors of the repeal effort were the Christian Coalition of Southern Florida, the American Family Association, and notorious local anti-gay city commissioner Sarah Nuckles. Nuckles, who has stated she does not want West Palm Beach to become "another San Francisco," had cast the only "no" vote on the original anti-discrimination measure last year. The successful campaign to defeat the repeal effort was spearheaded by Citizens for Fairness, the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council, and the "No on 1" campaign.

Despite low voter turnout – only 6,863 votes cast – the measure was defeated by a 56-44 margin and local organizers pointed out that this year's 22 percent turnout was twice as high as the last city election in March 1993, when only 9.9 percent of the population voted. Richard Giorgio, Palm Beach County Human Rights Council board member, attributed the higher turnout to the unprecedented effort to "educate citizens that this was about discrimination, not special rights. The community really was united behind our message."

No on 1's primary message in defeating the repeal attempt was that it would have legalized employment discrimination and was, indeed, a danger to all citizens. "Voters responded when we told them that hard working people could be fired from their jobs just for being gay or lesbian," said Giorgio.

The sponsors of the anti-gay repeal effort have hinted they may legally challenge the election outcome, claiming, among other things, that the ballot was "confusing" and the date of the vote was "problematic." Local campaigners have heard that anti-gay forces will return with another repeal ballot initiative.

"The truth is, Americans are finally recognizing that the Radical Right wants to divide and stigmatize," said Robert Bray, organizer with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Fight the Right project, which has assisted grassroots activists nationwide battle anti-gay initiative attacks. "More and more voters are realizing this debate is about discrimination, and they're not buying the rhetoric of the Right."

Wilde to be honored with window

LONDON – Irish playwright Oscar Wilde, who died penniless and disgraced because he was gay, has been recognized with a stained glass window in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey dedicated to his memory.

Britain's establishment, once so shocked over his affair with the Marquis of Queensberry's son Lord Alfred Douglas, is "forgiving" the Dubliner on the 100th anniversary of his play, "The Importance of Being Earnest" opening in London.

Wilde began 1895 in triumph with his play heralded as a comic masterpiece. He ended the year being sentenced to two years in jail for gross indecency. His name was even removed from posters advertising his plays and he died in Paris in 1900 from syphilis at age 46.

Poets' Corner contains plaques and other memorials to the great writers, poets and playwrights of Britain.

Gay soap kicks off new season

WASHINGTON – Forging ahead into a fourth year of production, the groundbreaking cable program dubbed "a capital drama that is capital entertainment" by *Out Magazine* is taking an ambitious step into the national spotlight.

"Inside/Outside the Beltway" (IOB), homegrown in Fairfax, Virginia, is set to begin airing in 12 major U.S. media markets, making it the only nationally viewed gay soap opera and one of the very few nationally distributed gay programs. In addition to Washington and New York City cable access channels on which the program has broadcast in past seasons, "Inside/Outside the Beltway" will soon be available to viewers in Boston, Buffalo, Miami, Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Anchorage, Alaska.

The third season of the program continues to weave together the stories of ten major characters from various walks of life, both gay and straight, and touches on such issues as HIV, AIDS, gay parenting, drug addiction coming out and rape. The soap opera has accumulated numerous awards including an Honorable Mention from the American Film Institute and several Telly awards including Best Professional Actor, Most Innovative Cable Show, Best Videographer, and Best Director Dennis Brooks.

"Ballot Measure 9" wins audience award at Sundance

PARK CITY, Utah – "Ballot Measure 9," Heather MacDonald's provocative documentary was co-winner of the audience award at the recent Sundance Film Festival. It provides an intriguing chronicle of what happened in Oregon during the 1992 campaign for the anti-gay ballot initiative.

Along with Colorado, Oregon served as a test case for a statewide referendum by "family values" groups fighting to amend the state constitution to prevent and revoke laws protecting gays from discrimination.

Producer-director MacDonald present the debate from various perspectives, allowing equal time to gay activists and to Lon Mabon, OCA's chair and Measure 9's sponsor, and other "moral majority" groups. Following the heated debate from April to the November elections, it records gay-rights rallies in which coming out is called "the most important act of our lives."

On the opposite side of the spectrum, OCA used its connections to powerful national orgs to promote its cause, sending anti-gay videos that, as one lesbian said, "took stereotypes and made them grotesque caricatures."

Documentary also depicts the huge increase in anti-gay violence and harassment as the elections neared.

In the end, Measure 9 was defeated (57% to 43%), but some alarming statistics are presented. The largest group voting "yes" was age 30-44, citizens likely to have children in school, fearing "homosexuality might be taught and transmitted."

Phelps' activity continues

TOPEKA – Holding their "God's Hate is Great" signs high above their heads, minister Fred Phelps and members of his Westboro Baptist Church (WBC) of Topeka, Kansas were spotted recently picketing NGLTF's Creating Change Conference. In addition to the activist conference, WBC members heckled Sunday services at Mel White's MCC Cathedral of Hope in Dallas. According to Phelps, WBC picketed 1,560 gay and lesbian churches, conventions, parades, and funerals in 1994 including Stonewall 25, the recent funeral of AIDS activist Pedro Zamora in Miami and a Kansas speech by poet Maya Angelou. Phelps garnered national attention when he began his campaign of picketing funerals of AIDS victims and harassing their mourning family members.

Maya Angelou's confrontation with Fred Phelps led her to cancel her speech at Emporia State University. In response, an outraged coalition of over 70 organizations formed to create an organized opposition to Phelps' virulent gay-bashing. The Network for Unity and Tolerance (NUT) is a multicultural group committed to "reaffirming the traditional American values of mutual respect, tolerance and integrity."

The "Reverend Church Lady" of Topeka now distributes a weekly parody and update of WBC activities called Church Chat. The Church Lady faxes WBC each week in response to WBC's regular faxes harassing Phelps' targets.

For more information on NUT, write to 8336 Sagamore Road, Leawood, Kansas, 66206 or email: Junemoon@fileshop.com.

March/April

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Women's Film
& Video
Portland Pride

Lesbian Support
Group

"Places of Peace"

Mothers and
Kids Group

Gay Visual
Artist League

Lesbian Support
Group

National Politics
with Lisa Keen

Let's Do
Brunch

Partners of
Parents

Portland
Pride

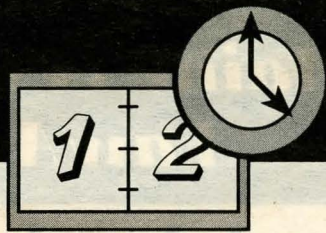


The PJ's "Country Line Dancers" were just one part of the entertainment at the February 10 Maine Won't Discriminate benefit "Love Unites Us" at PJ's in Augusta. Also featured were vocal and comedy segments and Latin dancing by Ms. PJ's Ileanna.

Sisters' 1st Anniversary



To celebrate their first anniversary, Feb. 19, Sisters' threw an all-woman blues band party featuring jams and vocals by several area musicians.



Listing of Events

Saturday

WOMEN'S FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVAL

**Mtg.
Pan
ons**

**MLGPA
Banquet**

11

18

"Spring for Life"

25

**"Lavender Land
Utopia"**

APRIL 1

8

Community of Hope, an inclusive Christian worship group following a model developed by the Metropolitan Community Churches, meets Saturdays at 4pm at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI: write MCC, P.O. Box 1671, Portland, ME 04104.

F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS-Transform Education, Act-UP/Portland is forming empowering groups for teens and queers. All welcome. 1st and 3rd Fri., 5:30pm, 87 Spring St., Portland. Wheelchair accessible, information Act-UP/Port., P.O. Box 1931, Port., ME, 04104 or phone/fax 828-0566.

Maine Gay Visual Artist League will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, supportive and creative network for Maine's gay and lesbian artists. For meeting place, call 775-3420.

Maine Won't Discriminate meets in Portland every other Monday at 7:30pm at St. Luke's Cathedral, State St., Portland. See page 2 for complete details of MWD activities.

Friday Night Church meets every Friday at 7pm, State St. Church, 159 State St., Portland. All-inclusive and affirming service offering a guide to Christian spiritual journey. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 774-6396.

"Lavender Land Utopia", a new production by the Furies, Oak St. Theatre, Portland, Mar. 24, 8pm, Mar. 25, 10pm and Mar. 31, 10pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Lesbian Support Group meets every first and third Wed. at the Mabel

Wadsworth Women's Health Center. Woman-only, lesbian-only space. 6:30-8pm, 334 Harlow St., Bangor. For more information, call 947-5337.

"Let's Do Brunch" Potluck social gathering, 11am-2pm, third Sunday of the month at York County locations. Call 985-2784 for more information.

"MGMC On Stage", concert by Maine Gay Men's Chorus, Friday, March 24 and Saturday, March 25, 8pm, Catherine McAuley H.S. Auditorium, 631 Stevens Ave., Portland. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets available at Amadeus, Drop Me A Line and Bookland-Mallside.

Maine Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance tries again!!! The 10th Annual Celebratory Dinner/Dance and Awards Banquet at the Augusta Civic Center, Saturday, March 4th, 5pm - 12am. Reservations by Feb. 27. Tickets are \$28/person or \$50 for two. Call 756-2500 for questions and reservations.

Mothers and Kids Group meets the 2nd Sunday of the month. at the Lunt School, Middle and Lunt Rd., Falmouth. For information, contact Linda Parker at 767-4368.

"The National Political Agenda: What's Happening and What It Means to Our Community", a talk by Lisa Keen, Senior Editor of the *Washington Blade*, March 23, 7:30-9:00pm, Holiday-Inn-By-the-Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Wheelchair accessible and free parking.

9th Annual "Spring for Life" Art Auction, a benefit for The AIDS Project, Saturday, March 18, Holiday-Inn-By-the-Bay. Art Preview, Fri., March 17, 6-8pm and Sat. Mar. 18 9am-4:30pm, free. Auction, Mar. 18, 5-8pm viewing and silent auction, 8pm live auction. \$10 admission. Artists' Reception, Mar. 18 6-7pm, \$25/person. Tickets and Reservations, call the AIDS Project, 774-6877.

Partners of Parents meets every 3rd Monday, 7-9pm at Woodfords' Congregational Church, Woodfords St., Portland. Support to lesbian and gay men whose partners have children. For information, call 774-5032.

"Places in the Heart: No Room for Shame", parenting our gay and lesbian children in the 90s with Andy Valley of PFLAG. Friday, March 17, 7:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. Presented by Building Inclusive Society, P.O. Box 3184, Auburn, 04212-3184.

"Places of Peace: Sources of Spirituality", local clergy discuss the spiritual path in a homophobic world. March 9, 7:30-9:00pm Holiday-Inn-By-the-Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Wheelchair accessible, free parking.

Portland Pride Celebration Planning Meeting, March 5 and April 2, 7pm, 30 Exchange St., Portland, 2nd floor.

Puck and Pan Theatre Auditions for Marlowe's "Edward the Second", Friday, March 3, 6-9pm, 500 Congress St., for

Are you listed?
Send your non-profit
calendar listings to:

10% Enterprises
P.O. Box 11265
Portland, ME

04104

Include location, contact no., date and time. Submissions must be received by the 20th of the month.

**Concerned
about hate
crimes?**

**Have you been
a victim?**

**Hear what can
be done!**

**Sunday,
March 19, 2pm**

with **Michael Rossetti**
and a representative
from the **Maine
Attorney General's
Office Civil Rights
Division**

PJ's

**80 Water St. Augusta
623-4041**

The **2nd
Women's
Film &
Video
Festival**

March 3, 4 and 5
Portland Museum of
Art Auditorium

Weekend Passes \$25, Individual
movies \$5 available from Drop
Me A Line, Amadeus Music and
the front desk of the Portland
Museum of Art.

Sponsored by The Portland
Museum of Art, the Maine
Women's Fund and the USM
Women's Studies Department.
For more information,
call 775-6148

The Maine
Lesbian/Gay
Political Alliance

presents

The 10th Annual
Celebratory
Dinner/Dance &
Awards Banquet

at the

Augusta Civic Ctr.
Saturday,
March 4th
5pm - 12 am

Tickets are \$28/person or 2 for
\$50. Work exchange tickets are
available on a limited basis. Please
make reservations by February 27,
1995. For more information, call
Mary Dorazio at (207) 756-2500

We've moved to 2 Free St.!!
Stop by and visit our new location!

Bone Appetit

A store for cats and dogs.

2 Free St. Portland 871-9442



March 17

St. Patrick's
Day Show



an evening
of female
impersonation

PJ's

Tues - Sat 7pm - 1am, 80 Water St., Augusta 623-4041

The 1995

Miss

PJ's

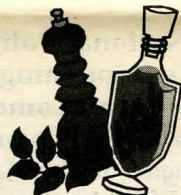
PAGEANT

April 7

now with a new
sound system!



+



=



the new chef &
dinner menu at

SABITHA
JEAN'S™

R E S T A U R A N T

94 Free St. Portland 780-8966

Tues - Thurs. 10am - 9pm

Fri. - Sun. 8am-10pm

Wheelchair accessible V, MC, AmEx

Maine Lesbian and Gay Law Association

Legal developments

by Will Sandstead, Esq.
Contributor

Parental Rights

In November of last year, a sharply divided New York intermediate appellate court issued a decision in a heated parental rights case. The case has been particularly controversial in the lesbian and gay community because the dispute is between a lesbian couple and a gay male sperm donor.

Over ten years ago, Thomas Steel, a gay man, entered into an oral agreement with Robin Young and Sandy Russo, a lesbian couple, where Steel would donate sperm to be used by Young. Steel promised not to assert any parental rights concerning any child that would be born. Russo had already given birth to a girl named Cade, after using sperm from a known gay male donor. Young eventually gave birth to a girl named Ry, and Steel was the biological father.

When Cade started asking questions about her father, the mothers decided to introduce both girls to their sperm donor fathers. Ry was three years old.

After his introduction to his biological daughter, Steel began to visit Ry and developed a relationship with her over the next six years. The character of the relationship is intensely disputed between the parties. Steel testified that he made approximately 26 visits. He asserted that some visits lasted only a few days, but others lasted as long as two weeks. Young testified that Steel was greatly exaggerating the number of days of contact between himself and Ry during the six year period.

Eventually, in 1990, Steel asked for Young's permission to take Ry and Cade to visit his parents. Young and Russo rejected his proposal. Steel apparently then told Young and Russo that he would like to establish a parental relationship with Ry. Young and Steel considered this to be a breach of their oral agreement, and they insisted that any visitation continue according to the same terms it had over the past six years, that is - with their supervision.

Eventually, Steel petitioned a New York Family Court for an order of filiation and for visitation. An order of "filiation" is a judicial determination of paternity, and under New York law, one is necessary in order to petition a court for visitation.

The Family Court denied Steel's petition, and Steel appealed. The Appellate Court ruled in Steel's favor and reversed the Family Court's decision.

To a large extent, the Appellate Court relied upon technical requirements of New York law, which mandate an order of filiation where a petitioner is found to be the genetic father. According to the Court, "[t]he legal question that confronts us is not, as the Family Court framed it, whether an established family unit is to be broken up. Custody of the child is not now, and is unlikely ever to be, an issue between the parties. Rather the question is whether the rights of a biological parent are to be terminated."

The Court dismissed the argument that to allow the case to go forward would be psychologically harmful to Ry. It rejected also the portrayal of Steel as a

villain intentionally causing a rift and precipitating litigation. According to the Court, "[i]t is distressing that [Steel], who seems to have exhibited sensitivity and respect for the relationship between [Young and Russo], is proposed to be compensated for his understanding by judicial extinguishment of his rights as a father."

Further, the Court held that "[t]he notion that a lesbian mother should enjoy a parental relationship with her daughter but a gay father should not is so innately discriminatory as to be unworthy of comment. Merely because [Steel] does not have custody of his daughter does not compel the conclusion that he may not assert any right to maintain a parental relationship with her."

Finally, the Court found that Young was partially responsible for her predicament because she decided herself to introduce Ry to Steel. Since Young initiated and encouraged the relationship between Steel and his daughter over a substantial period of time, the Court held that Young was prevented from denying Steel's right to legal recognition of that relationship.

A minority on the Court disagreed with the majority's decision, and they issued a dissenting opinion. The dissent criticized the majority for interpreting New York law too strictly. "The complexity of the human relationships that permeate this case and the contemporary reality of millions of households that maintain alternative family life styles strongly militate against the rigid, abstract application of legal principals, not designed for situations such as this, in a way that will grievously impact upon an innocent child, now 12 years of age."

The dissent founded its decision upon what it considered to be the best interests of the child. It offered a different reading of the facts: "The record clearly establishes that for Ry's first 9 and 1/2 years of life, [Steel] at no time sought to establish a true parental relationship with [Ry] either by way of seeking to legally establish his paternity and assuming the responsibilities and obligations which that status entails or by any involvement in [Ry's] upbringing or schooling or by attempting to provide any support for her."

The dissent stressed that the case should not be viewed as a referendum on "the comparative parenting abilities of lesbian mothers versus gay fathers." It argued that the fact that Steel is a gay man is wholly irrelevant to the case and that an identical standard would apply even the parties were heterosexual.

Next, the dissent made an analogy to New York adoption law, where under certain circumstances the permission of an unwed father is needed to allow someone else to adopt his children. The dissent maintained that under New York's

continued on page 11

Will Sandstead is a board member of the Maine Lesbian and Gay Law Association (MeLeGal) and is an associate at Farnsworth & Associates in Hallowell.

Congressional Spotlight

Bills target HIV transmission and gay youth

To keep 10% readers better informed, "Congressional Spotlight" will be a periodic feature, excerpting or printing in full, bills introduced in Congress that are relevant to the gay and lesbian community. At the bottom of the page you will find the addresses, telephone numbers and fax numbers for Maine's Congressional delegation so that you may contact them and let them know how you feel.

This month, we highlight two bills, one that would exact the death penalty for the knowing transmission of the HIV virus and a second that would create a national commission on gay and lesbian youth suicide prevention. The versions reproduced are unofficial bills and have not yet been printed by the Government Printing Office.

H. R. 630

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide the death penalty for the intentional transmission of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus to an innocent victim of a Federal offense.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 23, 1995

Mr. Burton of Indiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Protection for Innocent Victims of AIDS Transmission Act'.

SEC. 2. PROTECTION FOR INNOCENT VICTIMS OF AIDS TRANSMISSION.

(a) In General. - Chapter 51 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

Sec. 1122. Protection for innocent victims of AIDS transmission

(a) In General. - Whoever, during the commission of any Federal offense, knowingly engages in any sexual contact with another person and through such contact knowingly transfers the human immunodeficiency virus to that person, without that person's consent, or attempts to do so, shall be subject to the penalty of death, or shall be imprisoned for life or any term of years.

(b) Procedures. - For the purposes of chapter 228 of this title, an offense under this section shall be deemed a homicide offense.

(b) Clerical Amendment. - The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 51 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

'1122. Protection for innocent victims of AIDS transmission.'

H. R. 609

To establish the National Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth Suicide Prevention.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 20, 1995

Mr. Meehan (for himself, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Miller of California, Mr. Filner, Mrs. Maloney, and Mr. Brown of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Gay and Lesbian Youth Suicide Prevention Act'.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.

There is established a commission to be known as the 'National Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth Suicide Prevention' (in this Act referred to as the 'Commission').

SEC. 3. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.

(a) In General. - The Commission shall combat the epidemic of suicide among gay and lesbian youth, who account for 30 percent of completed youth suicides as reported by the United States Department of Health and Human Services in the 1989 'Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide'. The Commission shall advise the Department of Health and Human Services and other Federal and State youth service agencies concerning how to include the concerns of gay and lesbian youth within existing suicide prevention policies, programs, and research.

(b) Goals of Commission. - The goals of the Commission shall be to-

(1) work to include the concerns of gay and lesbian youth within existing suicide prevention programs at the national and State level;

(2) develop and make specific recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services and other relevant Federal and State agencies about how to stem the epidemic of gay and lesbian youth suicide;

(3) work to expand current research on youth suicide to include gay and lesbian youth; and

(4) work to amend existing youth suicide policies, guidelines, and programs to include gay and lesbian youth.

SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) Number and Appointment. - The Commission shall be composed of 30 members appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Members shall include, but not be limited to, professionals and experts in the field of youth suicide prevention.

(b) Terms. - Each member of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(c) Basic Pay and Expenses. -

(1) Pay. - Members shall serve without pay.

(2) Expenses. - Each member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) Meetings. - The Commission shall meet quarterly with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and advise various departments within the Department of Health and Human Services on an ongoing basis.

SEC. 5. REPORTS.

(a) Interim Reports. - The Commission shall submit an annual report to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The Commission shall conduct regional public hearings around the United States to gather information from youths, family members, and professionals about the problem of gay youth suicide on an ongoing basis.

(b) Final Report. - The Commission shall transmit a final report to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The final report shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission.

Mary C. Chaney

Acupuncture

M.Ac., L.Ac.
Dipl.Ac. (NCCA)

4 Milk Street
Portland, Maine 04101

Call for an appointment
(207) 874-8019



Bill Barter LCPC
(207) 773-0205

Psychotherapy

Sexual Orientation
Gay & Lesbian Couples
Addiction & Recovery
Gender Identity

Insurance Reimbursable
Sliding Fee Scale

142 High St, 6th Floor
Portland, ME 04101

Maine's Congressional Delegation

Rep. John Baldacci:
(202) 225-6306 Telephone
(202) 225-2943 Fax

Rep. James Longley:
(202) 225-6116 Telephone
(202) 225-3353 Fax

Write either at:
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Sen. William Cohen:
(202) 224-2523 Telephone
(202) 224-2693 Fax

Sen. Olympia Snowe:
(202) 224-5344 Telephone
(202) 224-1946 Fax

Write either at:
Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Mothers and Child
will return in the
April issue of
10%

Focus on the Radical Right

Listing of national radical right organizations

Christian Coalition

Pat Robertson

P.O. Box 1990, Chesapeake, VA 23320 (804) 424-2630

Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition is probably the most influential national Christian Right group in the United States. Founded in October 1989, the Coalition boasts more than 400,000 members organized in county-level chapters in all 50 states, and has a goal of 700,000 members by the end of 1993. The army of the faithful have begun to wield real political power in the past year through their tireless efforts to take control of the Republican party from the grassroots level up, and by supporting and electing "stealth candidates" to local school boards, county commissions, and other offices. The Christian Coalition's local chapters produce voter guides outlining which candidates support the "pro-family" agenda, which are distributed through church networks to Christian voters.

In 1992 the Oregon Citizens' Alliance became the official Oregon affiliate of the Christian Coalition, earning a \$20,000 donation in support of Measure 9. 1993 has seen the Coalition take part in the battle over the "Children of the Rainbow" curriculum in New York City schools and coordinate a county-by-county campaign in Tennessee county commissions to issue statements opposed to the inclusion of lesbians and gays under the Federal Civil Rights Bill, among many other activities.

Citizens for Excellence in Education

Robert Simonds

P.O. Box 3200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 (714) 546-5931

Citizens for Excellence in Education (CEE), like the Christian Coalition, is heavily involved in grooming like-minded candidates for school boards. School curricula frequently face attack from CEE activists, concerned that books, educational materials, courses, and faculty conform to a heavily-censored Christian party line. Restoring prayer to schools, teaching creationism, and eliminating any traces of "secular humanism" in the educational environment remain among their primary goals.

People for the American Way record Simonds' boast that CEE has helped elect 1,965 school board members through the work of its 925 chapters. CEE's radio program, "Issues in Education," is broadcast in 26 states.

Concerned Women for America

Beverly LaHaye

370 L'Enfant Promenade SW, #800, Washington, D.C. 20024 202-488-7000

Concerned Women for America, with more than 1200 tightly structured chapters across the country, is a multi-issue organization with tremendous grassroots organizing skills and an innovative "535" program they use with great effectiveness to influence Congress. Via small local groups known as "prayer chains," CWA can rapidly force grassroots political pressure on elected officials to promote their antigay, anti-choice, "pro-family" agenda.

Eagle Forum

Phyllis Schafley

Box 618, Alton, IL 62002 (618) 462-5415

Though much smaller than the other Christian Right women's organization, Concerned Women for America, Eagle Forum has gained respect from religious right leaders for their godly efforts. Ralph Reed, Executive Director of the Christian Coalition, has described Schafley as the one woman most responsible for the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment. In any case, Schafley's high media visibility has allowed Eagle Forum's denigration of "feminism" to reach a mainstream audience. Schafley founded the Republican National Coalition for Life in 1990 and has maneuvered Eagle Forum into a position of great responsibility within the committee drafting national Republican party platforms and policy with regard to abortion and homosexuality.

Family Research Council

Gary Bauer

700 13th ST. NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 393-2100

The Family Research Council (not to be confused with the Family Research Institute associated with decertified homophobe "psychologist" Paul Cameron) is a Washington, D.C.-based think tank that split from Focus on the Family in late 1992. The FRC is primarily a lobbying organization opposing laws that allow unmarried domestic partners and homosexuals the same legal protections and privileges as married heterosexuals. They also oppose government-funded child care, health care, and equal protection laws for women in the workplace. FRC adamantly believes that lifting the ban on gays, lesbians, and bisexuals in the military would dramatically increase the incidence of AIDS.

Focus on the Family

James Dobson

P.O. Box 35500, Colorado Springs, CO 80935 (719) 531-3400

Focus on the Family portrays itself as an educational institution meeting the political development needs of evangelical Christians. In addition to seminars and voter guides, Focus on the Family produces books, children's magazines, and a radio program broadcast over more than 4000 stations worldwide (many in the former Soviet Union).

Focus on the Family employs approximately 900 people and has an operating budget of about \$80 million per year.

Free Congress Foundation Heritage Foundation

Paul Weyrich

717 Second St. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002 202-546-3000

The Free Congress foundation is a grassroots development organization that has recently developed an "Empowerment" program, including a newsletter and several monthly television programs (billed as National Empowerment Television, or NET) carried over satellite cable. In addition, the Free Congress Judicial Selection Monitoring Project has begun its lobbying efforts to influence the appointment of social conservatives and religious right judges to the federal bench.

Weyrich has long been a Christian Right leader. It was he who turned abortion into a major issue around which to rally fundamentalist voters. In 1973 he founded the Heritage Foundation and in 1974 the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, both of which were funded by reactionary beer mogul Joseph Coors. The Heritage Foundation is easily the most politically influential think tank in the country, and the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress became the prototype for an organization specializing in training and promoting candidates and targeting vulnerable incumbents. Weyrich was the first prominent New Right figure to support Pat Robertson's 1988 presidential campaign, and he has recently allied himself with the Christian Coalition, for which he provides strategic support through the Heritage Foundation.

Operation Rescue

Randall Terry (currently in federal prison)

P.O. Box 1180, Binghamton, NY 13902 607-723-4012

Founded in 1986 by New York used car salesman Randall Terry, Operation Rescue has received national media attention for its efforts to shut down clinics that perform abortions. Operation Rescue brought street fighting tactics, and what is, in effect, urban guerilla warfare, to the anti-abortion movement. Not content to lobby Congress or petition the Supreme Court, OpRes activists physically barricade clinic entrances, vandalize property, and terrorize both women attempting to enter the clinics and medical professionals who work within them. Following the murder of Dr. David Gunn in Florida in March, 1993, Randall Terry, while admitting that murder can never be advocated, expressed relief that at least Dr. Gunn would no longer be able to murder unborn babies.

Following President Clinton's pledge to lift the Department of Defense ban on gays and lesbians in the military, Terry added opposition to changing the ban to the Operation Rescue agenda.

Rutherford Institute

John Whitehead

Charlottesville, Virginia

The Rutherford Institute is the premier legal arm of the religious right, acting as a sort of reactionary version of the ACLU. Whitehead has said, "There can be no solution to problems...both individual and social, other than those the Bible offers." R.J. Rushdoony, the "Marx" of Christian Reconstructionism, is a former board member of the organization which specializes in what they term "religious liberty" cases. As Skipp Porteous from the Institute for First Amendment Studies has written, "Within the framework of the radical Christian right, 'religious liberty' can include Sunday blue laws, prayers at public school graduations and sporting events, the teaching of creationism in public school science classes, tax exemptions for churches and church-run businesses, and housing and employment discrimination against gay and unmarried couples who cohabitate."

Traditional Values Coalition

Lou Sheldon

100 S. Anaheim Blve., Suite 320, Anaheim, CA 92805 (714) 520-0300

Lou Sheldon was once described by USA Today as a "California Falwell," a label that fits the high-profile preacher as well as any. His media-friendly crusades have played a major role in defeating gay and lesbian rights legislation in California in recent years. Sheldon has suggested, according to reports in the Los Angeles Times that people with AIDS should be segregated in "cities of refuge" for their own good and the good of society. He also pushes the "no special rights" for homosexuals line and the claim that gays and lesbians subvert the "heterosexual ethic."

Traditional Values Coalition chapters are known to exist in 17 states, but Sheldon's influence extends further, as dozens of small groups using "traditional values" and similar language claim at least ideological affiliation to Sheldon and his California organization.

Excerpted from the Fight the Right Kit prepared by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. To request the complete Fight the Right Action Kit, call NGLTF at 202-332-6483, TTY 202-332-6219.

National News (cont.)

2 Convicted In Gay Killings; "HIV defense" rejected

LAUREL, Miss. — A jury rejected a teen-ager's claim that he gunned down two gay men to protect himself from rape and the threat of the AIDS virus and convicted him of murder.

Marvin McClendon, 17, showed no emotion as the verdict was read, and he remained expressionless as Circuit Judge Billy Landrum sentenced him to consecutive life prison terms. His attorney said he would appeal.

"Justice was served," said Gary Walters, whose son, Robert, was killed by McClendon. The prosecution contended that McClendon stole \$100 from the two men before he killed them.

But defense lawyer J. Ronald Parrish said the men were cruising McClendon's neighborhood looking for sex — and the judge let Parrish tell the jury that 34-year-old Robert Walters was infected with the AIDS virus.

The judge had ordered the HIV tests, but kept the results sealed at first. The test for Joseph Shoemaker, 24, was negative.

"It's weighed on my mind and my heart quite heavily," Landrum said in his ruling on the test results. "I think the jury is entitled to know the whole fact in the case."

District Attorney Jeannene Pacific warned jurors in her closing statement that "just to go around and shoot someone because they have a fatal disease" is not justified.

Gay rights groups decried Landrum's ruling on the admissibility of the AIDS tests.

"Basically he has declared open season on people with HIV and other disabilities that are stigmatized," said Widney Brown, attorney for HIV-related violence with the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project.

David Ingebreetsen, who heads the Mississippi chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, said the decision "sends the message it's OK to kill gay men who (approach you) because you might be frightened of what happens to you."

Parrish called the verdict "a defeat for justice and people who want to keep their children safe from people trolling the streets."

Assistant District Attorney Gray Burdick said McClendon never mentioned AIDS as police questioned him after the killings. "The only person who has introduced AIDS into this courtroom is the defense attorney," he said.

NGLTF condemns Des Moines decision

The following is a statement from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force on the Des Moines curriculum decision:

WASHINGTON — At a meeting of the Des Moines school board, Board Superintendent Gary Wegenke announced that the board would not immediately implement changes in the school curriculum as proposed by the Sexual Orientation Advisory Committee. The announcement followed weeks of controversy in Des Moines regarding the inclusion of homosexuality in the school curriculum.

The debate over the multicultural curriculum proposal has elevated visibility of gays and lesbians and our issues to an unprecedented level in Des Moines. This visibility has galvanized lesbian and gay people and our families and friends to come out, to speak up, to challenge discrimination. It has changed Iowa forever by cracking open the closet door and bringing into the light the real discrimination and fear gays and lesbians face every day. It has reaffirmed our perseverance for securing justice in the Midwest and around the nation.

We are disappointed in the School Board's decision not to implement the policy immediately. Children are learning every day about the world and about themselves. There is not a day to waste in teaching them about tolerance and respect for diversity. If the schools remain silent, then ignorance is perpetuated.

We commend those public officials who have bravely come forward to defend basic principles of fairness, dignity and respect. We especially commend School Board member Jonathan Wilson for his bravery in publicly coming out at last night's meeting. He is now the highest ranking openly gay public official in Iowa. He and other openly gay public officials have exposed the lies and distortions about what hate mongers such as Bill Horn and radio "shock-jock" Jan Mickelson spew about gay people.

We will continue to work with the gay and lesbian community of Des Moines to challenge the forces of intolerance and organize for their freedom. We believe this debate will continue. The gay and lesbian community will grow stronger. The statement by the Des Moines Public Schools is not the end of this battle, only another step in our struggle for equality and fairness.

Legal developments continued from page 8

adoption rules, Steel's permission probably would not be necessary, because during Ry's early years, Steel's conduct failed to manifest the willingness to take on the parental responsibilities necessary to invest him with protected parental rights.

Finally, the dissent stressed the detrimental impact a determination of paternity would have on Ry. Such a determination would be the first step to ongoing litigation which would cause severe traumatic consequences to Ry and her family. According to the dissent, "[a] declaration of paternity creates a platform for [Steel], as well as his parents and other members of his family, who will, by means of the order, become the child's legal relations, to seek changes in visitation and, of course, to seek custody."

Robin Young's Attorney announced that Young will file an application for appeal to New York's highest court. The case is cited as Thomas S. v. Robin Y., 1994 WL 644249 (Nov. 17, 1994).

Source: Lesbian/Gay Law Notes, December 1994.

Poetry

A Peri-Menopausal Revelation

*Stop, what's happening here?
I get butterflies in my stomach
when you come near.
This just cannot be,
for anyone can plainly see,
I'm MUCH too old for this.*

*My legs have varicose veins.
I'm diagnosed as premenopausal.
My joints have arthritic pain.
Yet, whenever we embrace,
I feel all aglow.
Blushing, I hide my face,
hoping it doesn't show,
because, as you clearly know,
I AM much too old for this.*

*Look my hair's turning gray,
I can't read without glasses.
Still, when you pass my way,
my heart skips a beat.
Shaking my head, I quickly retreat,
for I'm REALLY too old for this.*

*Why just the sound of your voice
sends shivers up my spine,
and I haven't a choice,
some feelings have no respect for time!
Surely they must be aware,
or maybe they just don't care
that I am getting too OLD for this.*

*If I were eighteen
or as young as twenty,
there would be time
for these yearnings aplenty.
But, as things stand,
age spots have started on my hands.
So, I MUST be too old for this.*

*From my chest heaves a sigh.
Looking down at my sagging breasts
I cry, "This just isn't fair.
At my age it's too much to bear!"
Then I laugh as I realize
you're NEVER too old for this.*

Jane Allen

Michelle Bolen
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

General Practice Individual & Groups Education & Presentations

Specialties include...
childhood abuse issues anger management women's issues

759-0284

Pamela Knowles Lawrason
Attorney at Law

Serving the legal needs of the gay and lesbian community

6 Oak Ridge Road, Cumberland Center, Maine 04021
Tel (207) 829-3379 Fax (207) 829-4424

Frederick B. Wolf, M.Div, S.T.D.
Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor



180 High Street
Portland, Maine 04101
(207) 773-0191

March 17 St. Patrick's Day Green Bash!

Pitcher Specials ALL NIGHT!
WEAR GREEN for 1/2 off the cover!

AND...

wee little prices on leprechaun drinks
Wear your green ERIN GO BRAUGH
for FREE COVER

Wed.

ON STAGE KARAOKE
"LAUGH & SING ALL NIGHT" 7pm
ZIMA special. **Color** it with
schnapps for free!

Sat.

DJ starts at 6 to ease you
into your **top 40 dancing**
after 9pm

Thurs.

Allcountry w/ line
dancing lessons

Sun.

The day to hang at **SISTERS;**
NOW SERVING BRUNCH ALL DAY
Free pool and happy hour all day
9-ball Pool Tournament 5pm

Fri.

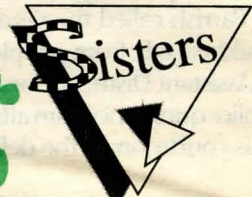
Happy Hour Pizza Buffet 4-8pm
DJ starts at 6pm w/requests and
wind down music
Top 40 dancing after 9pm

Fridays and Saturdays
after last call, **extend your night** or
start the new day right
with breakfast at your Sisters'!

Now Serving Pitchers filled with the best beer at party prices!!!

No smoking area pool table juke box darts lite menu 2 floors Lesbian-owned Positive ID required

45 Danforth St. 774 - 1505
Open Wed. - Sun. 4pm - close



Gulf of Maine Books

INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLERS

15 years as Maine's Independent Alternative
Phone orders encouraged

Visit our new location!

134 Maine St • Brunswick, ME 04011 • 729-5083

Serving Our
Community with
Pride!!

**Farnsworth
&
Associates**
Attorneys at Law

Susan Farnsworth, Esq.
William Sandstead, Esq.
222 Water Street
Hallowell, Maine 04347
(207) 626-3312



Adonna's SIGNWORKS
1-800-942-6656
Adonna Manzo, Proprietor
942-6659

Carving • Gold Leafing
Banners • Trucks
Hand Painted Signs
Illuminated Signs

547 Hammond Street • Bangor

WE SELL:

- DR. MARTENS
- FUN CLOTHES
- COOL SOCKS & TIGHTS

611 congress st
portland
(207) 772 5613



TESTIFY!

Call

1-800-MLGPA



Womankind Gifts

Intriguing Gifts That Empower Women

Brunswick Crossing Mall, 48 Cushing Street, Brunswick, Maine 207-798-1098
JKS Copywriters, 10 Beaver Street, Belfast, Maine 207-318-2913
PLEASE CALL FOR HOURS

THE LAW OFFICE OF

53 EXCHANGE STREET, SUITE 301 • PORTLAND, MAINE 04101
207 • 772 • 1565 • (FAX) 207 • 773 • 3563

LISE R. WAGNER

Barbara Balkin
Psychic

563-8059

PO Box 700
Damariscotta ME 04543