DON'T MISS ACT-UP'S RENT RAISING PARTY 7:00 P.M., FRIDAY, FEB. 21 AT THE LIMELIGHT!
Editorial

THE COLORADO BOYCOTT
ONE READER'S VIEWPOINT...

Editor, I have become convinced that the Boycott Colorado movement is a hasty and self-defeating response to a very real threat.

As everyone must know by now, three of the communities most affected by this boycott—Denver, Boulder, and Aspen—have gay rights ordinances. "They'll just have to sacrifice" is the usual response of boycott supporters, often with the implied accusation that members of these cities (which voted overwhelmingly against Amendment 2) are at fault for not having done even more to stop it.

This is great hindsight, but lousy politics. The fact is, we're hurting our supporters in hopes that a little of the economic pain will trickle down to our opponents. Sound familiar? Trickle-down punishment is even goofier than trickle-down economics.

Amendment 2 came about, in large part, as a backlash against the gay rights ordinances of these three cities. A blanket boycott of Colorado sends out a dangerous message: your support of gay and lesbian rights is now going to cost you.

In a perfect world, voters might flock to vote their conscience, and to their wallets. In the real world, we invite disaster and economic pain with our supporters with an economic boycott. A targeted boycott, aimed at businesses and cities that supported these, the three communities most affected by the boycott—Denver, Boulder, and Aspen—will be a far smarter approach.

The boycott movement has quickly taken on an aura of political orthodoxy. On this (as on so many other issues), debate should be encouraged, not squelched. Perhaps the time will come when a blanket boycott of Colorado seems like our only option. But it should be a last resort, not a knee-jerk first response.

Sasha Alyson

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Holly Valero
Financial Coordinator
Karen Emerson
News Editor
Paul Lavin
Distribution Coordinator
Lee Norton
Calendar/Classifieds Coordinator
Sue Lugli

POLICY AND PURPOSE

Purpose
GLT, The Gay and Lesbian Times of Maine is Maine's monthly source of news, information, ideas and opinions by and for the lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities. Produced completely by volunteers, GLT is produced by Our Paper, Incorporated, and is dedicated to increasing awareness of gay and lesbian issues, offering support and affirmation as a community resource, and celebrating the diversity within our communities.

Editorial Policy
GLT members consider for publication all materials that broaden understanding, educate, and serve the larger gay and lesbian community as a whole. Views and opinions appearing are those of the contributors only. GLT does not endorse any policies or political opinions. Articles may appear anonymously upon request, contact names, however, are required. Strict confidentiality is observed. We welcome and encourage reader participation in the form of writing and volunteering.

Submissions Policy
We request that all material submitted for publication be signed and include an address and/or phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit material as necessary, unless otherwise instructed. Articles may appear anonymously upon request, contact names, however, are required. Strict confidentiality is observed. We welcome and encourage reader participation in the form of writing and volunteering.

Subscriptions
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GLT:

My Thanks to the fellow who wrote you last month to decry the all too frequent—
who think like you! Perhaps the new name
GLT: 

lesbians who support feminist campaigns,
interview, theatrical debut of BENT ,
ly radical topics as: encouraging people to
vote, a new look for Our Paper, support for
which covers theatre; Rita Kissen’s
"Nachas!", and "The Straight & Narrow",
several months have included: Diane Elze’s
and a plea for the community to stop fight­
tory graciously. Then there’s the vicious
referring to it as drivel. The news, calendar
which one reader helped us to classify by

I am somewhat confused about the
GuL'T associations
This is a plea to all the gay friendly
GLT ,

The GAY AND LESBIAN communi-

my/our ideas, and support any time.
H.V.

GLT I look forward to “Our Paper”
monthly. I was quite refreshed by the
changes. But reading along, turning the
page, I read this 3 letters at the top of the
page: (GUILT) GLT I have problems

have not to be made by us. If someone
mentions that GLT sounds like guilt, it’s
quite appropriate to simply state that it is
the Gay and Lesbian Times of Maine.
Remember TAKE BACK THE
NIGHT? Think of this as TAKE BACK
THE NAME.

GLT. This is a plea to all the gay friendly
businesses: ADVERTISE! No, I don’t
work for the paper. I’m from out of town!
I rely on local papers for information. I
look for gay and friendly gay owned
restaurants, shops, B&Bs.

Help those of us who want to patron­
ize these businesses.

An Out-of-Towner

Counseling & Hypnotherapy

Individuals • Couples
Stress Management Sexual Issues
Men’s Issues Women’s Issues
871-8134
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MS, NCC MS, NCC
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Portland, ME 04103
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C.E.D.T., L.C.P.
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(207)548-6689
appoiiments@aurangalStateswide

COMPILED BY NEWS EDITOR PAUL LAINE

LEWISTON ORDINANCE SUSPENDED;
REFERENDUM IN NOVEMBER

The residents of Lewiston will face
the same battle over civil rights for
lesbians and gay men as Portland did
this past November.

Opponents of the Lewiston anti-
discrimination ordinance, led by
right-wing religious fundamentalists,
gathered enough signatures to sus­
pend the enactment of the ordinance and
force a referendum on whether
the law should be repealed.

The law, which prohibits discrimi-
nation against gay men and lesbians
because of sexual orientation, was
passed by the Lewiston city council
by a vote of 5-2 early in January. The
public hearing was attended by
about 700 people and was a highly
emotionally charged event. Many
supporters of the proposed law felt
their safety was threatened by the
conduct of the opponents during the
hearing itself. Some of the members
of the city council received threaten­
ing phone calls.

The group leading the petition
drive, Maine Coalition Opposed to
Special Treatment of Homosexuality,
gathered 2,000 signatures. The city
click certified at least 1,129 signa­
tures, making it possible for the right-
wing group to prevent the enactment
of the ordinance. The ordinance was
scheduled to go into effect on Feb. 6.

The referendum will be held on
November 2, 1993. Lewiston has
about 29,000 registered voters.

61 PERCENT OF MAINE RESIDENTS SUPPORT
GAY AND LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS

According to a poll conducted
in December, 61 percent of Maine resi-
dents would support a law which
protected lesbians and gay men from
discrimination in employment and
housing.

The poll was conducted by
Market Decisions, Inc, of South
Portland. Market Decisions polled
400 Maine residents from all over
the state in December on a variety of
economic and social policy ques­
tions. The poll has a 5 percent mar-
gin of error.

The question put to the respon-
dents was “Do you favor or oppose
the passage of a Maine law that pro-
tects the rights of homosexuals from
continued page 4

Automatic Release Regional National Global
discrimination in the workplace and housing?"

Of the 61 percent that favor the passage of such a law, 34 percent said they strongly favor the law and 27 percent somewhat favor it. Of those who opposed the law, 21 percent strongly opposed it and 12 percent were somewhat opposed. The undecideds amounted to 7 percent.

Support for the law was stronger among women at 69 percent, while 54 percent of the men polled favored the law.

The poll comes at a time when the Maine legislature will be considering a state-wide gay and lesbian civil rights bill in the next two months. The bill was first introduced in 1977 and this will be the ninth time it has been in front of the legislature. The bill almost passed in 1991, but a last minute threat from Gov. John McKernan to veto the bill squelched the bill's chance to pass the Senate.

According to the Portland Press Herald, Jasper Wyman, executive director of the religious right-wing group, the Christian Civic League, criticized the poll by saying that the question was posed in such a manner that a positive response was to be expected. He said he didn't think the poll would have much influence with the legislature.

Al Caron, who was the campaign consultant for Equal Protection/Portland, contradicted Wyman, saying that the poll results were valid and that support for lesbian and gay civil rights legislation is growing throughout Maine.

MEMBERS OF ANTI-GAY GROUP SIGN CONSENT DECREE

The four members of the anti-gay hate gang known as FSU Posse, Michael Carpenter, Gabriel Holmes, William Holmes, and Andrew Fontaine, filed a lawsuit entered into a consent agreement in order to settle the suit. The group is known for its graffiti and violence against gay men and lesbians and other minorities.

The consent decree requires that the four gang members—Gabriel Holmes, 15, William Holmes, 17, brothers, and Andrew Fontaine, 16, all from Portland, and William Marquis, 18, of Freeport—stay away from Zoot's and Abraham's House of Coffee in Portland and banning them from discriminatory behavior.

The suit stems from a Christmas
A Conversation with John Preston Continues...

write about each other, and a work of non-fiction titled The Art of Being a Writer.

IS YOUR MOTIVATION FOR WRITING YOUR RECENT ANTHOLOGIES POLITICAL OR PERSONAL? ARE YOU STILL AN ACTIVIST THROUGH BEING A WRITER?

I began the anthology with Personal Dispatches: Writers Confront AIDS. I did that because I had to find a way through my writing to deal with my HIV infection, and the experience of working with a community of writers excited me. The book really served its purpose. The experience had been so exciting, that I then wondered, what are my other issues?

I'm a man, intensely gay, yet also much more as a man interviewed in silhouette on the screen because no one who was gay could write my books. I would prefer and could write about each other, and a work of non-fiction titled The Art of Being a Writer.

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I'm a man, intensely gay, yet also much more as a

"If we could just cherish and nurture good fucking like we do eating, then Pat Califia's name would be as well known as Betty Crocker's."


"No. My story is much more about becoming a bachelor. I'm becoming quite happy about it. The theme of my story is really I don't want a lover. One of the things I really had to realize that is that all of the men I've had relationships with live at least 200 miles away. The way that is much more powerful to me is finding a generational stance to gay life. I think gay life is trivial if it's not generational in some form. I've had that most of my life. I've had a mentor, Samuel Steward, a writer in his eighties who lives in Berkeley now. And I've always had non-genital relationships with young men here in Portland. That's very much based on generational good uncle stuff. And now recently I'm taking on a very explicit mentoring relationship with three gay male writers, working with all of them on their books, long distance: Michael Lowenthal in New Hampshire, Michael Rowe in Toronto, and Owen Keehnen in Chicago. It's more important to find my place in a community that's generational than it is to worry about a one on one relationship."

[Talking about generations and activism a little later...]

"A lot of my life has been very conflicted about being the first. I did a lot of first things. I joined the seminary in Minneapolis when I was about twenty five. I actually went to three seminaries of first things. I joined the seminary in Minneapolis when I was about twenty five. I actually went to three seminaries..."

WILL YOU TELL A STORY ABOUT YOUR OWN LOVERS OR YOUR OWN RELATIONSHIPS WHEN YOU EDIT YOUR UPCOMING ANTHOLOGY TITLED FRIENDS AND LOVERS: THE FAMILIES THAT GAY MEN CREATE FOR THEMSELVES?

"And they're not. They are what we have to do at a certain point. My own self-identity is both intensely gay, yet also much more as a writer. Being constantly gay is a bummer. I really feel like it's a social obligation I have accepted. One of the most startling things when I first moved to Maine was turning on the television one of the first days and seeing a gay man interviewed in silhouette on the screen because no one who was gay would be interviewed and show his face. I was staggered by that. And even though I had moved here to calm down on my activism so that I could write, the silhouette was not acceptable, so I very quickly let it be known that I would be that face on that television screen. Often I didn't want to be an activist. I wanted to draw a boundary, withdraw to my cocoon and not feel obliged, but I wasn't very successful."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12
Brunswick. See the Calendar for complete details. However, one detail that may not be in the Calendar is that the Maine Gay Mens Chorus will be performing at the dinner. The Chorus’ debut performance in December established it as a new institution of gay and lesbian culture in Maine.

VERMONT SEES RISE IN BIAS COMPLAINTS UNDER RIGHTS LAW

The attorney general’s office in Vermont is investigating at least six complaints of discrimination against gay men and lesbians since Vermont passed a law protecting the civil rights of gay and lesbian people.

Robert Appel, an assistant attorney general in the civil rights division, said, “I definitely am convinced of the need. Prior to the effective date of the law, there was no reason for a person who was a victim to contact us because there was no remedy. Now there are remedies, the word is out and we are receiving complaints.”

Appel said that most of the complaints involve gay men being harassed in the workplace.

“People get picked on because of who they are, making the worker feel uncomfortable in the workplace, he said. “Sexual orientation is just not a consideration that should be used in employment decisions.”

Susan Sussman, executive director of the Vermont Human Rights Commission, said her office has three complaints charging discrimination based on sexual orientation under investigation, all concerning alleged insurance company practices.

“The number of charges that have been formally filed in the attorney general’s office and the Human Rights Commission in a relatively short period of time since the passage of the law is significant, she said.

CAMBRIDGE MAYOR COMES OUT

Kenneth Reeves, mayor of Cambridge, announced last month that he is gay, though he said it shouldn’t be a surprise to anyone.

Reeves was at an award ceremony of the Greater Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance to accept an award designated for

continued next page

literally

A creative writing column of sorts...

POET
KEVIN MCLELLAN

Tinsel

Tinsel threads dangling off while deeply rooting onto a used Christmas tree, a dead birthday tree.

Douglas has been thrown down onto the brick sidewalk; the day after.

The day after brings a squall. Muddled delivery later freeze to tinsel threads dangling off, freezes to and become smooth sheets of glass above arranged bricks candied Silver tension; holding on from both ends.

Holding on from both ends. Abandoned by their families, as certain as the wrinkles across their foreheads. Wheeled to the side, like powdered snow to a shore now. Accumulating white faces wear; their sweaters can’t warm them in the warm room.

Cold in the warm room; Carol can’t cared. Louniness surrounded by louniness reminds her critically of her condition. The conditions.

The conditions. The slowness of so little time, to remember holidays past. To chronically forget the cooking, the grilling, to the life or lives created. To the life of life created. Old creations forgotten. Oh, so gentle and delicate. Delicate frozen tinsel the day after the dead birthday.

My brother lost his virginity. When he was thirteen. He told me that when he did it. He was so excited that he came before he was inside her. Now he is twenty. It’s hard to believe, but that girl is still in love with him.

My brother’s new girlfriend. Probably wasn’t a virgin when she met him. Which is may be why he calls her his hole. He knew her. When he says that, and the sort of laughing, because she knows he is fooling. It’s sort of terrible, but

My brother and his new girlfriend. Hate the old one. They call her a bitch.

Send your creative writing to GLT, P.O. Box 737, Portland, ME 04104. Attention: Literature. Deadline for copy is the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.
First I would like to get the preliminaries out of the way. The "Crying Game" is the new film by Neil Jordan, director of "The Miracle" and "Mona Lisa." It takes place in rural Ireland and is taken hostage by Ireland's IRA. The group demands that the government release a recently imprisoned IRA member or they will kill Jody. The government refuses the demands. In the meantime Jody has befriended Fergus (Stephen Rae), the most sympathetic of the people who have taken him hostage. Jody, knowing that he will probably be killed, makes Fergus promise that he will seek out Dil (Joey Davison), Jody's girlfriend, and take care of her. Fergus moves to London to escape his IRA background. He's haunted by his promise to Jody and seeks out Dil, a beautiful and sensual hairdresser. As Fergus slowly falls in love with Dil he is found by the surviving members of the IRA. It has adventure, romance, love, and mystery for those of you that haven't been told the scene in question). There are even some surprising cameos in the soundtrack. Roy George sings "The Crying Game" and Lyle Lovett sings "Stand By Your Man. The Crying Game is a fantastic film with a script that flows naturally and freely of human nature ringing strongly. All of this is explained by Jody's telling of Aesop's fable of the frog and the scorpion. People I have talked to would like to expose it into the categories of transvestism or latent homosexuality, but in truth the Crying Game is all about how we can't escape the people we are. Fergus is consistently the man with the heart. He cannot bring himself not to feel sympathy for Jody not to step himself into his troubled life (even after he learns her secret). Dil is another example of someone who will never change who she is. She only needs her hear endearments to become loyal and devoted. She knows that Fergus will never love her the way she needs, but the devotion she gives him is enough to keep her waiting for the two of them started. Fergus also said once to Jody, "I sometimes feel something similar. There are straight women friends of my that I love with all my heart but can never be the person I wish I could be for them. I can only do my best to be their most trusted companion. That's one of the final points in the film. It is possible to be a companion to someone, to satisfy and support someone in a nonsexual basis. If you are a loving person you can just enjoy being with someone. At the end the glass that seperates Fergus and Dil is very symbol of two people who care each other while this almost invisible things stops them from loving each other in the way they both with they could.

BEST FILMS FOR 1992
(not necessarily gay)
1. Zentropa
2. The Crying Game
3. The Double Life of Veronique
4. L'Atlante
5. Scream
6. Raise The Red Lantern
7. My Father Is Coming
8. Vanishing Point
9. The Quare Cafe
10. My Father Is Coming

MAINE FINALLY HAS ITS GAY COMMUNITY CENTER
(I wish) BY SHAWN TOTH

I have this reoccurring dream. It's always in the same place. There is this city that sits on almost an island, but it's connected to the mainland at one point. The sidewalks are brick and some of the streets are made of cobblestone. In the center of the city stands a huge statue of a woman with armor and a sword. Somewhere in this city is a building. This isn't any ordinary building, this is a building that represents liberation, power, diversity, and community. I could go to this building to find the history of the gays and lesbians from the island of Lesbos to the city ordinance that protects these same kind of people. I could go there to find counseling or support groups. I could go there to view art, hear poetry readings, or see films by gays and lesbians. My dream would be for Portland to finally create a Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

I think the community is at a mature point where we could make a claim on a building of our own. Consolidating all the gay and lesbian groups, to include gay sensitive organizations, could have many benefits. Similar groups could help share reference information or information about upcoming media events. The chance of everyone having fundraising benefits on the same night would be all but be eliminated. It would be easier to gather such information as which organizations to write to for sponsorships or grants. It would be the chance to network and share your experiences with other gay and lesbian organizations.

The community center might also have its monetary values. There are special loans and funds available for groups that renovate the second or higher floors in a building in Portland. I am sure if we added up all the rent for the MLPGA, Outright, PWA Coalition, The AIDS Project, Woman's Space, The GLT, Out & Out Productions, Gay AA, or all the other groups in Portland the cost would definitely work out to be at least equal to the rent of a building. I know I would feel involved about the groups I am involved with it they were located in a community center. It would do a lot to send a strong message to fellow gays and lesbians while giving us something to physically be proud of. Can you imagine a whole building that we could walk through and be proud of. Knowing the creativity that exists here in Maine, I am positive it would become a building of stunning beauty. A little some-

friends of the community. Reeves said he felt that he needed to be honest. Honesty meant clarifying that he is more than just a friend of the gay community.

Also receiving that award was former Mayor Alice Wolf, who made reference in her acceptance speech about being call an "honorary lesbian." Reeves' speech left nothing to speculation. He said, "I am not an honorary homosexual. I am a real homosexual."

BATTLE LOOMING OVER THE LIFTING OF MILITARY BAN

In his confirmation hearing before the U.S. Senate, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin said that he would deal with the Pentagon's ban on gay men and lesbians in the military "head on," seeking to overturn "a carefully" and "deliberately." "There's no way to avoid the issue or slide around it, or try to patch up the whole issue and let it go away," he said. "Bill Clinton asked me to do it, and I said to him, "We want this issue to be dealt with very, very carefully, but we want it to be dealt with very, very deliberately. So, I think there is some benefit from the pledge that Bill Clinton has made because it will force us to confront it."

"My view is that there are some obvious mistakes in the policy," said Aspin. "All you have to do is pick up the newspaper once in a while and find that something's not right here. Somebody's served 30 years in the military and is suddenly separated because it's discovered that he or she is homosexual."

"From an equity and fairness standpoint, I think there are some real problems with the way the policy is going right now."

The Clinton Administration has proposed that the ban be lifted in two steps. First, Mr. Clinton would informally direct the military to suspend enforcement of the ban and asking recruits about their sexual orientation. Second, in several months, Mr. Clinton would issue an executive order formally lifting the ban. Gay and lesbian leaders are not enthusiastic about the delaying of the executive order.

However, Secretary Aspin faced stiff opposition to the lifting of the ban in his first meeting as Secretary of Defense with his joint Chiefs of Staff. The Joint Chiefs angrily con-

continued next page
Warning: Brand New Woman!

G

ood Morning America fills the bedroom shortly after 7:00 a.m. Cut to commercial.

A gorgeous woman takes me on the TV and purrs, "I have a delicious chocolate shake for breakfast, another for lunch, and a sensible dinner." It just rolls off her tongue. No biggie. Toss back a couple of shakes, grab that sensible stuff at night and presto! You're a high paid fashion model. Now, I'm not so nutritionally-challenged that I roll out of bed every morning and grab a Camel unfiltered and a swig of tequila, but the last thing I could face on a chilly Morning America is a chocolate milk shake. A chocolate milkshake. Is that a healthy mental association for me to start making? Diet? Chocolate milk shake! Diet? Chocolate milk shake! That's like Alcoholics Anonymous serving coffee in small shot glasses or diet beer bottles. And I don't know about you, but if I have to survive from 6:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on chocolate milk shakes alone, the choice I make for dinner is going to be anything but sensible. Psychotic is more like it...

Jenny Craig, on the other hand, wants you to chang[e my relationship with food. Now, anyone who's been married can tell you that the most dangerous thing you can do is get involved in someone else's relationship. Still, I find it hard to see a relationship in a scenario where one of the partners is yourself... Diet? Chocolate milk shake! I'm sorry, but adult clothing cannot talk to you.

They feature young, slim, attractive, well dressed, white collar, sophisticated women who probably think a stretch mark is a defect in a pair of pantyhose. They herd together to get a little positive reinforcement and pay millions of dollars to diet farms that keep buying air time to attack them... There is something wicked going on out there...

Over 90% of diet ads feature women that once they are beautiful they will again be seen. A slim and attractive woman holds up a pair of slacks vaguely reminiscent of a pair in my closet. I a) mention that I, oh, yeah, I've got to take those to the dry cleaners. She then gracefully drops them as if they were radioactive to reveal her BRAND NEW WOMAN who just happens to be a size 2.

I'm sorry, but adult clothing cannot come in a size 2. I don't care what anyone says. When I was a little kid I distinctly remember wearing a size 6X. At that rate a 2 would basically fit a newborn. Size 2?

They feature young, slim, attractive, well dressed, white collar, sophisticated women who probably think a stretch mark is a defect in a pair of pantyhose.

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They feature young, slim, attractive, well dressed, white collar, sophisticated women who probably think a stretch mark is a defect in a pair of pantyhose.
By Dave Garrity

Maine Public TV Still Says NO to Gay/Lesbian Show

The first national variety-talk show on broadcast TV by and for lesbians and gay men debuted with a special, hour-long Pride Week preview last June. After years of lesbian and gay efforts to get a PBS program, we finally just did it ourselves.

Mind you, this show is meant to be entertaining, and has already attracted big names: Joel Grey, Liza Minnelli, Judith Light, Bonnie Franklin, Shari Belafonte, Lily Tomlin, and Dick Sargent (out-actor who played Darrin on "Bewitched") have already appeared. The cast of Broadway's "Falsettos" sang "Unfriendly Lovers" from their Tony award-winning musical, and David Drake performed a piece from his hit play, "The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me."

Hosted by comedienne Kate Clinton, "In The Life" kicked off its near-monthly schedule in October. Three programs have already aired and two or three more are planned this season. Associate Producer Katherine Brady is excited about its winning musical, and David Drake professes standards we wanted in its future. He explained that he couldn't easily program a monthly half-hour in a regular time slot without inconveniencing viewers of whatever aired in its place the other three weeks. He also said that special programming obligations in future months leave no time available for this half-hour show. Maine high-school basketball will take over at least 40 hours in February; another pledge drive is planned for March; and, April is the annual Auction. When I suggested that "In The Life" could air between those breaks, Mr. Wiest did not respond.

Maine Public Television: Round 1

I first spoke with Harry West, Maine Public Television's programming manager, early last summer when the pilot of "In The Life" was first airing on PBS stations around the country. Mr. Wiest was already aware of our new program and seemed genuinely interested in it. He explained that the merger of Maine's two public stations, which took place July 1st within days of the debut, was taking all of his time. He hoped to learn more about the show and possibly add it to their schedule when the show went full-time in the Fall.

After reading a January NEWS piece on the growing number of stations carrying "In The Life," and relayed my conversation with Mr. Wiest. They offered to send him another information packet and follow it up with a personal call to Mr. Wiest themselves. I thought for sure we'd all be glued to our screens come Fall.

Round 2

I didn't speak with Mr. Wiest again until early October when the first regular episode of "In The Life" was supposed to air. He was a bit less forthcoming this time. At first, he tried to say he hadn't received notice of the show. I reminded him of our earlier conversation and upon questioning he recalled that the producers of "In The Life" had contacted him, too.

Mr. Wiest then argued that this is not an official PBS-sponsered production. I checked on this with PBS in Washington for this story and learned that PBS doesn't create any programming itself. All of its programs, just as this one, are created or sponsored by member stations and/or independent producers.

I asked why that should preclude its airing, especially over Maine's "Alternate" second station. Mr. Wiest did not reply.

Round 3

After reading a January IN NEWS piece on the growing number of stations carrying "In The Life," I decided to try again. I contacted GLT and received permission to interview Mr. Wiest and report on this matter in these pages.

This time Mr. Wiest had a new set of explanations and programming problems. He suggested that he couldn't easily program a monthly half-hour in a regular time slot without inconveniencing viewers of whatever aired in its place the other three times in the future.

After what J. Thomas Cochran, executive director of the conference, called an emotional closed door meeting, the organization's executive committee rejected the Colorado City as the site of next year's meeting. Earlier, the mayors of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Seattle, and Atlanta said they would not attend the conference because of the amendment.

Right years ago, the conference adopted an anti-discrimination policy which "recognizes the right of all citizens, regardless of sexual orientation, to full participation in American society and recommends that all levels of government adopt legal protections for the rights of gay and lesbian Americans."

Barbara Streisand has backed off from earlier strong support for the boycott by the entertainment industry. She said she would personally support the boycott and find some other state to vacation in.

Among the growing number of voices supporting the boycott is "The New York Times, in an editorial on December 21, the Times said, "The Colorado law amounts to an aggressive statewide policy to allow discrimination and block attempts to mitigate it."

Meanwhile in Tampa, Florida, civic leaders are worried that a boycott against that city may soon develop in light of the vote to repeal Tampa's anti-discrimination law.

The national Catholic Campus Ministers Association has canceled its 1994 regional meeting even though the bishop of St. Petersburg support the repeal of the law. Sister Joanne Sullivan who helped organize the meeting said her group is opposed to discrimination in any form.

The 1996 GALA Festival, the gathering of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses, is also is doubt, along with its expected $3.5 million in revenue for the city.

GAY LEGISLATOR ELECTED PRESIDENT OF MINN. SENATE

Without any controversy, the Minnesota Senate has elected an openly gay legislator as its president. On Jan.5, Sen. Allan Spear became the highest-ranking openly gay state lawmaker. The reaction of his colleagues was "So what?" "It's a non-issue," said Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe. "Senator
February Calendar

February (Ongoing)
The Unitarian Universalist Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Fellowship of Maine will hold monthly discussion/speaker/pot-luck suppers at the First Parish, 425 Congress Street, Portland. The purposes of the Fellowship are to encourage individuals to explore their own personal theologies, heighten the awareness of gay, lesbian and bisexual issues, foster friendships, and offer support, information and assistance. For more information and to be placed on the mailing list call the First Parish office at 773-5747. See our calendar listings below for the February - April programs.

February (Ongoing)
Gay & Lesbian Bulletin Board has a new service and new number: 871-0412.

February (Ongoing)
WEDNESDAYS
Portland's Branch of MLGPA's Legislative Committee meets on all Wednesdays in support of the state-wide effort to gain civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend ongoing meetings at 100 Middle Street, 5th floor (the law offices of Bernstein, Shur & Associates) at 7:00 p.m. Call the Lesbian/Cay Info line at 883-8934 or Larry Bliss at 707-4496 for more information.

February (Ongoing)
THURSDAYS
Out for Good, a lesbian discussion/support group, meets each Thursday 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Saco. Topics relevant to Lesbians are discussed weekly. Meetings are non-smoking. A weekly donation of $1. per person is asked to defray the cost of the room. For directions and more information, call 247-3461 or write P.O. Box 153, E. Watertown, ME 04081.

February (Ongoing)
FRIDAYS
Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, 255 Maine Street in Sanford has new Friday hours. They are now open 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Services include FREE pregnancy testing, birth control information and supplies confidential HIV testing, annual exams and STD screening and treatment for women AND men. Call 324-9385 for more information.

February 1
MUSEUM: ANSEL ADAMS: The Early Years;
77 rare photographs by Ansel Adams, at The Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland. Call 773-ARKS.

February 1-7
THEATRE: SEXUAL PERVERTIVITY IN CHICAGO,
A Dark Sex Comedy by David Mamet. Performed by the Vintage Repertory Company at Cafe No. Call 772-8114 for more information.

February 2-21

February 3
WEDNESDAY
Bangor/Brewer PFLAG meets at 7:00 p.m. in Brewer. Call 989-5180 for the location.

February 4-28
THURSDAY-SUNDAY
THEATRE: BETTER DAYS. A new play by Richard Dresser. An enticing combination of social commentary and character face, "Better Days" recalls the classic American comedies of the forties and fifties-the works of Frank Capra, Preston Sturgis, Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Performed by Mad Horse Theatre, 955 Forest Ave., Portland. Thursday through Saturday performances will be at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $16. Call 797-3338 for more information and reservations.

February 5
FRIDAY
Christine Lavin and the Babes will appear at 8:00 p.m. at The Music Hall in Portsmouth, NH. Call 603-436-2400 for more information.

February 6
SUNDAY
A Variety Show to benefit the Eastern Maine AIDS Network will be at The Rivervont Lounge, 123 Franklin Street, Bangor. There will be cash prizes for winning performances in four categories. The show starts at 9:00 p.m. and there will be a $2. cover charge. Anyone interested in performing sign up at the Rivervont or call the Eastern Maine AIDS Network at 990-3626.

February 7-13
MONDAY (AND ALL MONDAYS TIL FEBRUARY 21)
Bisexual Fellowship of Maine will hold speaker/pot-luck suppers. Tonight's speaker is a professor at Tufts University who's topic will be "The History of Silence." Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., dinner starts at 7:00 p.m., and speaker and/or discussion will begin at 7:30 p.m. First Parish, 425 Congress Street, Portland. For more information call 773-5747.

February 14-21
NATIONAL CONDOM WEEK!!!!!!!!!

February 15
TUESDAY
Thearo Universalist Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Fellowship of Maine is sponsoring a speaker/pot-luck supper. Tonight's speaker is Howard Solomon, Gay/lesbian historian and professor at Tufts University who's topic will be "The History of Silence." Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., dinner starts at 7:00 p.m., and speaker and/or discussion will begin at 7:30 p.m. First Parish, 425 Congress Street, Portland. For more information call 773-5747.

February 16
TUESDAY
THEATRE: DOUGLAS RALTER, Guest Organist on the Mighty Kotzschmar Organ, City Hall, 7:30 p.m... Call 774-3427 for more information.

February 16
SUNDAY
Chiltern Mountain Club winter day hike in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Call 617-547-0053 or Carol 508-392-9474.

February 17
WEDNESDAY
Bangor/Brewer PFLAG meets at 7:00 p.m. in Brewer. Call 989-5180 for the location.

February 17
THURSDAY
THEATRE: A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC, Original Cast Album of the musical by Stephen Sondheim, 7:00 p.m., WPKN FM 106.3.

February 18
THURSDAY
THEATRE: THEATRE: BLITHE SPIRIT, by Sir Noe l Coward, a ghostly Comedy, City Theater of Biddeford, Call 281-0849 for more information.

February 19
SUNDAY
THEATRE: SHIRLEY VALENTINE, a screwy love comedy at The Theater Project, Brunswick. Call 729-8584 for more information.

February 21
FRIDAY
February 20  
SATURDAY  
DIGNITY is presenting; JOHN McNEILL, former Jesuit priest and author of Taking a Chance on God: Liberating Theology for Gays, Lesbians and Their Lovers, Families and Friends and The Church and the Homosexual, who will speak on "Freedom, Glorious Freedom: Achieving Freedom as a Mature Lesbian/Gay Person." At the First Parish Church, Congress Street, Portland at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 422-3140.

February 21  
SUNDAY  
"Hearts of Fire" Valentine Ball sponsored by N.H. Pride at a SAGE to N.N. Pride, P.O. Box 396, Danville, NH 03819.

February 22  
MONDAY  
Alexander Wallace will speak on "Homosexuality and The Religious Right" at St. Anselm College, St. Anselm College, Manchester, NH at 7:00 p.m. Call 247-2500 for more information.

February 25  
THURSDAY  
The Matlovich Society presents: DR. DIANA LONG, Historian and Director of Women's Studies at USM, speaking on "Haven't We Seen This Before? An Historian Looks at Homosexuality." Portland Public Library, Rines Auditorium, 5 Monument Square, Portland, 7:30-9:00 p.m.; Wheelchair accessible.

February 27  
SATURDAY  
The 7th ANNUAL MLGPA DINNER, moves to Brunswick at the ATRIUM INN at Cooks Corner. This year will honor all the people who have contributed to the civil rights movement in Maine. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails, followed by a sit-down dinner at 6:30 p.m. There will be a brief award ceremony and new this year, a silent auction. Dancing will begin at 10:00 p.m. Reservations must be made. Seating is limited. For more information write or phone: Judy Edgerly, P.O. Box 136, Hallowell, ME 04347, call 626-9309. Also, for those traveling long distances room reservations may be made at the Atrium Inn at reasonable rates-call 729-5555.

February 20  
SATURDAY  
Gays, Lesbians and Their Lovers, Families and Friends and MLGPA is presenting; JOHN McNEILL, for Church, Congress Street, Portland at 7:30 p.m. Freedom: Achieving Freedom as a Mature Gay/Lesbian. For more information contact ALI EDGERLY, P.O. Box 136, Hallowell, ME 04347, call 626-9309.

February 21  
SUNDAY  
The MLGPA will meet to discuss most especially the bill before this session's legislature guaranteeing civil rights/equal rights to Lesbian and Gays. Augusta, 2:00 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Windthrop Street. Call Paula Aboud for information.

February 22  
MONDAY  
"A L I E D G E R L Y and HOST JOHN McNEILL, for Church, Congress Street, Portland at 7:30 p.m. Freedom: Achieving Freedom as a Mature Gay/Lesbian. For more information contact ALI EDGERLY, P.O. Box 136, Hallowell, ME 04347, call 626-9309.

February 22  
MONDAY  
ALEXANDER WALLACE and HOST JOHN McNEILL, for Church, Congress Street, Portland at 7:30 p.m. Freedom: Achieving Freedom as a Mature Gay/Lesbian. For more information contact ALI EDGERLY, P.O. Box 136, Hallowell, ME 04347, call 626-9309.

February 23, 24, 25 & 26  
SATURDAY, SUNDAY & MONDAY  
The 1993 MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN GAY & BISEXUAL EQUAL RIGHTS AND LIBERATION will take place on Sunday, April 25th in Washington, D.C.. For more information call the Wilde-Stein office at 581-1596.

March 13  
SATURDAY  
The 7th Annual VISUAL AIDS ART AUCTION to benefit the AIDS Project will be held at the Holiday Inn Downtown, Portland. The annual auction had over 140 artists and over 600 people attended. Rob Elowitch will be the Auctioneer and contributing artists this year include: Dozier Bell, Brett Bigbee, Alfred Chaubourne, Judy Ellis Clinklan, Pat & DeWitt Hardy, Paul Hensz, Charles Hewitt, Eric Hopkins, Fred Lynch, Alan Magaze, Celeste Roberts, Margarete Robichaud and Tom Wolf. The preview begins at noon and the Auction starts at 8:00 p.m.. Admission is $5. For more information contact VISUAL AIDS Project at 774-6877. The Snow date is March 14th.

March 21  
SATURDAY  
The MLGPA will meet to discuss most especially the bill before this session's legislature guaranteeing civil rights/equal rights to Lesbian and Gays. Augusta, 2:00 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Windthrop Street. Call Paula Aboud for information.

March 25  
THURSDAY  
The Matlovich Society presents: DR. GARY LEUPP, professor of Japanese history at Tufts University, presenting an illustrated lecture on "Naoshika Homosexuality in Japanese Culture." Portland Public Library, Rines Auditorium, 5 Monument Square, Portland, 7:30-9:00 p.m.. Wheel chair accessible.

March 27  
SATURDAY  
Sweet Honey in the Rock will be performing at the Maine Center for the Arts in Orono, Maine. The concert, sponsored by Spruce Run is in celebration of their 20th Anniversary. Tickets are available from the Maine Center for the Arts and are $18 plus a $3 per order processing fee. The concert is at 8:00 p.m. and will be sign language interpreted. For more information call 773-5747.

June 25-27  
FRIDAY-SUNDAY  
The 7th Annual Golden Threads Celebration will take place at the Provincetown Inn in Provincetown, MA. Golden Threads is a worldwide social network of Lesbian Women over 50, and women who are interested in older—no lesbian women is excluded. Lesbian women from all over the U.S., many from Canada and some from other countries will converge in Provincetown to celebrate the life and times of women over 50, whatever it is. Entertainment will be provided by Julie Woods. A banquet will be followed by DJ plowing, with the DJ mixing in the pre-rock oldies. Sing-a-songs and rap sessions will be offered, as well as feminist videos. Attendance is limited to 250 women. For more information please contact: Golden Threads, P.O. Box 3177, Burlington, VT 05401-3031.

April 12-17  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL awareness week at University of Maine-Orono. The Theme for this year is Religion and Homosexuality/Bisexuality. Activities/speeches planned so far are: Brian McHugh, who will speak on Tuesday. For more information call the Wilde-Stein office at 581-1596.
A CONVERSATION WITH JOHN PRESTON...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

work to be the first. And you almost never can win. You almost have to be down. No one when one is the best that perfect. And that's what I meant about generational, you have to be willing to be the step in a process as opposed to the end in the process."

HOW DO YOU FANTASIZE AND FANTASY RELATE TO YOUR REALITY?

The whole thing about the fiction and my reality is bizarre, because it happens on so many different levels. I usually bristle when they talk about all fiction being autobiographical, which gives the author no creativity. Actually, I once had a Master's in explicitly autobiographical and I owned it in the epilogue. The rest of my fiction is out there in outer space. It is simply my escape. It's not meant to be anything more than that. But there's also Franny the Queen of Provincetown, my first book, which fascinates me. I could easily deny that Franny was autobiographical. What I found out though was that it was autobiographical. By writing that book, I was trying on being a middle-aged person. I have become Franny. I have become this good uncle with these nephews, that wasn't in my life when I wrote that book. I was mapping a landscape that I would later on become.

Preston's autobiographies are filled with essays by gay male writers confronting some of the most personal aspects of gay life. His editing, contribution, and introductions are full of introspection, emotion, and careful analysis of social and personal patterns. His essays, however, is fantasy with a principle purpose of entertainment and exploration. His stories, sometimes called pornography and sometimes referred to by Preston and others as sleaze, but also been referred to USA Today as part of a new literary flowering. An examination of the actual content of Preston's sexual fiction will allow readers to attach their own labels free of the contradictory connotations of the labels of "sleaze" or "flourishing". His novels and short stories deal with naught and madness. S&M a la Preston includes most controversially the use of a variety of devices to inflict pain and create bruises and welts. It includes the ingestion of urine and the exposure of bodily wounds to the same. And it includes the use of branding iron and fists. And it involves mock slavery and men who refer to each other as Daddy and Son.

In his writings and interviews, John Preston has explained his view of the exposure of pornography in the life experience of gay men. "Pornographic writings were how we learned the parameters of our sexual life... Pornography was how we developed our fantasies, both sexual and emotional... It's incredible how you start, and then your first significant connection with the gay world through a porn magazine."

DO YOU THINK THAT A HEAVY S&M STORY IS A GOOD FIRST CONTACT WITH GAY IDENTITY FOR A SIXTEEN YEAR OLD PICKING UP A MAGAZINE?

"I'm finding in my middle age that my mother is the front of all New England wisdom. And I adore her very much, much more now than I probably ever have before. She came to a reading in a group in Boston a couple years ago, and some of the people read some very nasty stuff. And it had been my mother and a couple of my sisters and a room full of seventy five gay men. And afterward everyone went, "Oh my god, what did you do mother thing?" So she had an answer to it and said: "Ma, what'd you think?" And she looked at me and thought for a moment and said, "I could have left the room."

That was the end of the conversation.

You must remember it is another generational thing. I grew up in a time when there were no images, when there was only the void. The only people who were ever identified as gay were those who were gang in and out of the mental institutions or were stereotypical that they could be a role model for a young New England boy like myself thirty five years ago.

"I am not inclined to tell anybody what they ought to do. I am more inclined to present them with all the options as they want. And just as I do when writing erotica, they can explore something and decide they don't want to do it. A lot of stuff that I've written I don't want to do. That's not the point. It's in my fantasies. We shy away from very taboo topics. I want all of those things out on the table. When I came out I was told not to be a sexual person who wasn't nice. And I feel that I and other people have suffered from that. It is important to speak the unspoken. Especially when I was perceived as only being a pornographer, or perceived as being filthy it was much more important for me not to bear the burden of these secret thoughts than anything else, than the way that it might offend somebody."

WHEN EDITING YOUR EROTIC ANGST, DO YOU LIKE TO READ STORIES WHICH YOU FIND TOO OFFENSIVE TO PUBLISH?

There are some issues which are very common. Many issues of book love. I am not willing to take on the role of the censor, but having been a young boy who was sexually active I am acutely and painfully aware of the power discrepancies and I think that the whole argument about book love is not meaning-

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FEBRUARY 1993

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
with hilarious fornicacy. Wednesday nights at CAFE NO through February 17th. Call: 772-8114.

Up in Biddieford, in their beautiful, historic play-house, CITY THEATRE is producing our very own SIR NOEL COWARD's wonderful comic classic, "BLITHE SPIRIT." The epitome of the theatrical exploitation and British camp, "BLITHE SPIRIT," is "a delightful and improbable farce which deliciously delves into the world of the occult." If you've never seen a Coward play or live "British" comedy, pre-Monty Python - although they claim Crow as one of The Masters - "BLITHE SPIRIT" - almost indestructible - is to cut one's theatrical eye tooth on! You have in Elvira - created on stage by Gertrude Lawrence, the most glamorous of ghosts; in Madame Arcati, immortalized on screen by Margaret Rutherford; and in the musical comedy version by Bea Lillie - the wickedest psychic channeled ever - and in Charles, realized by Sir Noel himself, the apotheosis of The English Pig - three of Classic Comedy's greatest characters.

Friday and Saturday through February 26th. Call: 1-282-9494.

And on Thursday, February 25th, at 7PM, your humble scribbler will be racing through the ENTIRE history of the American Musical Comedy, playing ten or twenty of my favorite musical comedy selections as the guest of host JOHN SPITZ of WFKM 106.3 FM. It's a new programming effort called "LISTENER'S FAVORITES," and I'm honored to be John's first guest. And my selections go way back.

And a last minute flash! PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY is doing a play with an AIDS theme: "THE BALTIMORE WALTZ," by PAULA VOGEL. It starts February 2nd. Call: 774-0496.

See THE CALENDAR for other February theatre offerings and if you have anything for the column, please send it to me. Alexander Wallace, Box 5301, Portland, Maine 04101 or call me at 773-5726.

GAY & LESBIAN TIMES OF MAINE

PUBLIC TV SAYS "NO"...

He did offer that the station had recorded the first shows for possible future broadcast. And he has finally verified the pilot show. I argued strenuously that it was time for Maine Public Television to recognize that Maine has a large gay and lesbian constituency, as evidenced by the success of Portland's and Lewiston's new human rights ordnance.

I asked him when his failure to decide should be considered a decision in itself—after a month, two months, six months? I asked if he even had a timetable for deciding. To all of these, Mr. Wiest had no direct response other than to imply that the show would not be airing before May. Although I reminded him of my two earlier calls and that he was first offered this show last May, Mr. Wiest could give me no indication of when, or if, a decision would ever be made.

Mr. Wiest further suggested that I contact Bernie Roscetti, his immediate supervisor and director of both public radio and TV, as well as Robert Gardner, president and general manager of the whole Maine system. I think I even got a chuckle out of him when I mentioned Mr. Roscetti's very, on-the-air reference to "family" programming during December's pledge drive. I explained that I didn't hold much hope for anyone who was still using such anti-gay buzzwords, especially after last year's local and national electoral campaign.

At one point Mr. Wiest suggested that he was trying to find a good time slot for our program. He said he didn't want to pre-empt it to Sundays at 11:00 PM as other public stations do. I hope I spoke correctly when I said that we would be happy to have it broadcast then—we have VCR's—rather than not see it at all. This seemed to be an oxymoron for Mr. Wiest regarding some sort of further consideration. But, as ever, he would not say.

I finished the interview by asking Mr. Wiest how he recommends that we let our feelings be known. He first replied that he has already heard from a number of viewers.

MAINE FINALLY HAS ITS GAY COMMUNITY CENTER

JOHN PRESTON

from page 7

thing to make these heterosexuals very jealous. Being the dreamer I am, my wish would be for the old St. Lawrence Church (that was housed in the Bar Harbor area) to be our new community center. It is sad how a building of such fantastic history and architecture just sits there rotting away. Of course, there is no reason to keep it or to give it away. Anyway, as I was saying, this is one of the many things that I would like to see happen, but the reality of dealing with the city is that it is only about a third of the way there. I am not quite sure if I can take it anymore.

But in your own writing there is a lot of vocabulary of Daddy and son?

"But that's psycho-play between consenting adults and it's very clear that it's always that. And I think that's very powerful stuff. That's what a lot of our lives are about right now in terms of our culture. We're all clinging to fungun archetypes and looking at things in that way and acting out various aspects of our lives. I think it's all part of the creativity of gay sex that we're now seeing in the magazines and the movies. And that's when we get into playing into societal exploitations."

"There are also certain things about gay sex and gay porn which separate them from other categories. Heterosexual porn almost always involves the degradation of a woman and thus reinforces the societal standard of a woman's degradation. Gay porn is strikingly different in that it is a male, can take either role. The common woman reader can not take either role in heterosexual porn as it's usually constructed. But the gay male reader can. So it's story is either the master or the slave depending on his moment.

I am more and more convinced that gay male porn, especially S&M is about a rite of initiation. There is a ritual being performed in an under-ritualized world. I am very intrigued by the elements of costume, how much in S&M literature; for instance, the 'boy', who is not necessarily younger by any means, earns his leather, endures an ordeal, is taught by a master. "What is the significance of the limp?" Although I really don't know that there were two stories which on first reading are rape stories, and it wasn't until a second reading that the reader could see that there was a sexual context. The incident in which In Fitch and the Word 2, the editor came back and was quite stunned that there were two stories which on first reading are rape stories, and it wasn't until a second reading that the reader could see that there was a sexual context. The incident in which In Fitch and the Word 2, the editor came back and was quite stunned that there were two stories which on first reading are rape stories, and it wasn't until a second reading that the reader could see that there was a sexual context.

"Are you reporting these rites of initiation or creating them?"

"We as writers are both reporting what's happening in the bar and the men in the bar are finding in our writings ways to fulfill their needs. The first thing I ever wrote of any note was in Mr. Bessow which appeared as a serial. I found it very shocking that there were clubs of men who purported to act each segment as it was published in the magazine. It never dawned on me that people were going to do these things because I want to do go do these things, or not all of them anyway. People are still responsible for what they do. They're responsible for how they interpret the writing. If someone is uncreative enough to not come up with his own sex life and follow my writings, I don't feel that's my responsibility."

John Preston will be speaking to the Madonna Society on February 11, 1993, in the Portland Public Library, arguing that there is no difference between pornography and erotica.
Maine says NO...

I reminded him that this story might be the first notice many Maine gays and lesbians have that this show even exists. I explained again that I felt he was underestimating the size of the potential audience in Maine for "In The Life." I guess he took my questions as threatening. He would only suggest that we do whatever we like. He again strongly refused to give any time-line for even making a decision, let alone putting our program on the air.

On one hand, Mr. West has given every impression that he is an open and reasonable man, as I am sure he believes himself to be. On the other hand, he has relegated our show to the shelf without considering the homophobic nature of the act. People like Mr. West find validation for their dismissal of our concerns in the social and professional acceptance of potential treatment for lesbians and gay men. This kind of internalized and institutionalized discrimination is even harder to fight than the Jarper Wyman of the world, who freely admit they are fighting us.

This is an important issue. Visibility in mainstream media is the number one way to battle the ignorance that fosters homophobia. It is clear they need a push.

WHAT YOU CAN DO
1. Become an "In The Life" member. Dues are high ($35 or $50) but consider joining if only for this startup year. They hope to receive grants and PIS or corporate underwriting for their second season. Call Kevin McDonough for more info at 1-800 / 578-4354.

2. Tell Maine Public Television that you want to see "In The Life." It is obvious that we have a great deal of inertia to overcome at MPTV. Every one of us - this means you - must send a postcard to have our program broadcast. If you are a subscriber, please say so in any communication you have.

3. Contact your gay-friendly Maine state legislators. Let them know you are a public citizen whose needs are not being met by Maine Public Television, a major recipient of your tax dollars. Let them know that "In The Life" has been available free-of-charge since last June.

Here are the major players:
Robert H. Gardiner Bernard F. Roscetti
President and General Manager Director of Broadcasting
Maine Public Broadcasting Corp. Maine Public Broadcasting Corp.
1450 Lisbon Street 1450 Lisbon Street
Leawood, MA 04240 Bangor, ME 04401
phone: 1-783-9101 phone: 1-941-1010

Harry J. West
Manager of Televison Programming
Maine Public Broadcasting Corp.
1450 Lisbon Street
Leawood, MA 04240
phone: 1-783-9101

BETSY HOOD
M.A., L.S.A.C.
Licensed Substance Abuse Counselor

Individual and Group Therapy for Addictions, Codependence and Family-of-Origin issues.
Specializing in the healing of childhood wounds.
1 Middle Road
Cumberland Foreside
Maine, 04110
829-3221

POLARITY THERAPY
Bodywork to balance life energies for healing & well-being
Willow Femmenchild, R.N.
Portland, Maine
(207) 874-2932

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16 APARTMENT TO SHARE OR RENT
Lesbian, 37, looking for one or two lesbians interested in renting a house on or near salt water near Portland-Freemont-Higgins Beach? Prefer non-smokers, pets (I have one dog) and people with a sense of humor. Please call 772-3757, leave a message and I'll get back to you.

GM Roommate sought to share house in Camden. Wooded area but close to town. Private bath. Non-smoker, please. $200.00. + 1/2 utilities. Call 235-8935.

Portland-USM Area: To share lovely 2 bedroom fully applianced duplex with oil heat. Private, quiet, chem-free environment includes w/d hookup, off-street parking and more. GWM preferred. $312.50 + 1/2 utilities. Available 1/15/93. Pets negotiable. Call 780-1415 and leave a message.

20 FEMALE PERSONALS
Bored! Want to travel? Seeking a travel companion for 2/5 weeks vacation in Czech, visiting local dykes living there. Interested? Call 882-9672 for details.

21 MALE PERSONALS
GWM, 44, seeks other GWM's or GMY's ages 40-50 in the Kennebec County area for just a "good friendship" to pass away lonely times into enjoyable ones. Write to advertiser #203-1, c/o Our Paper, Box 737, Portland, ME 04104.

Sore Muscles from working out? Call for a massage from a GWM to help you feel like yourself again. Call 795-0984, ask for Alan. Hours 7:30 am - 8:00 p.m.

Lonely Mid-Coast Male seeks GWM for fun, perhaps relationship. I like both classical & folk music, theatre, antiques, eating out, working out. Age is not important. Let's get together and explore our feelings. Write Advertiser #519-2, c/o Our Paper, Box 737, Portland, ME 04104.

SERIOUS TOP SEKS
Bottoms. GWM 49, seeks younger, masculine men sincerely interested in consensual, non-nonsense S & M & D sessions. Roger, P.O. Box 2954, Acton, MA 01720-6954.

PERSONAL OF THE MONTH:
Sensuous, Single figurative painter seeking:
1. a lean model &/or a challenging comrade, &/or
2. a legitimate or 1st time collector, &/or
3. a best friend of unique quality. Write to advertiser #800-1, c/o Our Paper, Box 737, Portland, ME 04104.

Serious Top Seeks Bottoms. GWM 49, seeks younger, masculine men sincerely interested in consensual, no nonsense S & M & D sessions. Roger, P.O. Box 2954, Acton, MA 01720-6954.

12 MISCELLANEOUS
HANDWRITING ANALYSIS. Personality profiles done by a certified analyst. Send page long writing sample and $35. to: Bernard Leclerc, P.O. Box 2954, Acton, MA 01720-6954.

PLANT SALE
Plant sale at 415 Wharf St., Portland. Late March. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free seminars on a variety of topics. For info call 775-1753.
Mo'Classifieds

22 BI PERSONALS

BIWM, 25, seeks young aggressive trim BI or straight-acting CWM for friendship. I'm honest, friendly, trim, outgoing and enjoy outdoor activities, music. Discretion is assured. Write to DCL, P.O. Box 1305-#161, Brunswick, ME 04011.

Attractive Male, 38, 6'2", 175lbs. Very clean, discrete, honest, sincere,- you be the same. Ellsworth area. Limited travel. No evenings or weekends. Noice bi, novice submissive. Seeking attractive female(s) or couple for exploration, encounter. All discreetly answered. Photo/Phone appreciated. Write to: Advert. 906-2, c/o Our Paper, box 737, Portland, ME 04104.

66 COUNSELING
Support Group and Counseling Sessions for Gay Men and Women, 61 Main Street, Bangor, Maine. Men meet Mondays at 7:00 p.m. and Women meet Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Cost is $20 per person per 1 1/2 hour session. Sessions are led by J. Bunker, M. Ed. Counselor. Call 947-1022 or 990-2944.

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GLT Calendar

Calendar

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SUBSCRIPTIONS, P.O. Box 737, Portland, ME 04104

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ANY QUESTIONS?
Sign me up for one year of GLT, Maine's Gay and Lesbian Times, for $15. 3 years is just $25. A savings of over 20%! (GLT is mailed monthly in a plain envelope)
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the Colorado initiative. Only 35 percent said they would vote for it and 6 percent were undecided.

GAY SAILOR MURDERED IN JAPAN

The U.S. Navy is investigating whether a sailor based in southern Japan was murdered six weeks ago because he was a homosexual.

Seaman Allen Richard Schindler, 22, waited to death at midnight on Oct. 27 in a public restroom in a park near Sasebo Naval Base in Japan. A newspaper report said two of Schindler's friends were arrested last week.

The court-martial of Schindler's sailors were convicted and eight received prison sentences.

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The House of Lords heard an appeal by a group of gay men in case that is expected to settle whether sadomasochistic sex, both heterosexual and homosexual, will be legal in Britain.

The men were arrested five years ago during a nationwide police campaign that resulted in 42 arrests of alleged members of a gay male S/M group. Sixteen were convicted and eight received prison sentences.

According to the London weekly *Capital Gay*, the appeal centered on whether the law should draw the line on bodily harm when determining the legal definition of consent.

Baroness Anne Mallalieu, representing the gay men, argued that the law should interfere in consenting sexual acts only if they take place in public. She said the men should have never been tried in the first place, since no complaint was made to the police, and since the activities were private, did not involve children or animals, and did not cause serious or permanent injuries.

ENGLAND'S HOUSE OF LORDS TO DECIDE IF S/M IS LEGAL

The House of Lords heard an appeal by a group of gay men in case that is expected to settle whether sadomasochistic sex, both heterosexual and homosexual, will be legal in Britain.

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GAY & LESBIAN TIMES OF MAINE

GLT

HIV/AIDS INFORMATION & EDUCATION

THE FACTS ABOUT HIV & AIDS

WHAT IS IT?

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome). HIV attacks the immune system and weakens it over time. AIDS is a diagnosis that a person infected with HIV receives after the virus has severely damaged his/her immune system.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

HIV is transmitted through certain body fluids: blood, semen, vaginal secretions (including menstrual blood, cervical discharge, and fluids of sexual lubrication), and breast milk. There is no evidence that the virus is transmitted through saliva, tears or sweat. HIV may be present in urine and feces if blood is present in either of these substances. HIV is spread from person to person in the following ways:

SEXUAL INTERCOURSE
- anal intercourse (penis in anus/rectum)
- vaginal intercourse (penis in vagina)
- oral sex (mouth to vagina, mouth to penis, mouth to anus).

BLOOD TO BLOOD CONTACT
- sharing needles (for intravenous drugs, steroids, ear piercing or tattooing)
- through open cuts or sores (including cuts from broken glass/table/snailet sister rituals)
- body fluids from infected donors (infected red blood, infected blood products: blood, needles, blood tests, etc.)

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS prior to 1985 when no antibody test existed (According to the American Red Cross, there is a 1 in 40,000 chance of contacting the virus through a transfusion today.)

BIRTH
- A mother can transmit the virus to a child before or during birth, and after birth through breast feeding.

PROTECT YOURSELF!

- Use a latex condom every time for oral or vaginal intercourse (storing). Be sure to use a good lubricant in order to reduce friction and make the condom less likely to break. Lubrication for latex condoms must always be water-based like KY or Wet. Lubricants that contain petroleum or oils (vaseline, crisco, baby oil, etc.) will quickly dissolve the condom and cause it to break. Note: water soluble lubricant is not the same as water based, and may contain oils—read labels carefully.

- Use a non-lubricated condom for oral sex on a penis (flexible). For best results, use a wet cloth to gently wipe the powder off the condom before putting it in your mouth. Some people choose to avoid condoms by licking the shaft and balls of the penis without putting the tip of the penis in their mouth.

- Use a latex or plastic wrap barrier for oral-vaginal sex (going down) or oral-anal sex (stoming). Barriers you can use include common plastic wraps like saran or Glad wrap (some come lined in tin foil), a condom cut lengthwise to form a square, or a dental dam piece of latex used during dental procedures, often flavored. For added pleasure, you might try putting lubrication on the side of the barrier facing the vagina or anus (always use a water based lubricant for latex barriers).

- Do not share sex toys. If you must share, make sure to wash them in hot, soapy water between users. When sharing dildos, one partner can use it with a condom, then remove the condom before passing the dildo to the next person.

- If you're an I.V. drug user, avoid sharing needles. If you must share needles, be sure to clean them properly with bleach and throw them away.

- Remember the point here is to always avoid receiving blood, semen or vaginal secretions in your mouth, rectum, vagina, the tip your penis, or on any open cuts or sores.

- There are lots of activities that pose virtually no risk for HIV transmission. Some include kissing, kissing, masturbation, phone sex, bathing, etc. Be creative!

- Use of alcohol and other drugs can cloud your judgement and cause you to put yourself at risk. Substance abuse also lowers the body's immune system, making transmission even more likely.

ANY QUESTIONS?

The AIDS Line is Maine's state-wide source for HIV/AIDS information for referrals. Call us at 1-800-451-AIDS or 773-7267 if you have questions about safer sex, transmission, or HIV antibody testing. Always strictly anonymous.

JON GREENBERG SPEAKS AT MATLOVICH MEETING

"AIDS: An Open Systems Approach"

By John Bean

Jon Greenberg, a former spokesperson for ACT UP/New York, and director of the Treatment Alternatives Project, was invited back by the Matlovich Society to speak on January 14th. Last winter, he spoke on the AIDS Crisis (he started by saying it's over, which raised a few eyebrows), and gave a workshop on alternative treatments for AIDS (focusing less on particular treatments than on PWA's becoming empowered enough to manage their health care and their lives). Back then, his criticisms targeted, among others, direct action groups and entrenched AIDS service organizations. This time around, his focus was on what PWA's can do for themselves, and on the second of the world understands AIDS. Since he is a person very in touch with his anger, mixed in with the metaphysics were frequent, witty aside focusing on the assertions of various gallery of preachers, doctors, social workers, straight white middle-class males, etc. Jon left an appreciative audience of about thirty through a sometimes harrowing (he called this worst) yet logical series of musings on living with AIDS, on empowerment, on unleashing false messages, on spiritual growth. Opening with a parable from a footnote to the Tao Te Ching, a story of apparent blessings bringing misfortune, and seeming disasters turning into good fortune, he returned once again to the message that living with AIDS has been a blessing to him, that this has taught him the lessons he values most. He even offered that if he knew what he knows now, and would again learn the same things he has from this life with AIDS, that he would walk the same path toward HIV infection if he had to it do all over again.

Jon charted his reaction to his HIV status and living with AIDS—a passage through fear, anger, public outrage, empowerment, the shedding of illusions, peace, love and respect, clarity, and finally to a state of grace and trust in the universe. He offered a disclaimer that these were personal truths he was going to share, learned from his body, that no one was obliged to accept their universality. He acknowledged diversity among PWA's, that he didn't wish to invalidate anyone else's reality by sharing his own. He proposed that life is made up of change, of pain, and ultimately of death, and that our society fears all these things.

This fear, he said, denies what life really is. And AIDS, which brings change, pain, and death becomes the focus of this fear. Jon Greenberg would argue that AIDS is nothing to fear. Living with AIDS is living, yet another diverse way of living that is not a punishment, not a curse, just different. What if "normal" immune system does, he suggested, is just one definition of health, and its an assumption to believe that living with AIDS is less healthy. In fact, Jon might argue that his...
GAY & LESBIAN TIMES OF MAINE

MATLOVICH...CONTINUED

Vincent Boulanger, Gray, one of the longest living people with AIDS in Maine, died in his home on Tuesday, January 5. Boulanger was widely known in the community as an AIDS education activist. Since his diagnosis in 1986, he worked with The AIDS Project and the State Department of Education, giving talks to numerous high schools and community groups across the state. He spoke frankly about his own fears about people with AIDS. He was a strong advocate of clear, explicit information for youth.

Boulanger was one of the first in Maine to go public with his HIV status. Over the years, he was the subject of numerous newspaper and television stories on AIDS, and was perhaps the most interviewed PWA in the state. He felt strongly that more people needed to come out about their HIV status. He thought that only by keeping the face of AIDS in the public eye could ignorance, fear, and discrimination be overcome.

In 1988, he appeared in Newsweek with another Portland AIDS activist, Frannie Peabody, when she was honored as one of the 50 unsung heroes in each of the states who have made a difference in their communities. In 1991, Vincent appeared with Peabody on the television show “Good Morning, America.”

“Vincent had a kind of tenacity, determination and will that was truly remarkable,” said Frannie Peabody. “He was very courageous through many battles with his illness. And he was blessed with parents who supported him completely. I have worked with many families struck by AIDS. That kind of family support is rare, and makes all the difference in a person’s struggle with AIDS.”

Boulanger served on the board of directors of The AIDS Project from 1987 to 1989, and was a regular donor to their annual AIDS benefit art auction. In addition to his work with AIDS, he was a vocal advocate for community safety and civil rights for women and lesbians. He was the victim of a vicious attack because he was gay, but did not win the case against his assailants. He spoke openly about his gay identity whenever he gave talks about AIDS.


Boulanger remained active throughout his last year of life. He turned 30 in July, marking seven years of living with HIV. Boulanger was an artist who worked in several different media. He was also a naturalist and artist who had much of his knowledge about nature to his many years as a Boy Scout. He kept a garden at his home in Gray, and created bonsai in recent years. He was the victim of a vicious attack because he was gay, but did not win the case against his assailants. He spoke openly about his gay identity whenever he gave talks about AIDS.


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Vincent Boulanger is survived by his mother, Shirley, and father, Donald, who were his primary caregivers, a brother, Jeffrey, two grandmothers, a small, painstaking work helped him to fight the loss of mobility in his hands. During early bouts of paralysis, his creativity found outlets in quilts and soft sculpture. An early quilt of cats won first prize at the Cumberland Museum of Art’s observance of “A Day Without Art,” which focused on the impact of AIDS on the arts. In the fall, the Museum installed “Vincent’s Journey,” a porcelain life mask of Boulanger done by Portland artist, Paul Rodrigue.

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Vincent Boulanger is survived by his mother, Shirley, and father, Donald, who were his primary caregivers, a brother, Jeffrey, two grandmothers, and his persian cat, Lucy. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 31 at 3:00 p.m. at First Parish Church in Portland. The family has asked that memorial gifts be sent to the Peabody Fund at The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Sq., Portland, ME 04101.
MLGPA NEWS

On Sunday, January 17, 1993, the Maine Lesbian/Cay Political Alliance (MLGPA) held a special election to fill vacancies on the Board. Elected to the board at the January meeting were: President-Paula Aboud, Vice President-Judy Edgerton, Treasurer-Larry Bliss.

Harry Gordon who has filled the role of acting President over the past two months will remain as Secretary of the organization. Newly elected District Directors include: Ellie Goldberg, Anke Steen, Pat Pearl, and Alan Stearns. Members elected At-Large are: Mary MacLean, Karen Garrity.

For a complete list of MLGPA Directors and the Districts they represent, please write to: MLGPA, P.O. Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04947.

MLGPA'S ANNUAL DINNER MOVES TO BANGOR

For the seventh time, members and friends of MLGPA will gather to honor those who have contributed to the civil rights movement in Maine. It is also a celebration of the community and is considered by many to be one of the state's premier social evenings. MLGPA's dinner and dancing is scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 1993 at the Atrium Inn at Cook's Corner in Bangor, just off route 1. Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a sit-down dinner at 6:30 p.m. A brief awards ceremony will follow the speaker. Dancing at 10:00 p.m.

A silent auction will also highlight the evening and organizers are looking for items to auction. Donations could be an item and description, including a picture, if possible, along with a minimum acceptable bid and your name/address/phone number. Please include permission to print your name with donation.

Reservations must be in prior to 2/23/93. If your fails to arrive, write or phone Herb at 622-3346. Deadline is 2/3/93.

We are also in need of people willing to work with us legislatively, i.e. willing to call your legislator, write a letter to the editor, stuff envelopes, fundraise, or lend moral support. Call one of the following for meeting locations in your area or for more details.

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1993 is the year to take positive action for ourselves and future generations. We look forward to linking arms with each and every one of our community members and our supporters in this legislative effort for our equal rights.

MLGPA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The CIVIL RIGHTS BILL for Lesbians and Gay men in Maine is the legislative focus for MLGPA this session. Prized sponsor for the Bill this year is Senator Gerry Conley of Portland. This is the 8th session in which the Bill will be submitted, the first one being submitted in 1977. In the last two sessions the Bill has passed in either the House or Senate, but not in both at the same time. However, the prospects this year are very good for the Bill to pass both houses. Please we are encouraged that the Governor will move away from his position of last year, making this year our best opportunity to pass the Bill.

We need your help in the passage. Some ways to help include:

1. Writing at the public hearing.
2. Working with the Legislative committee,
3. Contacting your own legislator regarding this bill.

Our work has already begun. A constituent for each of the 35 Senators and 151 Representatives has made a personal contact with his/her legislator to help us identify where each one stands on this Bill. Committees for fundraising, media, lobbying, education, phone banking, etc. have been formed in Augusta and now in Portland. A Bangor committee is urgently needed. Call Harry Gordon if interested at 942-3901.

UGLY: IN PREPARATION FOR THE COMMITTEE HEARING AT THE STATE HOUSE IN LATE FEBRUARY OR EARLY MARCH, MLGPA URGENTLY REQUESTS THAT ANY PERSON WHO HAS EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, OR VIOLENCE ON THE BASIS OF HER/HIS SEXUAL ORIENTATION WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO TESTIFY AT A PUBLIC HEARING OR SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY FOR THE HEARING, PLEASE CONTACT: MARY MCFERRSON AT 56 MECHANIC ST. IN CAMDEN, ME. 04843 OR CALL 236-8411.

We are also in need of people willing to work with us legislatively, i.e. willing to call your legislator, write a letter to the editor, stuff envelopes, fundraise, or lend moral support. Call one of the following for meeting locations in your area or for more details.

AGUASITA: Tuesday 6:00 p.m., Paula Aboud, 442-2526
PORTLAND: Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Larry Bliss, 767-4496
BANGOR: No meetings yet. Call Harry Gordon, 942-3901
AROOSTOOK CIV: No meetings yet. Call Dick Dickinson, 449-2234

A total community effort is needed to pass this civil rights bill on a Statewide basis. 1993 is the year to take positive action for ourselves and future generations. We look forward to linking arms with each and every one of our community members and our supporters in this legislative effort for our equal rights.

Please help us in our efforts to pass this bill.

On the Road to realizing this dream.

On the Road to realizing this dream.

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