

## HUNGARY LEGALIZES GAY MARRIAGE

**(Outlines)** - Hungary's Constitutional Court has legalized common-law gay marriage.

Common-law and formally married couples have the same rights in Hungary. Any couple that lives together permanently and has sex is considered married under common law.

The court said a law limiting common-law marriages to "those formed between adult men and women" was unconstitutional.

"It is arbitrary and contrary to human dignity...that the law withholds recognition from couples living in an economic and emotional union simply because they are same-sex," the court wrote.

The justices ordered parliament to make the changes necessary to implement common-law gay marriage by 3/1/96.

Paradoxically, the court ruled that formal, civil marriages are for heterosexual couples only.

"Despite growing acceptance of homosexuality (and) changes in the traditional definition of a family, there is no reason to change the law on (civil) marriages," the justices wrote.

Gay leaders welcomed the ruling. Lajos Romsauer, president of Homeros Lambda, said it doesn't matter that only common-law marriage was legalized for gays because all the same rights are granted. Homeros initiated the legal action that led to the ruling.

In Denmark, Norway and Sweden gay couples also have the same rights as married people.

### BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

- 🍌 Tits Exam
- 🍌 Citi Bites It
- 🍌 APEX Rejected
- 🍌 More Chocolate

## BANGOR DOES PRIDE

by Peter Prizer

Highlighting a weekend of Pride activities, the Bangor Pride Parade hit the mostly sunny streets July 8 marching, chanting, riding, biking, singing and smiling a colorful course from Fleet Bank to Paul Bunyan Park.

Among the exuberant throng, which stretched several city blocks, were scores of individuals and numerous supportive groups, including the Unitarian Universalist Church, Maine Won't Discriminate, the Mable Wadsworth Health Center, the Peace and Justice Center, the National Organization for Women, Clergy for Equal Rights as well as other activist groups.

Capably led by a revved-up contingent of dykes on bikes, many marchers simply carried their own signs, banners or balloons.

More a pathetic curiosity than intended bedevilment, an all-male curbside coterie of wacko fundamentalists held up neatly drawn placards with Old Testament homophobic scripture. A youthful and appropriately animated Pastor Dean of the Berean Bible Baptist church waved a bible around his head as if swatting imaginary flies while hollering "GOD DISCRIMINATES! GOD DISCRIMINATES!" This in response to the marchers' chants of "MAINE WON'T DISCRIMINATE!"

As the 300 or so marchers filtered into Paul Bunyan Park they were greeted with Norm Vincent on the saxophone, songs by Darth Jennings, a chorus from the Unitarian Church and speeches by Bangor City Councilor Christopher Popper and former state representative Mary Cathcart.

A dozen tables at the rally offered information, articles for sale, food (MWD's brownies were particularly yummy) and political fund-raising.

A surprise attendee was none other than the Vice Chairman of Concerned Maine Families, Lawrence ("Call me Lawrence") Lockman, casually outfitted in the relaxed spirit of the weekend, but noticeably a tad more shy and less festive than most other rally participants (there were no helium balloons tied to his belt).

Later in the evening a potluck supper was hosted by the Unitarian Church, and a Dance for Diversity was held at the Park Street Universalist Church. ▼

photo by Peter Prizer





## LETTERS . . .

The Collective

Annette Dragon  
Naomi Falcone  
Diane Matthews  
Madeleine Winter

Contributors

Scott T. Hanson  
Peter Prizer  
Edie Hoffman  
Maxine Wilkie  
Meredith Anthony and Alison Power  
Thighmaster

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Phoenix Press is a collectively run organization whose purpose is to build and empower our community by providing positive lesbian/gay images. We will be a forum for the exchange of ideas through debate and discussion. The collective will work to reflect the political and social diversity of our community.

SUBMISSIONS

All submissions should be typed and double-spaced if at all possible. Please include your name and phone number in case we have any questions. Your name will be withheld at your request, but any material received without a contact name or number will not be published. If your submission has appeared or will appear in any other publication, we must be notified. Submissions *must* be received by the 20th of each month. Thank you for your contributions.

P.O. Box 4743  
Portland, ME 04112  
(207) 282-8091

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Dear APEX,

Thank you for your generous help in promoting the Pride Pier Dance and all of this year's Pride events. Without the support of the press our Pride Weekend would not have been so hugely successful.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all those who made our first Pier Dance the biggest and best party of the year. Special thanks go to our outstanding sponsors: Faith Worthley and the staff from Citi for hosting the cash bar, Katahdin restaurant for the balloon arch, Greg Powers Entertainment and Ken Newton for the sound system, Dunbar Lighting and David Jury of Jerky Space Body Optics for the lighting, *Casco Bay Weekly* for donated advertising space, Blackstones bar and Redhook Ale for cash contributions which helped pay for insurance and promotion. The support and generosity of our sponsors made the Pier Dance possible. I encourage all members of our community to thank our sponsors through supporting the businesses which support our Pride.

Special thanks also to our four fabulous D.J.s: Lisa Vaccaro, Kris Clark, Michael Giller and Laree Love who donated their time and talent to the event.

The help and support of the Portland City Council, the Public Safety Committee, the Police Dept. and all the city officials and employees who were involved in the permit process is greatly appreciated, as is the assistance of former Mayor Peter O'Donnell.

Thanks also to Drop Me A Line for handling advance ticket sales, Joanna Amato for help with promo graphics, Crystal Rose for her knockout performance of "Over the Rainbow," Annette Dragon who photographed the event for us, Shawn Walsh for loaning rainbow flags, Vic Morrow for arranging the loan of tables, and Michael Wormwood for being Michael Wormwood.

Saving the best for last, I would like to thank all the exceptional people who volunteered for set up and security, especially Kevin Geel who saved the day on set up and Michael McKenzie who trained and directed the security crew. The volunteers who gave their time and energy to this event made it possible for nearly 2000 people to celebrate Pride safely and without incident. They all deserve our thanks.

Beyond presenting a great party to kick off Pride Weekend, the Pier Dance was created as the major fundraiser for the Pride Committee to finance all of the weekend's events. Between the gate receipts and Pride's percentage of the bar proceeds we are able to cover expenses for this year and have sufficient seed money to insure that Pride '96 will be bigger and better than ever. Thank you to all who attended and made the Pride Pier Dance a great success.

Sincerely,  
Scott T. Hanson  
Pier Dance Organizer

**apex**\ 'a-peks\ n. 1 a: the uppermost point: VERTEX (the ~ of a mountain) b: the narrowed or pointed end: the highest or culminating point (the ~ of her career) syn see SUMMIT.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the collective.



# ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST

by Edie Hoffman

Faith Worthley sat across from me in the lotus position. Every time she took a sip of coffee it sounded like chimes were ringing from all the silver bracelets she wore. Mid-way through our conversation I almost lost an eye when the Dry Docks bartender threw an ice cube at our table. He was upset because Faith kept taking off her sandals.

Citi only lasted three months. In its previous life, fags had poured thousands of dollars into the place and named it Kaos. I remember their advertising slogan: "Gay night-life in Portland is finally going above ground." It was very catty and very clever. Opening night at Kaos made all of us liars. Forget the Slimelight we cried. This place will be our new home. We promise. No one ever went back after opening night. Despite the most progressive music in town, despite the lavish decor, despite the fact that you could almost pretend you were in Boston, no one went again.

Changing the name didn't make any difference. Some blame the club's failure on location. Hidden near Marginal Way, it's so far out of the loop it might as well be in China. But look at T-Birds and The BBC (that's Bahama Beach Club to you homoseparatists). Those clubs are huge successes within the same block. Besides, distance is no obstacle. Mainers love to drive and if we're a little tipsy all the better. I

thought the place was just too big. Even on the nights Citi got a respectable crowd, the place looked empty. Faith knows that made people uncomfortable. None of us is secure enough to stay in a bar that's empty. Because no matter how good your buzz gets, you can't help thinking you've just signed on to some doomed experiment. If the hipsters are some place else, then you're missing the party and that means you're not hip. Another drink won't help. Looking around, you notice there's no one here you'd want to fuck and without that incentive what's the point of staying.

"People go to bars for three reasons," Faith says. "To get drunk, to get laid, or to be entertained." She's right. Unfortunately Faith wanted to use Citi's superior light and sound system and concentrate on live entertainment. There's some talented performers in Portland, but not enough to support a gay club. We've seen the same old drag queens over and over, and if I hear one more dyke butcher a Melissa Etheridge cover I'm going to pull a Van Gogh and slice off both my ears.

Faith insists it wasn't the money. She lost some, but the real problem was burnout. In the beginning, she had three partners so when everyone bailed Faith fried. And her vision never materialized.

"I wanted the bar wars to stop," she said. "We could have all existed together by offering something unique."

The only one who wanted to play that game though was Ralph at Blackstones. According to Faith, none of the other bar owners were interested in working together. Competition is a concept that Faith doesn't seem to understand. In fact, after she used the word energy for the 20th time I couldn't help thinking that Citi's three month existence was a miracle. She should have turned Citi into a sweat lodge and offered daily meditation classes. Then she could have had visions up the ying yang. Or she just should have done a lot of coke. There's nothing like a little blow to get the old competitive juices flowing.

Faith of course is not bitter. The only thing that bothers her now is going to the Slimelight (my endearment, not hers), and hearing people complain about how crowded, ugly, and smoky the place is.

"They had their chance," Faith smiles.

That's the real mystery. What makes all of us so loyal to the Slimer? If someone could figure a way to pull the crowd away from there, then they could build another queer nite spot. I notice the Chart-room on Spring Street is for lease. Any dreamers out there?▼



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## AGEISM PART III - A Middle Generation View

By Scott T. Hanson

Alexander Wallace's letter in the July issue of *APEX* raised several crucial points on the importance of inclusivity to our community. Unfortunately those points were all but lost under his self-pitying whine and anti-inclusive attacks on younger men. Is he surprised that the "ageist" thirty-somethings who ignore him in bars are looking for the same (young) men he is so focused on? After living in New York, L.A., etc., hasn't he discovered that 25 year olds generally are not in bars looking for conversation?

As a 33 year old who has also lived in the big city gay world I have learned from experience that when fifty-somethings want to "converse" in bars the conversation almost invariably is about what they want to do to, for, or with me in bed. Being attracted to the same physical characteristics that have drawn these older men to me I have learned to fend off such attempted pickups by those who do not possess such characteristics. Stopping these approaches with a look that says "I'm not interested" is a skill I

developed, from necessity, as an 18 year old in New York. There are older gay men who are a valuable part of my life. I didn't meet any of them in bars. They are my friends because they treat me with respect as a complete human being, not as an attractive object.

The major difference between Hellenistic Greece and post Constantinian western society in the arena of relationships between generations may have less to do with the Bible than with the fact that younger men are now able to choose who they sleep with and - surprise, surprise - generally choose other younger men. The same physical traits idealized by the Greeks as beautiful continue to define who is desirable to the majority today, however the power to choose a lover has shifted from the old to the young.

Conspicuously absent from Mr. Wallace's letter is any indication of why he finds men of his own generation attractive. Does he? Or are his own attitudes about beauty and desirability ageist (could they be

otherwise for a Hellene?), feeding his own self-loathing as an older man? Where is the reason why younger men should find older men attractive when older men themselves apparently do not? Are we just hearing the bitter laments of one who regrets the loss of power in sexual relationships once held by older men, now that he is no longer young?

In attacking the ideas, values, goals and identities of gay men in their twenties and thirties while claiming to support the position of Gabrielle Saralyn Sigel (*APEX* June '95) Mr. Wallace seems oblivious to the fact that he is doing exactly what she was identifying as a problem for queer youth under age 21 from within the community. I tend to be wary of those who are hypocritical while denouncing hypocrisy, as well as those who declare that everything would be fine if we all would just believe what they believe. Caroline Cosby is acting from that position.

**GOOD COOKIN'**

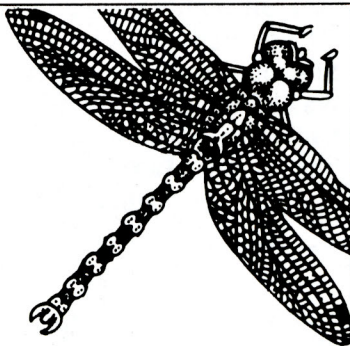
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The accusation that the Matlovich Society won't invite Gore Vidal as a speaker because of his age and atheism rings rather hollow given the presence of several atheists on the Matlovich Board, past speakers on the very subject of older lesbians and gay men, and older speakers on other subjects (Richard Plant, in his 70s, on gays in Nazi Germany comes to mind). Perhaps Matlovich hasn't invited Mr. Vidal because flying him in from his home in Italy would be a bit beyond their very limited resources. While we all may on occasion be subject to grandiose fantasies of what our community organizations could be, to attack the leaders of those organizations and their motivations for their inability to grant such fantasies, to label them as "self-loathing," says much more about the mental condition of the attacker than of the community leaders.

Our community does need to look at and work on who we do and do not include. We have the opportunity to set an example for the larger community to see that inclusion creates a stronger whole. As a starting point perhaps more of the older generation of gay men could stop seeing those younger solely as objects of sexual desire and accept that the Hellenistic older male sexual power structure is as dead as those who built the Parthenon. I look forward to a day when I can meet and become friends with more older gay men

without feeling objectified. I will then have as many older gay male friends as I do older straight male, lesbian and straight female friends.

Ms. Sigel's views on the need to look at an individual's abilities without regard to age are valid. Equally valid is the fact that an accusation of pedophilia can ruin the life of anyone over the age of 18 in our society. Expecting age to not be a factor in physical attraction for twenty-somethings and thirty-somethings is not a valid position. Equating the bar scene and the purposes it serves with the community as a whole only confuses the issue. As does a call for inclusivity while demanding we all join in a belief that returning to a romanticized past would solve all our problems (are we to resurrect the Hellenistic institution of human slavery?). We are a part of late twentieth century western society; accepting the reality of our time and place in history is a necessary starting point for understanding each other. If each generation can attempt to understand the realities faced by other generations perhaps we can make progress. If bitter attacks on one generation from another are the best we can do the result we can expect is counterattacks and little progress. Mutual respect between all generations of our community can be achieved even if agreement in other areas remains elusive. ▼

## AUSTRALIAN KISS??

*(The Advocate)* - French foreign policy has affected Australian dildo sales. That's right - now that France has reinitiated testing of nuclear warheads in the South Pacific, Australian brothels and sex shops responded to the resumption by launching a boycott of French sex products June 15, and the Eros Foundation, an umbrella group for the nation's sex industry, wants to make the boycott a global one. At patriotic Aussie sex shops, Eros says, "French maid outfits and French knickers are being taken out of window displays," and French-made porn videos, magazines, condoms, and sex toys are coming off the shelves. Also under attack is the French kiss, which Eros said it will seek to rename as part of "a major review of language and terminology which paints the French as lovers and therefore peaceful."

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photo by Jim Daniels



## "NO PLACE FOR HATRED" RALLY HELD IN PORTLAND, MAINE



photo by Peter Prizer

Karen Geraghty addresses the group of five hundred people who showed up outside Portland City Hall on July 10, 1995 to protest a citywide escalation in violence against minorities. Recent racial attacks on an Ethiopian family and physical assaults on Somali refugees and a gay man prompted the Portland Bias Crime Task Force to organize this noontime rally.

### COORS ADDS DOMESTIC PARTNERS BENEFITS

**Boulder, Colo. (Gay Net)** - The Coors Brewing Company of Golden, Colorado, once the object of an intense national boycott by gays and lesbians, has voted unanimously to extend employee benefits to the same-sex domestic partners of its workers. Since the widespread boycott of the 1970s and 1980s the company has added non-discrimination protections based on sexual orientation to its employment guidelines, and the brewery also has a company-sanctioned gay and lesbian employee group.

"There are still a lot of unanswered questions about the relationship between the Coors family, the [Coors] Foundation

and the company," said Sue Anderson of Equality Colorado. "But if we're just talking about the corporation, this is a great move forward."

Members of the Coors family and its private Coors Foundation have backed a wide variety of arch-conservative and anti-gay groups and politicians for decades, which initially led to the boycott.

The Coors Brewing Company, however, has since gone out of its way to distinguish itself from the financial giving of the family and the foundation.

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In July APEX was the proud recipient of a NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR PUBLICATION award from *The Bangor Daily News*, central Maine's largest daily newspaper. The ad (see above) submitted for publication was funded by a grant from the Astraea Foundation. Their grant enabled APEX to promote itself in five rural areas in northern New England. The ad was sent to *The Berlin Daily Sun* in Berlin, NH, *The Citizen* in Laconia, NH, *The Newport Daily Express* in Newport, VT, and *The Sunday Times Argus* in Rutland and Barre, VT. Several responses have been received from the Rutland, Berlin, and Newport areas.

Twenty years ago the Bangor rag refused an ad from the publication *Mainely Gay*.

About 5 years ago a similar ad from Maine's gay *Our Paper* was refused.

In spite of advances in the social and political climate of middle Maine, the tolerance levels of the editors of *The Bangor Daily News* remains zilch. Anything that smacks of "gay" or "lesbian" stays unfit to print. ▼

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# THE END OF CANDY AS WE KNOW IT

by Maxine Wilkie

The other day I went into the local candy store to buy my weekly supply of chocolate. I was sauntering down the aisle, checking out the bins of this and that, when I spied something that gave me the heebie jeebies. Right next to the barrel of Gummy Bears, just to the left of the chocolate-covered raisins, was a bowl of something called "Bunny Corn." Excuse me, *Bunny Corn*?

Now one thing I know is that candy corn is a tiny triangle of solidified sugar layered in electric yellow, broad cone orange, and white. It appears in August to herald the turning of the leaves. I also know that it's available for only a short time in the fall because our nausea threshold needs the rest of the year to recover and forget how awful it tastes (so we can be fooled into eating it again). So what was this pastel pink and blue stuff called "Bunny Corn?" Some kind of mutant strain that escaped from the Halloween candy warehouse?

More to the point, what has happened to candy these days?

I should have known this was coming. I first noticed something was wrong last year when I was fighting a serious addiction to M&Ms (I even have one of those Mr. M&M dispensers that doles them out like hamster kibble). I used to pop into the grocery store every few days for a two-pounder and carry it around in my purse. One day I headed for the M&M icon and there on the shelves, an evolution had occurred. What used to be two simple types of M&Ms, plain and peanut, had speciated into five, count 'em five, different varieties. Besides the usual, there was mint, almond, and peanut butter, each in its specially colored package.

What in the world has gone on at Mars Candy Inc., I thought? Giving them the benefit of the doubt, I envisioned that some former hippy with a history of recreational drug use had become the C.E.O. This

wacko must have been sitting behind the desk in chocolateland, picking at those melt-in-your-mouth shells saying, "Wow, we could put all sorts of stuff into these." And so he whipped up some mints, threw in a few almonds, and balled up a batch of peanut butter. And no one had the guts to stop him. They also didn't stop him when he went "Designer" on them and called for those special "holiday colors" - red and green for Christmas and pastels for Easter. This guy needs a life.

I suppose I could have dealt with the M&M revolution if only it had stopped there. But no. Everyone had to get into the act.

Hershey, whose only sin before this had been to shrink the bar and up the price (we understood, inflation hits us all), decided to mess with the Hershey's Kiss. First came the almond infested Kiss in the new gold lamé wrapper. In my opinion, this was unnecessary, an attempt to upscale something that was pretty classy in the first place. They liked this so much, I guess, that they started wrapping Kisses in every imaginable color of tinfoil. This has only put intolerable pressure on their customers. What do you do with the red leftover Kisses in April? You wouldn't dare put them in an Easter basket, so you have to either cut up hundreds of one-inch squares of aluminum foil and rewrap them, or eat them all yourself.

Then they started the full assault on the large bars. We all know that a Snickers is made up of peanuts, caramel and that weird nougat stuff. It has saved many a grouchy employee during the 4pm slump, and gotten countless women through bad bouts of PMS. This is the official candy bar of the Summer Olympics. It is sacred. But that didn't stop the Mars Candy Company, no sirree. They stole some peanut butter from a Reese's Cup and shoved it into the - the

*More CANDY* ☛ page 11

## LOOKING FOR MAGAZINES?

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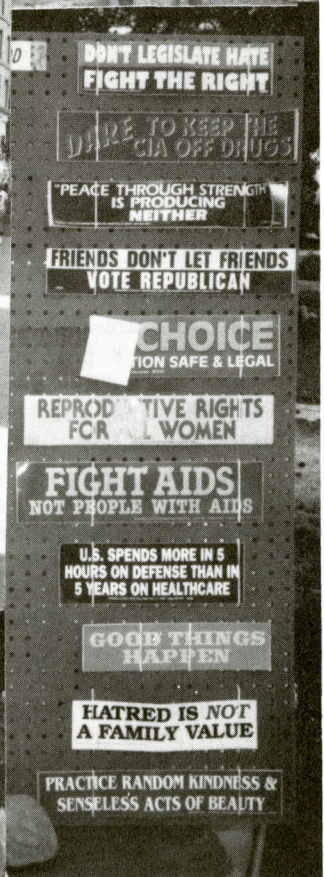
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# BANGOR PRIDE '95

photos by Peter Prizer





# CALENDAR

CALENDAR LISTINGS ARE FREE TO GROUPS SPONSORING COMMUNITY EVENTS. THOSE WHO CHARGE FOR PRODUCTS/SERVICES ARE INVITED TO CONTACT PHOENIX PRESS REGARDING DISPLAY ADVERTISING.

## THURSDAY 8/3

Steve Kowit, author of *In the Palm of Your Hand - The Poet's Portable Workshop* recently published by Tilbury House will be appearing at Raffles Cafe & Bookstore, Portland, ME, 7pm. FMI ☎ 1(800) 582-1899.

## SATURDAY 8/5

PAWS Karaoke Aid '95 Sunset Harbor Cruise on Casco Bay, 7:30-10:30pm. FMI ☎ (207) 775-PAWS.

Steve Kowit, author of *In the Palm of Your Hand - The Poet's Portable Workshop* recently published by Tilbury House will be appearing at the Maine Festival, Brunswick, ME, 12:15pm. FMI ☎ 1(800) 582-1899.

## Tues.-Sun. 8/8-13

20th Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. FMI ☎ (510) 652-5441 or write Box 22, Walhalla, MI.

## THURSDAY 8/10

Matlovich Lawn Party. Bring food to share - plan to eat hearty! We'll provide beverages and grill. 104 North St., Portland, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 761-2059.

## SATURDAY 8/12

Maine Street Art Connection, a benefit for Maine Won't Discriminate by Brunswick art galleries. Art Raffle, food sale, entertainment. 3-6pm. Tickets or FMI ☎ (207) 729-3703 or (207) 729-6406.

## SATURDAY 8/19

Hartford, VT, 1pm Softball, 4pm potluck, at Lynn and Wendy's. An Amelia's Event. FMI ☎ (802) 295-8562.

*The Sum of Us*, Loew's Theatre, Dartmouth College, 7 & 9pm.

Women Meeting Women Annual Summer Hike. FMI ☎ (603) 529-4339.

## THURS.-SUN. 8/24-27

Maine-ly For You Women's Campout, Western Maine. FMI ☎ (207) 583-6980.

## THURSDAY 8/24

Poetry reading by Kevin McLellan. Matlovich Society, 7:30-9pm, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Accessible, free parking.

## SUNDAY 8/27

Seacoast Celebration of Diversity for all Seacoast area lesbians, organizations and "friends," 2pm-7, Nw Castle Commons, New Castle, NH. \$2.50 Admission fee into the Commons. Bring a picnic and outdoor games. Look for the purple balloons. Sponsored by Out & About.

## MONDAY 8/28

Gender free international folk dancing with Louise Brill, Brattleboro, VT. FMI ☎ (802) 763-7112.

## NOTICES

The Portland Roundup - Back to Basics - Unity, Service, Recovery. Fri.-Mon. 9/1-4. FMI ☎ Emily D. (207) 782-7178 or Michele L. (207) 882-6737 or write The Portland Roundup, POB 5245, Station A, Portland, ME 04101.

8th Annual Provincetown Harbor Swim for Life & Mermaid Brunch AIDS Benefit, Sat. 9/9. FMI ☎ (508) 487-3684.

Artland '95 - a celebration of queer arts and artists, Mon.-Mon. 9/18-25. Located in Tennessee. FMI ☎ MaxZine Weinstein or Phil Woodward (615) 597-4409.

Maine Won't Discriminate is a statewide broad-based coalition to defend civil rights in Maine. Portland chapter meets every other Monday at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St., Portland, ME, 6:30-8:30pm. FMI ☎ (207) 761-1788.

## The Mother of All Pride Marches

- Ghandi and his followers marched to the sea in India...
- Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks marched from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama...
- Native Americans marched from the far corners of Turtle Island to Washington...
- And now, in the month before the November elections, the queer and queer-friendly of Maine will march to Augusta...

Columbus Day weekend (in October) marks the beginning of a month-long relay march - north from Kittery, south from Fort Kent. A mile at a time, a day at a time, we will walk, sing, dance, and campaign our way to the Augusta statehouse. Expand the vision - organize "your" piece of this historic event! Invite local celebrities! Stage media events! Make it as big a production or as low-key as you like.

For more information about how to coordinate/participate in the March to Augusta, contact Deb Cooper at (207) 276-5916 or by E-mail to dmc@aretha.jax.org. Let's show our neighbors and the nation that the citizens of Maine won't support legalized discrimination and hatred. Remember, it's YOUR LIFE that's being voted on in November!



## PHELPS GRANDSON DENIED CREDIT FOR ANTI-GAY PICKETING

Topeka, KS (AP) - The Topeka School District refused Wednesday to give community service credit for anti-gay picketing by a grandson of the Rev. Fred W. Phelps Sr. Sam Phelps-Roper, a junior at Topeka West High School, was refused the credit eight months after he asked for it. He is the grandson of the senior Phelps, who has taken his virulent anti-gay picketing across the country. The picketers are mostly members of the Phelps family.

The school district last year began including community service work on transcripts. The hours don't count for academic credit, but they may impress a future employer or college. The district did not have an express policy for what constituted community service work when Phelps applied for the credit. The situation caused the district to develop such a policy. Picketing was not included in the guidelines.



**More CANDY from page 8**

nougat, and like any hybridization, created a monster - the "Peanut Butter Snickers." Save me.

Now, everywhere I look I see these candy freaks - smashed cookies in a Hershey bar, dark chocolate Mars, chocolate flavored red licorice sticks. Where will it end?

Lots of folks equate the decline of civilization with things like the dissolution of the nuclear family or the collapse of inner cities. I say just look toward Hershey, PA. When the moguls start screwing with our candy, and we let them, the end of the world is near. Today I started collecting bags of original silver Kisses and normal Snickers Bars. I refuse to switch to designer color wrappers and fancy made-up flavors. Before I change my candy brand, they'll just have to pry that melting sticky mess out of my cold dead hands.

Reprinted with permission from *Hysteria*.



"Our churches sometimes promote these irrational feelings and behaviors. Like the idea that gay or lesbian people can't take good care of children. Or that gay men will go after any man walking down the street. Well, those are lies. Their feelings are related to emotional bonding. I don't feel like going out with any man who walks down the street. Well, gay relationships are just like heterosexual relationships. Sometimes they may even be more warm and loving and caring than these so-called great families who talk about it."

Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders  
in the July issue of *Playboy*.

**THE WRITTEN BREAST SELF-EXAM**

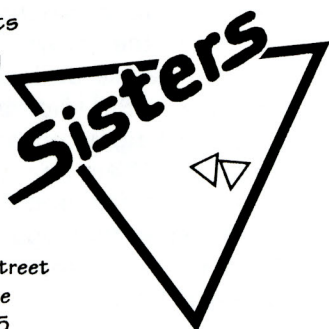
Test your breast knowledge.

1. Which of the following common expressions is *not* offensive?
  - AA. *Don't get your tits caught in a wringer.*
  - 32B. *Colder than a witch's tit.*
  - 36C. *Tit for tat.*
  - D. *Don't let the door hit your ass on the way out, Mister.*
2. Which of the following is *not* a common household object?
  - 32A. *Medicine Chest*
  - 36B. *Water Jugs*
  - CC. *Double-breasted Blazer*
  - 38D. *Booby Trap*
  - E *Narrow Tufted Titmouse*
3. Which of these words is *not* a euphemism for breasts?
  - 40A. *Melons*
  - 34B. *Hooters*
  - 42C. *Headlights*
  - 30D. *Bazooms*
  - EE. *Purdies*
4. Which of the following is *not* a film classic?
  - Training.* *"The Guns of Navarone"*
  - Small.* *"Twin Peaks"*
  - Medium.* *"Mother, Jugs, and Speed"*
  - XL.* *"It's a Wonderful Breast"*

by Meredith Anthony and Alison Power

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## ASK THIGHMASTER - advice with holes

Dear Thighmaster,

After reading the June issue, and truly appreciating the honesty in the answer, I have written. The "community" would have less acceptance problems with the "straight" if there was less slander and sexual harassment of straights who say no to "community" advances.

Not knowing how else to state this, I was hit upon by a "bi" (physically I might add). Since that day, the "community" has made it more than apparent that some are incapable of handling rejection from a straight, I repeat, straight person.

Sending for CMF literature  
Speak the truth of NAMBLA

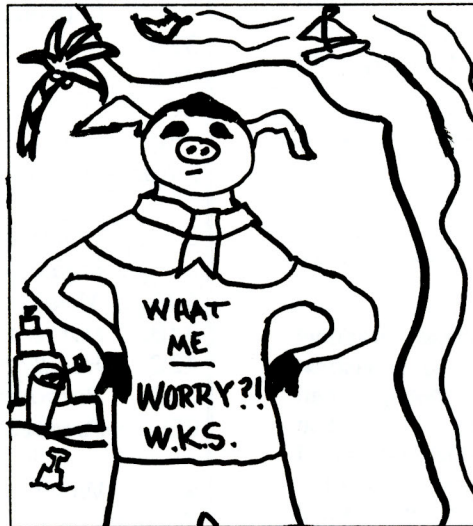
Name withheld for safety reasons  
Heard my "whole life story"  
on the sheet

Dear Name Withheld,

Thighmaster is disturbed enough by your letter to take a more direct route to your answer than Thighmaster, the detour queen, usually provides - no side trip through Hollywood or Melrose or grass roots is coming down the Thighway this month. So, first of all, here is where Thighmaster agrees with you. Each person who makes a sexual advance has to be able to take no for an answer, whether because the advancee likes people of a different sex than the advancer or for any other reason - the advancee only has sex in alternate months, stays away from Capricorns, or swears that it's time to lather, rinse, and repeat. No one should be "sexually harassed or slandered" for not wanting to put out. The person who did this to you should not have done it.

If you're in the "youth" category and the advancer was older - is this what you are suggesting when you say "speak the truth of NAMBLA"? - then there is an additional

problem. Young people deserve the right to control their own sexuality - to fuck when, whom, how, and if they choose. So do older people, but younger people often have more obstacles in their way. Most school boards do not even want to admit that young people even have sexuality, not to mention sex. As a result, many young people have problems getting access to the information and accessories that they need - condoms, HIV and STD information, birth control, informa-



drawing by Naomi Falcone

tion about the right to say yes or no (and the responsibility to get a clear yes from all prospective lovers), and, yes, hot how-to tips. Young people also often have less social and economic power than older people - who, if they're lucky, have jobs, a home, and independence (they won't be on the street if angry and scuzzbag parents don't like their choices). Thighmaster is not saying that younger people can never do it with older people, but that it is the responsibility of older people to be over-cautious on the consent issue - to be sure that the younger person has the desire to do it and the freedom to give consent. Pressure is the opposite of what should be going on in this scenario.

Actually, of course, unwanted pressure is the opposite of what should be going on in any scenario. So however you've experienced it, you are right that you've been wronged.

But you're also wronging what you call the "community." You say that the "community" would have more acceptance if some people were not incapable of handling rejection from straight people. But the real truth is that the "community" shouldn't have to stand or fall based on every action by every queer person. This is one common component of prejudice - some groups of people are given the burden of being expected to represent every person in their so-called group. Sometimes (but not this time) it seems pretty harmless, yet even in those cases, it's not right. For instance, a white person will often be asked "How do you personally feel about Michael Jackson?" while a black person will be asked, "How do blacks feel about Michael Jackson?" as if black people don't get to have a variety of opinions or credit for independent thinking. Or a person will be called a "credit to their race" or sex or religion or sexual identity. But should anyone have to expect that the reputation of a bunch of people - or the treatment of that same bunch of people - should rest on her or his shoulders? No, and no one expects you to have this burden unless you're in a group perceived as a minority group. It's all over the news that lots of straight people do really bad things sexually. But did anyone try to deny civil rights to straight people because William Kennedy Smith is a rapist pig? No, and Thighmaster is pretty sure that you, Name Withheld, think you shouldn't be judged by his actions.



But you are about to do something similar to queers. You say that you are "sending for CMF literature." (For readers outside of Maine, Concerned Maine Families is the organization trying to pass a referendum that would make it impossible to ensure civil rights on the basis of sexual orientation - CMF wants to prevent Maine governments from saying that you cannot be denied housing or a job if you are queer.) Don't let a bad experience with one or even more "community" members make you sink this low. Besides contributing to injustice, you'll also be missing the opportunity to get your resources together for the next time, if there is one, that anyone, straight or

queer, exerts unwanted pressure. Because the fact is that some of the best advocates for and writings about consent can be found within the "community." Why? Because most queers know exactly what it's like to have other people think they can dictate our sexual practices, and don't want to see it happen again. Think about it.

~~~~~

Thighmaster eagerly awaits your submissions. No problem too complicated or twisted! Thighmaster, c/o Phoenix Press, PO Box 4743, Portland, ME 04112.▼

## CLASSIFIED

### EMPLOYMENT

**HIV/AIDS PREVENTION - POSITION OPEN** - Develop and implement prevention sessions for gay and bisexual men in Lewiston-Auburn area. Contract for 150 hours, \$1500; may develop into paid part-time staff position. Send resume, with references, to Claire Gelinas, Director, AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn, POB 7977, Lewiston, ME 04243.

### PERSONALS

Lonely Incarcerated gay man, educated, well-read, honest and a great conversationalist; but I prefer quiet moments of tenderness with someone special. I have a vital erotic nature, guided by a passionate romanticism. Healthy and disease-free. I'm looking for someone who can appreciate my sincerity. If this

is your desire, then I'm waiting for your letter. Please write. I will answer!

Osiris Caise, 82847

Kentucky State Penitentiary

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photo by Peter Prizer

from left to right: J.J. "Zsa Zsa," winner of Blackstones "Ladies' Night Pool Tournament; Ralph Cusack, co-owner of Blackstones; and Jeff "Jen," runner-up.

### HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS

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# RESOURCE GUIDE

INFO AND/OR UPDATES TO PHOENIX PRESS, POB 4743, PORTLAND, ME 04112

## Hotlines

**THE AIDS LINE:** 1-800-851-AIDS or (207) 775-1267. Questions re: HIV/AIDS? Call Mon.-Sat. 9am-5pm, Mon./Wed. eve. to 7:30pm. Always anonymous.

**DIAL KIDS, 774-TALK** - for lesbian/gay/bisexual/questioning youth under 19.

**GAY-LESBIAN PHONELINE.** Caribou Area (207) 498-2088.

**GAY INFO LINE,** Concord, NH (603) 224-1686. Social, legal, therapeutic & educational referrals.

**INGRAHAM VOLUNTEERS** (207) 774-HELP.

## Publications

**Out in the Mountains**  
POB 177  
Burlington, VT 05402

**The Fruits of Our Labors**  
POB 125, Belfast, ME 04915  
(207)338-2913. Calendar of events in all of ME and beyond.

## POLITICAL

**AIDS COALITION TO UNLEASH POWER**  
(ACT UP/Portland)  
Sun. 7pm YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, ME.

**F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS - Transform Education.** A project by ACT UP/Portland to fight HIV, AIDS, and homophobia in all Maine public schools. Straight or queer, boy or girl, HIV+ or negative, black, brown, or white. All welcome. Meets 1st and 3rd Fri. each month, 5:30pm, YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, ME. Wheelchair accessible. FMI write ACT UP/Portland, POB1931, Portland, ME 04104.

**MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE** - statewide, non-partisan org. promotes civil rights in ME. Involves lesbian & gay community in the political process. Mtgs in Augusta 3rd Sat. of month. FMI ☎ 1-800-55-MLGPA time/place.

**CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR GAY & LESBIAN RIGHTS (CAGLR)** - NH's oldest progressive gay/lesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all to weekly meetings, programs, socials and other events. Newsletter. FMI ☎ (603) 224-1686 or write POB 730, Concord, NH 03302.

**GREATER PORTLAND NOW** c/o YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, ME 04101. (207) 879-0877/(207) 871-0618, POB 4012, Portland, ME 04101. Speakers/events for the public 4th Tues. each month.

## EDUCATIONAL/CULTURAL

**THE MATLOVICH SOCIETY** -

Lesbians, bisexuals, gay men & friends committed to sharing our history & providing affirming presentations and discussions. 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month. 7:30-9pm, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, ME, FMI ☎ (207) 773-1209.

**THE MAINE GAY VISUAL ARTISTS' LEAGUE** - 3rd Wed. each month. Non-profit, creative, supportive networking for Gay & Lesbian artists in Maine. FMI and meeting place ☎ (207) 775-3420.

## SOCIAL GROUPS

**MEN'S SUPPORT** groups forming in So. NH & So. ME to discuss dating, intimacy, and safer sex. FMI ☎ Gerry, AIDS Response Seacoast (603) 433-5377.

**OUT ON MDI** - For gays, lesbians, bis and friends. Active support grp. Meets Tues., 7pm. Newcomers welcome. FMI ☎ (207) 288-2502 or write, POB 367, SW Harbor, ME 04679.

**AM CHOFSHI** - Maine Lesbian/Gay Jewish group, meets monthly. FMI ☎ (207) 874-2970 (Rheatha).

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY MEN** - Box 36, Center Conway, NH 03813. Social group for gay men from west ME/east NH. Potlucks/activities. FMI ☎ (207) 925-1034 (Paul).

**OUT AND ABOUT** - Lesbian support and educational group. Meets 1st & 3rd Wed. of mo., 7pm, United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave., Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☎ (603) 772-8045 or write POB 5691, Portsmouth, NH 03902.

**SEACOAST GAY MEN** - meets Mon. 7pm, Unitarian Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH; POB 1394, Portsmouth, NH 03802.

## OUTDOORS

**TIME OUT** - Outdoor recreation & environmental club for lesbians, gay men & friends. Free newsletter lists events for NH & ME area. FMI ☎ (207) 871-9940 or SASE: POB 11502, Portland, ME 04104.

**MAINE FRONTRUNNERS** - gay/lesbian running club. Meet wkly at the beginning of Back Cove Walkway (Baxter Blvd. & Preble St. Ext., Portland, ME), Sat. 9am. FMI ☎ Jim (207) 761-2059 or John at (207) 828-4896.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**ANAD (Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders)** - support grp for Anorexics, Bulimics, families/friends, Thurs. 6:30-8pm, Family Resource Ctr, 19 Crescent St., Biddeford, ME (2nd Cong. Church) Free. FMI ☎ (207) 286-3718.

**LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP** - Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Ctr, 334 Harlow St.,

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Bangor, ME, 1st/3rd Wed. mo., 6:30-8pm. FMI ☎ (207) 947-5337. For women self-identified as lesbians. Woman-only. Confidentiality, open-mindedness required.

**PETS ARE WONDERFUL SUPPORT (PAWS/MAINE)** - 22 Monument Sq., 5th Fl., Portland, ME 04101, (207) 871-9109; FAX (207) 879-0761.

**THE AIDS PROJECT** - 22 Monument Sq., 5th Fl., Portland, ME 04101. FMI ☎ (207) 774-6877 re: support groups in Portland, Auburn/ Lewiston & Brunswick, ME areas.

**AIDS RESPONSE** - 1 Junkins Ave., Portsmouth, NH 03801. (603) 433-5377; FAX (603) 431-8520.

**ANDROSCOGGIN VALLEY AIDS COALITION (AVAC)** - 4 Lafayette St., Lewiston, ME. Support for HIV+ people/loved ones. Tues. 7:30-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 786-4697.

**THE BRIDGE AT COLBY** - student support/discussion group. FMI ☎ Steven (207) 872-3635

**CRONES** - women over 40. POB 242, Winooski, VT 05404.

**GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL PARENTS GROUP/ME** - FMI: POB 13, Augusta, ME 04330

**MONADNOCK AREA WOMYN** - POB 6345, Keene, NH 03431 (603) 357-5757.

**NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD** - POB 990, Caribou, ME 04736; (207) 498-2088. For Aroostook Co., & New Brunswick towns; social activities, discussion groups & speakers' bureau; monthly newsletter & activities calendar.

**GAY/LESBIAN/BI/FRIENDS ALLIANCE** - meets semi-monthly, noon, usually on Fri., UNE, 11 Hills Beach Rd., Biddeford, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 283-0171, x2198 or x2475.

**LEWISTON-AUBURN GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP** - open group Mon. 7pm, UU Church, Spring St., Auburn, ME.

**OUTRIGHT/PORTLAND** - wkly support mtg, info, fun/ special

events for gay/lesbian/bi/questioning youth under age 22. 7:30-9:30pm, Fri., People's Bldg, 155 Brackett St., side door, Portland, ME. FMI: Outright, Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth, POB 5077, Portland, ME 04101. (207) 774-HELP.

**SEACOAST OUTRIGHT** - group for lesbian/gay/bi/ questioning youth 21 & under. Mtgs Fri., 7-9pm, Unitarian Church annex adjacent to fire station, 206 Court St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☎ teenline 1-800-639-6095 or write: Seacoast Outright, POB 842, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

**OUTRIGHT/CENTRAL ME** - for lesbian/gay youth 22 & under, meets Fri. 7:30pm, 1st Unitarian Church, Pleasant St., Auburn, ME. POB 802, Auburn, ME 04212 ☎ 1-800-339-4042.

**PWA COALITION OF MAINE** 696 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 (207) 773-8500.

**RUMFORD/MEXICO AREA AIDS SUPPORT GROUP** - Mon. at Mexico Congregational Church (the "Green Church") 7-8:30pm. Main St., Mexico, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 369-0259.

**MERRYMEETING AIDS SUPPORT SERVICES** - POB 57, Brunswick, ME 04011. Support services for AIDS/HIV. FMI ☎ (207) 725-4955.

**OUT AMONG FRIENDS** - discussion/support grp Thurs. 7-8:30pm, YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 799-0297.

**FREDERICTON LESBIANS/GAYS** POB 1556, Station A Fredericton, NB E3B 5G2 Canada - (506) 457-2156

**APOLLO SOCIETY** - Gay/lesbian atheists, free-thinkers, ethical humanists, Hellenists. FMI ☎ (207) 773-5726 or SASE to POB 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

# **SPIRITUAL**

**TEMPLE OF THE GREAT GODDESS** - Worship the Goddess at monthly Full Moon Circles. Open to wimmin (no transsexuals, please). Bring musical instruments. FMI ☎ Lady Alaina (207) 676-7914.

**SPIRIT OF THE MOUNTAINS** - gay/straight, justice-seeking community meets for worship 2nd & 4th Sun. 5pm, 1st Congregational Church, N. Main St. & Washington St., Concord, NH. Potluck after service. FMI ☎ Jim Bretz (603) 536-4011.

**INTEGRITY/DIGNITY** - 3rd Sun. St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), 5:15 pm. All welcome. Fellowship/potluck follows service. Ministering to the lesbian/gay community. FMI write POB 8113, Portland, ME 04104.

**INTEGRITY** - St. Matthew's Church, 18 Union St., Hallowell, ME. 1st Fri. each month, 7pm. FMI ☎ (207) 622-6631.

**FRIDAY NIGHT CHURCH SERVICES** State St. Church, 159 State St., Portland, ME. Interdenominational service. 7pm, accessible and child care. FMI ☎ (207) 774-6396.

**CIRCLE OF HOPE** - an inclusive Christian community based on Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. FMI MCC, POB 1671, Portland,

ME 04104. Mtgs 4pm 156 High St., Portland, ME. Sat.

**MCC IN THE MOUNTAINS** - Gay Christian church group. Sun. 1pm, Hanover, NH UCC (white church by the green). FMI ☎ (603) 448-3754.

# **MUSIC**

**MAINE GAY MEN'S CHORUS** - community chorus. FMI write M.G.M.C., POB 10391, Portland, ME 04104.



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## **Portland**

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# BANGOR PRIDE '95

photos by Peter Prizer

← Lawrence Lockman (of CMF) looking fabulous!

