U of Maine student challenges ROTC

A student in the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University of Maine campus at Orono is fighting his dismissal from the campus military program. Neal Snow, who was fourth in command at the U of M ROTC program, is being dismissed from the program because he is gay. He had been in ROTC for six semesters when he told his commanders of his sexual orientation. "I'm tired of everything that's happening—the hiding, the lying, the stereotypes, the labels, homophobia, being alone, politicians, ignorance, and people telling me what I can and cannot do."

Administrators at the university are assisting Snow in his attempt to remain in ROTC and to challenge the military ban on gay and lesbian soldiers. John Diamond, representing the school administration, noted that the ROTC and U.S. Defense Department ban violates the University of Maine system's five-year-old policy against anti-gay bias. A conflict arises because the University of Maine is a Land Grant College, and as such are mandated to offer military training. School administrators will work with the National Association of Universities and Land Grant Colleges to pressure the Pentagon to change their exclusionary policy.

Edmundston, Bathurst
NEW GROUPS FORM

Two AIDS support groups and one social group have been organized in two New Brunswick communities. In Madawaska County, EAGLES is Edmundston Area Gays & Lesbians for Equal Status. They provide a way for people to meet other members of the community in that area. NLN members showed their support for the new group when nine Lambs attended EAGLES' first potluck in August. The Edmundston group had another potluck in October and they plan a Christmas party December 12. EAGLES, POB 611, Edmundston E3V 3L2, 506.753-5029.

AIDS New Brunswick/SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick has started support groups in Bathurst and Edmundston for persons living with HIV/AIDS, their family members, and friends. For information about their meeting place and time, contact AIDS NB, 65 Brunswick Street, Fredericton E3B 1G5, 800.561-4009.
Results of Demographics Survey
During the first nine months of 1992, a survey was conducted to get a small sampling of who we are as gays, lesbians, and bisexuals in this region. Here is a summary of the 56 surveys returned. Not all numbers add to 56, since not everyone answered every question.

**RESPONDENTS 33**
men and 22 women
identified themselves as: homosexuals 38, heterosexuals 0, women were unsure, three women were unsure, and no one said they were bisexual. Age ranges: 15-20 (1) 20-44 (14) 21-24 (7) 25-49 (9) 30-44 (11) 60+ (0) 35-39 (10)

**PLACE OF BIRTH**
Maine (22), New Brunswick (4), Quebec (2), New England (3), New Jersey (2), New York State (2), and one from Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Virginia, Washington, DC, Massachusetts, Ohio, Georgia, and Takikawa, Japan.

**COUNTY OF RESIDENCE**
Aroostook 41, Madawaska 8, Carleton 4, Victoria 0.

**CITIZENSHIP**
There were 41 US citizens, 13 Canadians, and one person with dual US-Canadian citizenship.

**LANGUAGES Primary spoken by your family?**
English 43, French 13.

**Your current primary language?**
English 44, French 10. Bilanguial? Yes 14, No 40, Spanish 1

**EDUCATION No high school degree 1, high school degree 2, some college 18, university degree 1, some graduate school 4, graduate degree 5, some post-grad school 3, post-graduate degree 2.

**EMPLOYMENT**
full time 37, part time 4, self-employed 2, students 2, unemployed 1, retired 1, unemployed 4

**INDIVIDUAL GROSS INCOME**
SUS/CDNS under 10,000 13, 10,001-15,000 7, 15001-20,000 11, 20,001-25,000 6, 25,001-30,000 5, 30,001-35,000 5, 35,001-40,000 2, 40,001-50,000 3, over 50,000 2

**DISCRIMINATION**
How have you experienced it? getting a job 5, on-the-job 12, renting housing 0, obtaining credit 0

**GAYBASHING How have you experienced it verbally 29, physically 5, emotionally 15; by a stranger 23, by a friend 1, by a family member 8. No one indicated they had ever experienced this.

**SEXUAL ORIENTATION**
Lesbians 1, Gay 45, Bisexual 0, Heterosexual 11.

**WHAT WE CALL OURSELVES gay 42, lesbian 12, queer 5, dyke 2, fag/gaggo 4, fii 5, queer 3, homosexual 20, sir 1, cocksucker 1

**DO WE SMoke cigaretes? Yes 15, No 35; Drink alcohol? Yes 30, No 21; Recovering alcoholic? Yes 8, no 35; Use drugs? Yes 6, no 42.

**VOTING Are we registered to vote? Yes 42, No 10. In which party? IN/D/D/PP/NDP/UNP.

**THE US:**
A Portland statute which protects residents from discrimination based upon sexual orientation faces a repeal effort by a group of religious fundamentalists and ultra-conservatives. The November 3 vote will test the strength of not only the gay lesbian community but of those who believe that discrimination against us is wrong. This battle is also being waged in Oregon and Colorado in statewide anti-gay referenda. Those who support the politics of bigotry and prejudice may initiate a similar statewide campaign in Maine. Our success or failure in Portland will affect everyone in Maine. This campaign is expensive. Send your contributions today to Equal Protection/Portland, POB 1894, Portland 04104. For more information, call 207.761.8480.
Gay/Lesbian Guide Lesbiennne/Gai

COMMUNIQUE published ten times yearly by NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, an organization serving the gay-lesbian community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick (Aroostook-Madawaska-Victoria- Carleton counties). SUBSCRIPTIONS: $10 per year.

NEWS & FEATURES in this issue were from: The New Brunswick Coalition for Human Rights Reform Inc. Newsletter (Fredericton), and The ADVOCATE (Los Angeles).

DO MORE THAN BELONG.
participate

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN),
CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736
USA
GAY-LESBIAN PHONELINE 207.498-2088
toll-free: staffed Wed, 7-9pm (Maine)
AROOSTOOK AREA GAY/LESBIAN
AA GROUP meets Sundays, 7pm
(Maine time) in Madawaska. Group bilingual. Call 207.498-2088 to make contact

ACT UP/BANGOR POB 1554,
04102-1554, 207.947-3947
AIDS New Brunswick/SIDA
Newbury-Brunswick 800.561-4009
AIDS Line/Maine 800.561-AIDS -
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Mon & Wed til 7:30pm
AM CHOSI Maine Jewish group,
meets monthly; POB 5017, Portland
04101, 207.871-1014 (Bob) or 832-
6004 (Susan)
APEX: A Point of Departure,
published monthly by Phoenix Press,
POB 4743, Portland 04112
DIGNITY/Maine Catholic group,
POB 8113, Portland 04104
EASTERN MAINE AIDS NETWORK
POD 2038, Bangor 04401-2038,
207.990-EMAN
EDMUNSTON AREA GAYS &
LESBIANS FOR EQUAL STATUS
(EAGLES) POB 611, Edmundston
312 506.759-5029
FREDERICTON LESBIANS & GAYS
(FLAG) POB 1556, Station A E38
506, 506.457-2156 (Mon & Thurs 6-
9pm)
GAEZETTE for Lesbians & Gay Men
in Atlantic Canada, published 10
times yearly, POB 3490, Scotia
Square, Halifax, NS B3J 3J1
GAZETTE: A Voice for Lesbians and
Gays in Maine, published monthly,
9 Deering Street, POB 10744, Portland
04104, 207.761.0733

BUILDING FUND
$10,000 GOAL
$1378.19 U.S. funds as of 10/25/92

The NLN Building Fund is designed to raise money for a community center for this region.

The center will house the telephone, library, office, meeting space, and party space. Since NLN is a 501(c)(3)

group, all donations are
tax-deductible on federal U.S. income tax; merely ask for a receipt. Donations of any amount - U.S. or
Canadian funds - are appreciated.

qui ont de la difficulté financièrement, des paiements à terme peut être organisé. NLN est une organisation a but non-lucratif; toutes donations sont taxe deductible aux U.E seulement. Les tarifs de publicité dans le
COMMUNIQUE sont disponibles. Vos commentaires et contributions sont les bienvenus.

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and Canadian funds are accepted at pair. Low-income people may make arrangements to pay in installments.
NLN is a non-profit organization; all donations are U.S.
tax-deductible. Advertising rates in COMMUNIQUE are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.