

# GAEZETTE

Volume 10 Number 1

February, 1993

The GAEZETTE is an independent publication, published 10 times a year by a non-profit collective. It exists to inform lesbians and gay men in Atlantic Canada of the activities of groups within their communities, to promote those activities and support their aims and objectives.

Anyone who contributes to GAEZETTE is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in any meetings or discussions.

The GAEZETTE seeks to build a truly equal society by opposing homophobia, racism and sexism.

The GAEZETTE reserves the right to refuse any material that might be reasonably considered homophobic, racist, sexist or an attack on the community.

Publication of names or photographs of persons or organizations in the GAEZETTE is not to be construed as an indication of sexual orientation of that person or organization.

Opinions expressed in the GAEZETTE are not necessarily those of the editorial collective of the GAEZETTE.

Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

The GAEZETTE welcomes articles from anyone, anywhere. Deadline is the last Friday of every month. Material will be edited for length. Submissions should be no longer than 1,000 words and can be left at Rumours, 2112 Gottingen St., Halifax, or mailed to:

GAEZETTE  
Box 34090  
Scotia Square  
HALIFAX, N.S.  
B3J 3S1

Subscriptions are \$18 per year, to cover first class mailing costs in an unmarked brown envelope. The GAEZETTE mailing list is confidential and is not traded or sold.



By Gary Kinsman

Stan Persky, a noted gay author and commentator who lives in Vancouver, was one of the founding members of the Vancouver Gay Liberation Front in the early 1970s. He is a regular contributor to a number of publications including the book review pages of *The Globe and Mail*. His recent criticism of lesbian and gay activists in the pages of this same *Globe and Mail* ("Don't they know when it's time to declare victory?" Dec. 21, 1992, A21) took a number of lesbian and gay activists, including MP Svend Robinson and early gay rights activist and law professor Doug Sanders, to task for criticizing former Justice Minister Kim Campbell's human rights amendments that tied together sexual orientation protection with a clear statement that lesbian and gay relationships are to be excluded from the definition of "marital status" (see articles on this elsewhere in this issue).

Persky argued that the lesbian and gay leadership was "talking nonsense" when it criticized Campbell's amendments and argued that the lesbian and gay leadership should instead "congratulate" Campbell for providing some leadership. Persky has fortunately found no support in lesbian and gay activist circles and at least four letters very critical of his commentary piece have been published in *The Globe*.

This is not the first time that Persky has publicly criticized lesbian and gay activists. In 1988 in an article mistitled "AIDS and the State" in *This Magazine* Persky defended a slightly improved version of the B.C. Soered government's quarantine legislation affecting people with AIDS and HIV infection. This placed him in opposition to the Coalition for Responsible Health Legislation a community-based coalition that included many lesbian, gay and AIDS ac-

tivists. The horizon for Stan Persky's political objectives has become limited to what he believes is politically 'realistic' and possible in the context of conservative governments. Rather than arguing for what is necessary to meet people's needs in the context of AIDS or in fighting for lesbian and gay rights this leads him to settle for very limited objectives and to lash out at lesbian, gay and AIDS activists. In 1988 it led him to support quarantine legislation which branded people living with AIDS and HIV as a 'social problem' and which gave medical authorities the power to place in quarantine anyone who "is likely to wilfully or carelessly expose others to the disease." In 1992 it has led him to give his backing to Campbell's amendments which sanction continuing discrimination against our relationships.

And why would *The Globe* jump at the opportunity to print such a piece? Over the last couple of years this "national" newspaper has printed numerous commentaries by women taking issue with the feminist movement or saying that the feminist movement has gone too far and has also printed a number of pieces by gays and lesbians attacking the lesbian and gay movement or lesbian and gay pride celebrations. At the same time a number of opinion pieces supporting the lesbian and gay movements which have been submitted have not been printed. It seems they are quite interested in trying to foment division and discord within progressive social change movements but not nearly as interested in providing a forum for spokespeople for our struggles. In this light perhaps we should be demanding more responsibility from *The Globe* in its coverage of our liberation movement and more responsibility in its opinion pages.

## Letters

Letters to the Editor  
C/O The Globe and Mail

Stan Persky's attack (*The Globe and Mail*, December 21) on the many gay and lesbian organizations that have criticized Justice Minister Kim Campbell's recently proposed amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act misses a number of central points and contains at least one substantive factual error. Finally, after 6 years of promises, the amendments add "sexual orientation" to the

prohibited grounds of discrimination in the act (in accordance with an August 1992 Appeal Court decision) but go further and define "marital status" to exclude lesbian and gay relationships.

The Minister of Justice, contrary to Persky's assertion that she "declined to appeal against recent court rulings favouring spousal benefits for homosexuals," has, in reality, appealed and fought every decision granting us spousal rights. What she has de-



# Black History Month: All people should celebrate

By Lorne Izzard

February is Black History Month in Nova Scotia. Indeed, this international celebration of Black identity is honoured in the month of February all over the world. From its modest beginnings in Halifax over eight years ago, Black History Month has gone from a week celebration to well over a month of activities that illuminate all peoples of the contribution of Black people.

In 1993 especially, the need for this observance is more paramount than ever before. The total acceptance of all forms of media in this province to report only the negative aspects of life among my Blacks is tragic. I understand that the media has a responsibility to report the news as it happens. Yet, as of late I see only pimps and prostitutes in the newspapers and on television. It makes me wonder, as a Black man, where were the reporters, cameramen, editors and executive producers during the Martin Luther King night on January 15th. The combination of the vibrant Nova Scotia Mass Choir directed by Braniard Blyden Taylor from Toronto, the rap sensations of Findley Tolliver and David Adaykaode, the narration and adaptation of David Woods and Voices and the many lead vocalists of the evening made it one of the most positive events in Nova Scotian history. Is it because of the positive Black content of the evening that the media were not out in full force like in other events in the Black community such as courtrooms, scenes of murder or the continuous coverage of cer-

tain highschool parking lots.

Black History Month offers the total community of Nova Scotia a history lesson

*As a young Black in Nova Scotia, I was never taught that Martin Luther King was the great man that he was.*

of the achievement of Blacks and their contributions to the history of Nova Scotia. Richard Preston, who was sold to a slave master in the United States as a child, managed to gain his freedom to return to his beloved mother. He had found out that his mother had escaped slavery and had gone North to Nova Scotia. Richard Preston made his way as a young man across the United States and found his mother living in Preston, Nova Scotia. At first his mother thought someone was being cruel and she did not believe that this man standing at her door could be her son. It wasn't until he showed her a scar behind his ear that he had received from a cruel beating from the slave master who had owned both Richard and his mother, that she cried her tears of joy. Richard Preston went on to organise and



found Black churches in Nova Scotia. This is part of your history as well as mine.

Black History Month helps the White community to learn what you should already know about the importance of Blacks in Nova Scotia. For example, a Black man invented the traffic light and the ironing board. Black men were the masterminds behind the Apollo space launch. Blacks, called the Maroons from Jamaica built Citadel Hill. I wonder what these folks would say to know that the fortress they built is now the most visited national park in Canada, and the most visited bastion for the cruising and doing of gay men.

It is important for the White community to learn about the achievements of the Black educators, historians and leaders of the Black community. You see, as Blacks we already

know more about your history than you know about ours. It is taught in the history books of Canada, so it is obvious that Blacks know Canadian and indeed Nova Scotia history that is written by White middle-age men. What is lacking is the benefaction of what Blacks have done for the making of both Canadian and world history.

As a young Black in Nova Scotia, I was never taught that Martin Luther King was the great man that he was. As a matter of fact it took me to introduce Martin Luther King to the grade 8 history class after I demanded from the history teacher that I wanted to watch history being made and to be current with what was happening to my brothers and sisters in the US when he was assassinated. I did manage to get a television brought in the classroom for a day. To the teachers I had then, this was the only day of importance. Indeed it was the public education system in Nova Scotia that lay at blame, and still does to this day. I had always been taught that the great leader and warrior Hannibal was a White man. Those persons in power to make change in the education system know then and know now that the history books must be changed but follow the same racist practise of deliberately omitting and misrepresenting history. You can imagine how much



pride I was showing when I finally learned that he was a Black man. The history books do not teach you that Cleopatra was a Black woman. All we ever see as Cleopatra is Elizabeth Taylor. The three most triumphant African Queens we have are Cleopatra, Nefertiti and the Queen of Sheba. The history books tell only of Blacks in bondage and slavery or of being owned by rich white slave masters in the south. There is no mention of Harriet Tubman, Mary McLeod, Malcolm X, Shaka Zulu, Nelson Mandela, Edith Clayton, W.P. Oliver, Carrie Best, Burnley Jones, Jack and Leroy White, William Hall, Africville or the many, many others who have moulded history in this province and around the world. I leave it to you to find out who these people are if you don't know.

*We also are tired of being the teacher to whites about us. It is time to educate yourselves and become aware of who lives in your neighborhood.*

So, it is time for all people Black and White or any other people living in the year 1993 to do the right thing — to learn about what we as Blacks have done to shape the future. The more you know about us the less fear you will have. I mention fear because that is what I've been told by many White people. "I am scared of Black people." When I ask why, I'm often told of an incident that they never saw or a situation that happened to someone they knew. "Never an experience from them. If, from a personal experience the entire Black race could be at fault. I am expected not to be angry with Whites for the past behaviour of our ancestors. I ask what do you fear about Blacks. Always the same answer — "I don't know what I should say or how to act around Blacks." Well, let me give you a simple solution to start the motion of understanding your prejudice around Blacks. Learn about

Cover based on design by  
Robin Metcalfe

us. Once you get to know us you will find that we have all the same fears, frustrations, happiness and sorrow that all other races do. We shovel snow, wash our cars, we fuck (some of you already know that, but unfortunately that is all you know) and we are proud, educated and very funny and creative people. We also are tired of being the teacher to whites about us. It is time to educate yourselves and become aware of who lives in your neighbourhood.

It seems strange that as a group, Whites have been coming to the north end of Halifax for a very long time and gays as long as Rumours has been relocated, and as long as many of you have relocated to "our downtown." But I ask, how many of you have ever gone to a community meeting or have visited the North Branch Library. I know as a fact that many of you have health club memberships in the south end and Quinpool Road area but have any of you thought about putting your money in the area that you live such as the George Dixon Centre? Do you even know who George Dixon is? Learn, my friends, learn and do the right thing.

So, in conclusion I offer you a simple task. Take the advantage to learn there is more to know about me than the colour of my skin or the myths that surround me as a Black man and specifically your Black neighbours. There are many fantastic events happening during Black History Month. The launch is on January 30th and I will follow through to the Elimination of Racism day in March. I leave you with a list of some of the highlights and ask you to seek amongst your learned minds to involve yourself and enter a whole new knowledge of the Black History that I live and am so fiercely proud of.

All month: **Special services** each Sunday at all African United Baptist Churches. The central location is Cornwallis St. United.

30/1, 7:00pm: **Official Opening** Guest speaker Anthony Sherwood from CBC's Street Legal. North Branch Library, Gottingen St.

9/2, 7:30pm: **Black History Month Celebrity Quiz** North Branch Library

10/2, 10:00am: **Civil Rights Today** with Rev. Darryl Gray. North Branch Library.

13/2: **GALA: Dinner and Dance** celebrating Black Music from Africa to Modern Times. \$13 & \$17, McInnes Room, Dalhousie University.

15/2 3:00pm: **Reclaiming our Blackness** "Confronting White Supremacy" at the Dalhousie Student Union Building.

26/2 8:00pm: **A night of great jazz**, featuring Jackie Richardson and the Richardson Sisters, Janine Blanchard, Bucky Adams, Gary Steed, Kingsley Etienne, and Troy Adams. \$20. Grawood Lounge, Dalhousie Student Union Building.

MATRIX is a six-week, day program for women who are dependent on alcohol and/or other drugs. MATRIX is a pilot project that is sensitive to the needs of women.



**MATRIX**

A Program for Women

4 2 4 - 4 2 7 0



The National Film Board of Canada,  
Atlantic Centre

&  
The Cultural Awareness Youth  
Group, St Patrick's High Chapter  
cordially invite you to the premiere of

**SPEAK  
IT!** From the  
Heart of  
Black Nova Scotia

Friday, February 5, 1993 at 8:00pm  
St, Patrick's High School Auditorium  
6067 Quinpool Road, Halifax



National  
Film Board  
of Canada

Office  
national du film  
du Canada

**Brenton**  st.

**B I S T R O**

**MEANS...**

**HEALTHY EATING  
HOME MADE TASTE & QUALITY  
VEGETARIAN & MACROBIOTIC CUISINE**

**...ALL MADE FRESH DAILY**

**IT ALSO MEANS A VARIETY OF...**

espresso  
cafe mocha  
cafe au lait  
teas

Check out  
our great daily  
specials!

herbal teas  
filter coffee  
cappuccino  
viennese coffee

Located at the corner of Brenton St. & Spring Garden Rd. (opposite Park Lane)



# Remembering Audre Lorde 1934-1992

Reprinted from Kinesis

Audre Lorde often identified herself as a black lesbian feminist warrior poet mother. She wrote groundbreaking poems and essays on racial identity, political consciousness, and connections between Afro-European, Afro-Asian, and Afro-American women, whom she called "the hyphenated people." She was the daughter of Grenadian parents.

Her work Carried themes of the need for love and commitment in our lives, interconnectedness, difference as a creative force, the South African struggle, the beauty and love of women, the pain and compassion of Black mothers and the encouragement of the voices of lesbians and women of colour.

Lorde published nine volumes of poetry and five of prose, and contributed writings to numerous periodicals and anthologies. Her work has been translated into many languages. Her publications include: *The Black Unicorn*, *Sister Outsider*, *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*, *Coal Between Ourselves*, *The Cancer Journals* and *A Burst of Light*. Her most recent work, *Undersong*, was published in 1992.

She taught college students, organized among women of colour, and politicized audiences with her poetry readings. In 1980, she helped found Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press. She lived the last years of her life in St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

On Tuesday, November 17, Audre Lorde died of cancer.

In honour of her life and work, a memorial fund is being established to commission a bust of Lorde and to create a scholarship fund for Black women writers. Send donations to the Audre Lorde Memorial Fund, 666 Broadway, Ste. 520, New York, NY 10012. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Sisterhood in Support of Sisters in South Africa, PO Box 24966 GBS, Christened, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, 00820. *I Am Your Sister* perpetual calendars for birthdays and all occasions with 31 conference photos and selections from Lorde's writing are available from *I Am Your Sister*, PO Box 269, Astor Station, Boston, MA 02123 for \$12 US plus mail costs. Calendar sales go to reducing the perpetual conference debts.

By Sky Lee

## This one is for Audre Lorde

I remember when I first fell head over heels in love with a woman. I was arrogant, married, a mother, middle-classed, and blind. And afterward, when the patriarchy came after me with the chains to hog-tie me and drag me back or punish me, I got very scared. My new love made me feel crazy, as I had been zapped by a bolt of lightning, which threw me bodily, psychically, and spiritually over to another side of reality. The terrible fear of my new love isolated me.

That was when I met my first Audre Lorde words, "I am a Black Lesbian, and I am your sister." I remember staring smack dab right into the power and courage that these ridiculously simple words evoked in me. And I asked myself, do you mean to tell me then, that all I need to say is, "I am an Asian



Lesbian, and I am your sister."

"Yep."  
"Well, then, I am an Asian Lesbian, and I am your sister." And I have been ever since, for no other good reason than that I see life in my future, in the future of my women's communities, and all our communities in struggle.

Audre Lorde died on Tuesday, November 17th, 1992, after some of the most amazing victories over cancer I have ever heard of, but she left her strength behind. She left her strength behind, because she sowed her gifts all over this earth, wherever there were women like me, like you, who have warred and wept in the deep, and long, and dark of our worst nightmares. She left her beauty and power and wrath and love for women, like you, like me. And she went on ahead.

There are times when I feel left behind, ejected and rejected – the urban landscape around me cold and barren and endlessly terrible. I have learned to look for those tough little seeds that Audre Lorde has scattered as I negotiate daily, and very carefully, the violence and insanity of a blinded society which worships oppression. Little green shoots in the cracks of concrete walls, sometimes a lush and gorgeous mossy green growth over destroyed land. Look up. Amazing. There, a whole rainforest, ancient and sacred, has actually survived. Where, where? Here, there, everywhere, don't you see it – beauty where its oppressors have overlooked it.

Under the duress of war waged against women and children everyday, I have learned that Poetry Is Not A Luxury. Poetry is hope which sustains us. Poetry is a code which our enemies, soulless and distorted, cannot interpret. Yet, for those who have reached "down into that deep place of knowledge inside herself," and have experienced the Erotic as Power, poetry as a bridge which chal-

lenges us to touch our old fear of others, of difference, of stigma. It bonds us as women, to each other and connects us to the work of networking that we all do for the love of life.

"Black Lesbian Feminist Warrior Poet Mother..." Audre Lorde is an award-winning visionary in contemporary feminist theory. And there is a simple, if earth-moving reason as to why she is the most often quoted writer in the lesbian/feminist movement today.

In the spirit of sisterhood, she took what was quickly solidifying into a narrow, weak feminist movement, so often criticized for being the last bastion of the patriarchy precisely because of its inability to let go of the "old structures of oppression," and basically blew it wide open.

The feminist movement, Audre Lorde stated loud and clear, is a movement of women of colour, women in poverty, and women of conscience. She said, "When we define ourselves, when I define myself, the place in which I am like you and the place in which I am not like you, I'm not excluding you from the joining – I'm broadening the joining."

Audre Lorde said and wrote so many beautiful things about being a woman among so many women in resistance and struggle. To me, she wasn't exactly "the powerful unfrightening sister who will make the pain go away." She was "the powerful unfrightening sister" who showed me a lot of my own beauty. She was there for me when I came out as a dyke of colour, she was there for me when I wrote my first novel, she was there with me through the recent death of my own partner from cancer. She is with me now, because our work continues.

By Lynne Wanyski

Audre Lorde was one of the first writers to articulate the experience of lesbians of colour

in North America. She defined a positioning which challenged the fragmented frameworks of reference available to lesbians of colour. Her work filled a void and created the space for a fast-growing body of theory and activism around questions of cohesive identity. She questioned external constructions of this identity, as well as strategies derived within those constructions. She celebrated the erotic power of lesbians of colour and affirmed the importance of taking care of each other in the most personal of ways.

Her work serves as a point of reference, and more importantly, as a point of departure for our own attempts to articulate identity and positioning. her voice will be missed.

I say the love of women healed me...there were those women whom I loved passionately, and my other friends, and my acquaintances, and then even women whom I did not know.

Audre Lorde  
*The Cancer Journals*

By Zara Suleman

Black and Third World people are expected to educate white people as to our humanity. Women are expected to educate men. Lesbians and gay men are expected to educate the heterosexual world. The oppressors maintain their position and evade responsibility for their own actions. There is a constant drain of energy which might be better used in redefining ourselves and devising realistic scenarios for altering the present and constructing the future.

There are many kinds of power, used and unused, acknowledged or otherwise. The erotic is a resource within each of us that lies in a deeply female and spiritual plane, firmly rooted in the power of our unexpressed or unrecognized feeling. In order to perpetuate itself, every oppression must corrupt or distort those various sources of power within the culture of the oppressed that can provide energy for change. For women, this has meant a suppression of the erotic as a considered source of power and information within our lives.

– Audre Lorde  
excerpt from *Sister Outsider*

For me, as a woman of colour, writer, feminist, and cultural activist the writings of Audre Lorde give voice to kindred spirits in the struggle. The quotes above are ones I have reflected on many occasions. They carry rich messages and strategies of empowerment that Audre Lorde spoke and wrote of in her work. Her case in expressing emotions and the analysis in her writing helped other women of colour and me negotiate relationships with the white feminist movement, with each other and with ourselves.

I was saddened to hear of the loss of Audre Lorde. But I know that her words of pain, resistance, struggle and celebration will live on in the "movement" and in our individual lives. I know the words and wisdom will linger on in my heart and soul, thank you Audre, thank you Ms. Lorde.

The struggle continues...



## Acadia AIDS Awareness Week 1993

February 14-20 1993  
Living in Wartime

Acadia University Wolfville, Nova Scotia  
Sponsored by the Acadia University AIDS Action Group

Sun, Feb 14: **Anonymous Testing** The system in this province is not adequate enough to ensure that privacy will be paramount. A varied range of opinions on this subject will be discussed. Beveridge Arts Center (BAC) room 244, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Mon, Feb 15 **A Rural Perspective** Often rural PWAs are forgotten when it comes to the newest treatments, best professionals, or relevant information. Is there any way to remedy this? BAC 241, 6:30 - 9:00 PM

Wed, Feb 17 **A Stop to Homosexism in AIDS** Eric Smith, a Cape Sable teacher who has been vocal in calls for respect for PWAs, will give a talk on how heterosexism has been a barrier to effective AIDS education. BAC 142, 10:30-11:30 AM.

Wed, Feb 17 **The Best Treatment** James Sheddian, an expert on alternative treatments of HIV, will detail the newest information on those treatments normally outside the doctor's realm. BAC 236, 7:00-10:00 PM

Thu, Feb 18 **Care and Consideration: AIDS at Acadia** What exactly would happen if AIDS hit Acadia University? Is the university prepared to cope? A discussion on the University's AIDS Policy. Could the University provide adequate care to the PWA/HIV and provide adequate consideration to others? An open forum. Acadia Student Union Building (SUB) Main Level 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Thu, Feb 18 **Coffee House** To end the main events, go up to the Michener Lounge in the Student Union Building and enjoy the best music Acadia has to offer. Plus, some very special guests! (9:00 to 0100 AM)

Feb 11 **The Acadia University AIDS action Group** is co-sponsoring the film **The Living End** with the Acadia film society. One of the best movies about HIV. A must-see! Acadia theatre, Main Street, Wolfville 9:00 PM

And! Various displays during the week in the Student Union Building and the Acadia Medical Center in Seminary house.

For more information, call Jason: 542-9910 or Charlene: 552-1771

## Safe Harbour

By David MacMillan

The second annual Christmas dinner went over quite well. The first sitting was at 7:00 p.m. and the second sitting was at 9. We had about 150 people altogether.

The dinner was quite nice, most of the food was donated by grocery stores in the city, and we also raised about \$850. We had about 30 people volunteer between 11AM and 10PM, preparing food, serving tables, playing the organ and otherwise entertaining people. "We had a better turnout than last year, about 75 more people, and hope to have more this year," said the pastor, Rev. Darlene Young.

Many thanks are due to everyone who helped with the benefit Drag Show and the Second Annual Christmas Dinner 1992. From Bruce Hayre, who came up with the idea for the

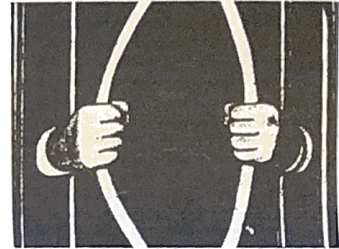
show, and his committee; Cath, who helped put the show together; Rumours, for the space; Gala; everyone who helped with advertising and decorations; light crew; curtains people; DJ; videographer; servers; and especially to the Fabulous Fakes and Friends, and the Cloggers. You were great!

Also, thank you to all donors of food, money, decorations, and time; cooks; kitchen, set up, and cleaning people; and of course, all of you who attended.

Safe Harbour will be having its second Annual General Meeting and Potluck Supper starting at 4pm Sunday, February 7, at the Universalist Unitarian Church on Inglis Street. An important matter to be decided at this meeting is a motion that Safe Harbour upgrade its affiliation with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches to mission status. All are welcome!

## From the Frontlines

*From the Frontlines is a regular column in the GAEZETTE to relay the realities of a variety of lesbians and gay men as they experience AIDS. The column is coordinated by Robert Allen. If you have a contribution or know someone who would like to contribute, you can contact him at the Nova Scotia Persons With AIDS Coalition, 2093 Gottingen St., Halifax, N.S., 429-7922.*



By David MacFarlane

The AIDS Mastery is not about dying. It's about taking control of your life and discovering the power that exists in the act of making choices.

The AIDS Mastery is designed to provide a safe, confidential space for exploring some very deep emotional areas - and for releasing those emotions, whether they be joy or sorrow. The AIDS Mastery is also fun. As one participant once commented, "I forgot that the weekend was about AIDS."

The AIDS Mastery also deals with the issues of commitment and support. It is also hoped that out of the support groups created during the weekend will grow a greater interactive community that will closely with those affected by the AIDS crisis.

According to Sally Fisher, originator of the workshop, and one of the founders of Northern Lights Alternatives, "People with AIDS are living full, rich, active lives. One of the goals is to listen to the message our bodies have for us and to recognize ourselves as worthy, loving, and powerful." For those who are facing it, AIDS presents opportunities for choices. Are we dwelling in fear or are we surrounding ourselves with support? Are we closing ourselves to the possibilities or are we making discoveries that would enhance our health? The purpose of the Mastery is to unleash the creative power within the individual so that we can see and exercise all options for physical and

emotional well-being.

For the past many years, the media has portrayed people with AIDS as "victims" with no option other than suffering. One of the Mastery's goals is to challenge this notion. The AIDS Mastery is not about dying. It's about living fully.

In the course of the weekend, all participants will be supported by a group of volunteer assistants, (all of whom have already experienced the workshop). Breaks are frequent, food is supplied, medication schedules are supervised if requested.

And now around the touchy issue of money: The expenses incurred over the course of the weekend are substantial. A donation of \$300.00 is requested from those working and able to pay. However, under no circumstances will any PWA/HIV+ person be turned away for lack of funds.

The AIDS Mastery will be held May 28-30, 1993 at Akala Point, Nova Scotia. If you would like to participate, require more information, or would just like to talk it over with someone who has already participated in an AIDS Mastery, you may contact David MacFarlane (me) Monday thru Wednesday at the Nova Scotia Persons With AIDS Coalition 429-7922. Seats are limited.

"I came here to learn how to die with grace. Instead I learned how to live with passion." -- MC, New York Graduate, May '86

## Gay 90's Dating Service

P.O. Box 5224

Armdale, Nova Scotia

B3L 4S7

*An innovative and alternate way to meet other gay people matched to your preferences. Exclusively for the Atlantic provinces' gay community. For more information and an application, write us today.*

*All information is kept strictly confidential.  
Gay owned and operated.*

# Planters Antiques & Handcrafts

Varied Assortment of quality antiques, jewelry, glassware, furniture and sweaters. We do Christmas lay-a-ways.

Main St., Canning, NS • Open Daily Mon-Fri 9:30-5, Sat 11-5, Sun 1-5 • 582-3972



# Queers Invade Justice

By Patrick Barnholden

On December 10th, then Justice Minister Kim Campbell introduced amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act into the House of Commons. Those amendments included the long promised addition of sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination (bringing the act into line with recent court decisions) and a new restrictive definition of 'marital status' that excludes same-sex relationships. Within hours of Campbell's action, 25 angry lesbians, gay men and bisexuals showed up in the reception area of the regional Justice Department offices in Halifax to demand a telephone meeting with the minister.

Posting a sign renaming the office "Ministry of Injustice" we made a request of the regional director, Ted Tax, that he attempt to arrange a telephone conversation with Campbell. After about 45 minutes he returned to inform us that he had been unable to set up a conversation with Campbell because she was occupied in the House of Commons but that he had been successful in setting one up with John Dixon, policy advisor to the minister. In exchange for having done this he said that all but two of us would have to leave the offices because we were causing a disruption. We declined to leave and were backed up by the receptionist who agreed that we were not really causing any disruption in her work as long as we did not make too much noise when she was taking phone calls. At this point Tax relented and showed two of us to a conference room in the legal library of the department. After some fumbling, he and another Justice Department employee were able to set up the call to John Dixon on a speaker phone.

Dixon first attempted to convince us that the amendments were a reaction to requests by the gay and lesbian communities that even though we had won sexual orientation through the courts, we wanted to have it encoded in law for all to see. While we agreed with him that this was true, we pointed out that our concern was that these amendments would take us backward because of the 'marital status' definition.

He then attempted to sell us on the 'marital status' definition by portraying it as a brilliant compromise on the part of the minister. Reminding us that there had been earlier speculation that the government would introduce legislation with a definition of 'family status' or 'spouse', Dixon argued that 'marital status' is much less restrictive and would have no impact on our fights for spousal benefits under health and pension plans etc. There was then much discussion between us about how this would affect specific cases before the courts with Dixon refusing to admit that the government could use this definition against us in court cases. He continued to make the argument that

Canadians are not ready for gay marriages and that this definition would not preclude spousal benefits. We then made the argument that it was in fact an extension of discrimination in the Human Rights Act itself and that whatever the impact of the law in the courts (where an exclusion of same sex couples from the definition of 'marital status' would be a clear indicator of the government's intent) the minister's position on spousal rights was clear to us from her department's continuing efforts to fight against spousal benefits in the courts.

The impression I am sure we left with Dixon was that lesbians and gay men in Canada will not be willing to support this so-called compromise and that we will not settle for anything less than an end to government sanctioned discrimination against us. He promised us that we would hear from the minister.

The two of us who had engaged in this conversation then went and reported on it to those of us left waiting in the reception area.



As a group we then decided to leave the Ministry of Injustice offices and a number of us assembled at a nearby coffeeshop to plan our next move.

Plans were then established for BGLAD (Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Association at Dalhousie) to prepare a leaflet for distribution and for GALA (Gay and Lesbian Association of Nova Scotia) to prepare postcards to be sent to the federal government.

Lesbians and gay men across Canada have been almost universal in condemning the package of amendments but there appears to have been little else in the way of actions to protest against it. Pierre Blais, the new Minister of Justice, has yet to speak about

the amendments and there is every possibility that they will not be passed before the next election so it seems clear that lesbians

and gay men across the country should begin to plan on making our rights an election issue.

Minister of Justice  
and Attorney General of Canada



Ministre de la Justice  
et Procureur générale du Canada

A. Kim Campbell, P.C., O.C., M.P./c.p., c.r., députée

DEC 22 1992

Mr. Patrick Barnholden  
R.R. 1  
Hantsport, Nova Scotia  
B0P 1P0

Dear Mr. Barnholden:

I would like to respond personally to the statement you released in Halifax on December 10, commenting on proposed amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act, and particularly the proposal to add a definition of marital status that is limited to opposite-sex relationships.

I appreciate your concern that a heterosexual definition of marital status could deny rights and benefits to lesbian and gay relationships and families.

Your concern may be based on a mistaken belief, shared by others in the lesbian and gay communities, that the new amendments were designed to legally bar benefits for gay couples and their dependants. This is not the case.

It is correct that the Act contains a definition of marital status that reflects the traditional heterosexual view of marriage. However, I would point out to you that there is no definition of "family status" in the Bill. Nor is there a definition of "spouse". It is therefore open to gays and lesbians to press their claims for benefits, as they are now doing, on these grounds or, indeed, on the ground of sexual orientation.

As I have pointed out in response to similar expressions of concern: the legislation will amend the Canadian Human Rights Act so that it explicitly prohibits discrimination on the basis of a person's sexual orientation; the scope of this new protection for gays is defined so as to exclude claims on the basis of marital status; but there are no definitions or other provisions to restrict claims on the basis of family status - including spousal relationships.

As I have also pointed out, the question of human rights protection for gays as individuals is now completely and absolutely settled in Canadian society, period. The question of protection for benefits for gay couples is now open for development, in law and policy, on the basis of familial or spousal relatedness.

The amendments I am now proposing do not determine the issue of entitlements to benefits, but they do establish a framework within which such entitlements can be determined.

I hope this letter has helped you to understand my thinking on this issue, one on which Canadians in all parts of the country have strongly held and widely divergent views.

Yours sincerely,

A. Kim Campbell



# Department

Media statement released on  
December 10th in Halifax:

Six years after promising human rights protection for lesbians and gay men, the federal government is finally moving to include the term "sexual orientation" among the prohibited grounds of discrimination in the Canadian Human Rights Act. At the same time, however, the amendment that Justice minister Kim Campbell is introducing in Parliament today includes an exclusionary definition of "marital status" that would deny rights and benefits to lesbian and gay relationships and families.

Rather than moving forward, these amendments are actually taking us backwards. Lesbian and gay activists have been demanding for more than twenty years that the federal government end discrimination in federal legislation and policies. For us, the present proposed amendments are totally unacceptable.

Kim Campbell is posturing as a defender of human rights protection when in fact she is only doing what the courts have already ordered. In effect, the inclusion of "sexual orientation" merely formalizes the outcome of several recent discrimination cases. In August 1992, the Ontario Court of Appeal ruled, in the *Haig and Birch* case, that the Canadian Human Rights Commission must act as if "sexual orientation" were already in the Human Rights Act. Subsequent to this decision, the Canadian Armed Forces abandoned its long-term policy of discrimination against lesbians and gay men, in anticipation of losing a suit brought against it by Michelle Douglas.

At the same time, Campbell's legal staff continue to fight against lesbian and gay rights in the courts. They have opposed the suit brought by Jim Egan and Jack Nesbitt for equal access to pension spousal benefits, and the suit of Brain Mossop and Ken Popert for the right to bereavement leave that discriminates against lesbians and gay men.

While Campbell cites the definition of marital status in the Ontario Human Rights Code to justify her position, a panel of the Ontario Human Rights Commission recently ruled that lesbian and gay spousal relationships should have the same rights to benefits as do heterosexual couples.

It has been more than six years since then Justice Minister John Crosbie declared that the federal government would "take whatever measures are necessary to ensure that sexual orientation is a prohibited grounds of discrimination in relation to all areas of federal jurisdiction." In practise, however, the federal government has fought tooth and nail against lesbian and gay rights in the courts, until recent decisions made this opposition untenable.

Rather than prohibiting discrimination, the proposed amendments would justify continuing discrimination against lesbian and

gay relationships, and could be used to deny us the same benefits as heterosexual couples. They not only would limit the application of human rights protection so that it does not cover all areas of discrimination that we face in our lives, but would further institutionalize some forms of discrimination.

The failure to recognize gay and lesbian relationships has an effect on a broad range of rights and benefits, including family health coverage, survivor pension benefits, bereavement leave, income tax, and the ability of lesbians and gay men to sponsor the immigration of foreign partners.

What this means is that gay men and lesbians and their children will continue to get poorer health care than members of heterosexual families. We will face poverty in old age because of exclusion from survivor benefits and pension plans, and will be unable to take time off work to attend to an ailing partner. This is clearly discrimination, under the guise of extending human rights protection.

Lesbian and gay activists in Halifax join with others across the country in demanding that "sexual orientation" be included in the Canadian Human Rights Act without any restrictions, and that the federal government eliminate all aspects of legislation and policy in its jurisdiction that mandate discrimination.

## MASSAGE Therapy

Nancy McKinnell, RMT  
Certified Massage Therapist

• *Healthful massage in a peaceful setting* •

Brunswick Street Centre  
2281 Brunswick Street  
Halifax, NS B3K 2Y9

422-0087

## RUMOURS

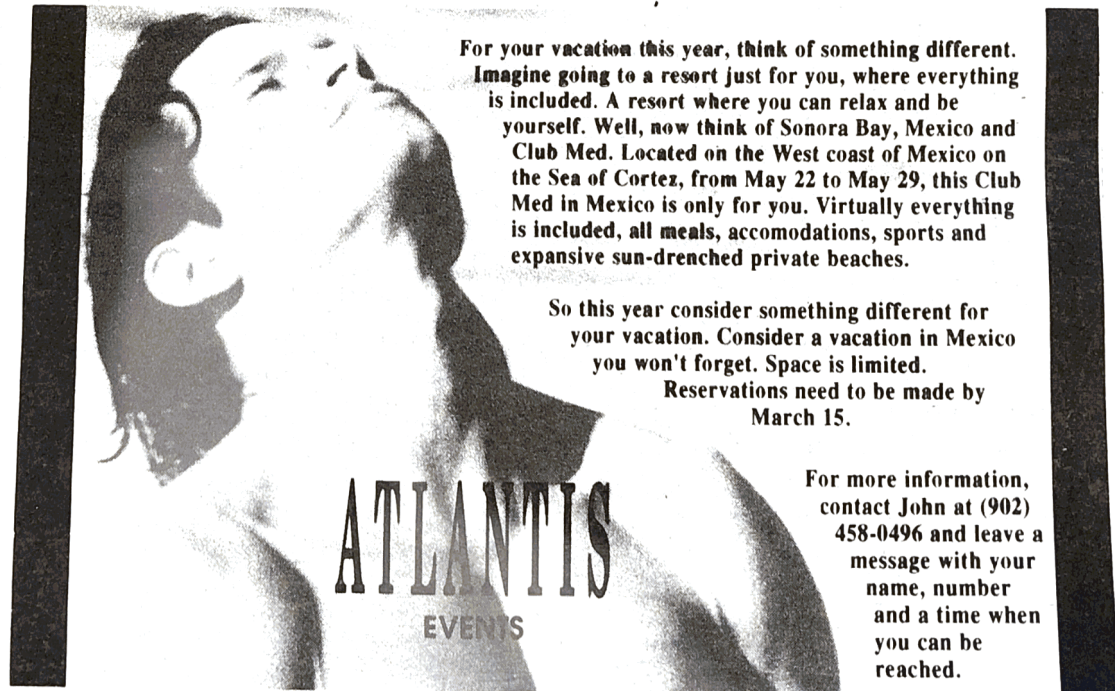
Upcoming Events:

Sat. & Sun., Feb. 13th & 14th  
**VALENTINE'S WEEKEND**  
(see ad on back cover this issue)

Sat., Mar. 13th  
**MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY**  
• bar open til 2 am

Thu. & Sat., Apr. 8th & 10th  
**EASTER WEEKEND**  
• bar open til 2 am both nights!

FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS • MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE • 2112 GORTINGEN STREET HALIFAX • (902)425-6814



For your vacation this year, think of something different. Imagine going to a resort just for you, where everything is included. A resort where you can relax and be yourself. Well, now think of Sonora Bay, Mexico and Club Med. Located on the West coast of Mexico on the Sea of Cortez, from May 22 to May 29, this Club Med in Mexico is only for you. Virtually everything is included, all meals, accommodations, sports and expansive sun-drenched private beaches.

So this year consider something different for your vacation. Consider a vacation in Mexico you won't forget. Space is limited. Reservations need to be made by March 15.

For more information, contact John at (902) 458-0496 and leave a message with your name, number and a time when you can be reached.



# Bryden Riding High

By J. C. Aucoin

A director and playwright, Bryden MacDonald directed the critically and popularly successful production of *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* at Neptune Theatre in January. He is directing his own play, *Whale Riding Weather*, for Neptune's Studio Series to open February 23rd at the Sir James Dunn Theatre, Dalhousie Arts Centre.

*For the benefit of those who are not familiar with you or your work how would you answer the question "Who is Bryden MacDonald?"*

I'm a playwright from Cape Breton Island. I'm a gay Canadian playwright. I'm a Nova Scotian, Canadian, gay playwright. I'm everything but a playwright, I guess. There's always gotta be a byline to it. Which I find sort of strange but at the same time amusing.

*What do you mean by everything but...?*

I don't mind being called a gay playwright at all... because I am, but when the sexuality overrides the work from the point of view of press, I only ask that in return other plays be called... other plays be called straight plays.

*Do you see yourself as being part of a larger movement of publicly gay or lesbian people in Canadian theatre at the moment, with the likes of people like Audrey Butler or Brad Fraser, who are working and getting work produced with mainstream acknowledgement that might not have been possible ten years ago?*

Yeah.

*Is it fair to say a trend is happening?*

That's fair to say and I think it is happening. Some of the most interesting plays are being written by... homosexuals in general. We're finally starting to speak out about our world. We have for the most part denied the stereotypes like Paul Lynde on *Bewitched* and the stereotypical fruit or dyke. Although all of my characters aren't gay but there's always a gay sensibility because I'm a gay playwright. So I write through a gay man's eyes. *Whale Riding Weather* does focus strongly on a relationship between three gay men. I actually had... a straight friend, who realized they'd put their foot in their mouth, say to me that it was such a good play

why do they have to be gay. I think it's time to wake up to the fact that homosexuals do fall in love, and do have lives, and do have apartments, and do have jobs, and do get broken hearts, and are arseholes and are goofs, ya know.

As far as a movement goes... yes it does exist and yes it is healthier but it's not necessarily any easier. It's still taboo and I don't think there's any real difference. A fruit is still a fruit.

*Even in the theatre community? Because it's long been acknowledged that the arts was the only "safe" part of mainstream society if you were gay - but you still had to be quiet.*

[the taboo]... does still exist.

*Is the boundary moving at all?*

I think it is moving, but not as fast as it could so a small group of people are taking the flack. Like Sky Gilbert, who runs *Buddies* in *Bad Times* in Toronto. His mandate is that he does new and innovative work with a special interest in gay themes. There are so many artists in the theatre community who are gay but there's all that bullshit about "it'll ruin my career if anyone knows." If anything, it's helped mine.

*Has it ever worked against you?*

Yeah. But I've always been fairly comfortable. I was so miserable 'til I was like 18 or 20 that when I finally started to generate some sense of self there was no turning back. So I really don't give a good sweet fuck what anyone says. I'll just keep writing plays and I'll keep doing my thing. And people are coming to see it... and not just gay people. I don't care any more.

Not all gay plays are great plays. Not all straight plays are good plays. Now we not only have gay plays but we have AIDS plays. What ever happened to THE PLAY?

It's still very much a straight man's world. Playwrights are still, for the most part boys, and straight boys. And if they are gay... like what Tennessee Williams went through. Although Tennessee Williams was always very out, oddly enough. But he was covered up by his press, his agent, by the circle around him. "Oh no Tennessee it will ruin your career." And then he got accused of... [his female characters like]... Blanche DuBoise being a drag queen in *Street Named*



George Gagnon/LEADER

*Desire*. Because it's from his heart and he's a man. He was furious about that.

I certainly can't tolerate "you could be getting produced more if you were writing more about..." and I finish the sentence. If I what? If I was writing using my poetry to feed a heterosexual audience. Well, fuck that, I'm not heterosexual. I write heterosexual characters but its still through a gay sensibility. I grew up as we all did saying, fuck there's no place for me in this world. This is taboo. All I can do is like, cruise around at night, hide in alleys... I still like cruising but [now] I do it in the day time also.

*Where did the play come from? What was the germ of the play?*

The play is basically a love triangle. There's this older man who's quite paranoid - a beautiful, beautiful old queen. I saw a man in a barroom in Montréal once. His face just captivated me and suddenly I just got this rush of history from him, from just looking at him. Wondering what it must have been like for him to grow up gay. That's when it started to happen and then I placed him in Newfoundland, in a small town, having been ostracized by the community because he was, not only gay, but very flamboyant and also felt a need, because of society, to be "like a girl." Like what straight men have made out women to be, a stereotype. Like what drag queens are doing these days. See, I love drag,

I think it's a wonderful social statement and I don't think for a minute that it's demeaning to women. If anything it's (a reflection of) what men have done to women. What Hollywood did to women. It's a parody of a parody ultimately. But Lyle, this particular character, lives with a young man named Auto, who he had rescued from the street when Auto was fifteen and Lyle was the life of the party at that point in time. The play takes place fifteen years later. Lyle is world weary, and is suffering from what society has done to him. He also had been married and had a child. The son was taken from him in a really ugly custody battle years ago and that's when his demise began. The relationship between Lyle and Auto is not healthy. They live in a decrepit bachelor apartment. Lyle talks incessantly, spewing fractured poetry and drinking sherry. Auto just sits and rolls cigarettes, drinks beer and every day goes out for a walk. Lyle keeps saying to him 'you haven't brought anyone home lately, there must be some nice boys out there' He wants Auto to find someone and get on with his life at the same time that's his greatest fear.

Auto inevitably brings home a young man named Jude who becomes the catalyst and befriends Lyle. Jude asks Lyle about what he did when things were crumbling. He lost all of his money. He lost his

kid. So he decided he was back home to Newfoundland what you do in Newfoundland fish? Did you ride a whale? come very close to riding boy, very close, but on the end of the play it is w for Lyle.

*Who are you in the p*

I'm all of them. It's all been, or certainly when dumped, being the dumped being the new kid on the difficult thing to deal with head into the older man scary to write, because But what I realized also changing enough, especially like Auto, and then even Jude. There's just me working and understanding in these situations. The situation, not just because straight folks go through ships also. There's

NE

Wha



Adu

Nova Sc  
this pow  
for b



kid. So he decided he was going to take a trip back home to Newfoundland. Jude says "so what you do in Newfoundland, Lyle? Did you fish? Did you ride a whale?" Lyle says, "I've come very close to riding a whale my dear boy, very close, but on this particular occasion it was not whale riding weather. And by the end of the play it is whale riding weather for Lyle.

*Who are you in the play?*

I'm all of them. It's a place where we've all been, or certainly where I've been. Being dumped, being the dumper or the dump-ee or being the new kid on the block. The most difficult thing to deal with was putting my head into the older man, which was very scary to write, because things are changing. But what I realized also is that things aren't changing enough, especially for young men like Auto, and then even younger men like Jude. There's just much more need of networking and understanding. No one's wrong in these situations. These men are in this situation, not just because they're gay, because straight folks go through hell in relationships also. There's more cracks to fall

through when there's not a lot of help offered outside the household. Even when life is shitty, if it's familiar it's not a challenge - it's a false comfort. The play is all about that false comfort. It's about loyalty based relationships and the danger inherent in that. Lyle says in the play that it's a sad thing when two people, merely out of desperation begin to become so much alike. That scares the shit out of me. I can't believe it came out of my sick little pen. But the play's not a downer though. It's a very funny play.

*Is there a conscious message, on your part, for a straight audience member watching Whale Riding Weather as opposed to a gay audience member?*

I'd say the same message to both straight people and gay people. The message is "Just Smarten Up!!" to everyone. There's stupid fruits - they're only gay on the weekends, and then there's very understanding straight men who are getting trashed just simply for being straight which is ridiculous. Everyone's at fault ... and no one is. The world is stupid when it's run by straight men. Who's to say that it's going

to be any better ... run by women or run by gay men. Just smarten up. Who cares who's sleeping with who. I don't, as long as we're talking about it and being careful about it.

*There's no explicit mention of AIDS in Whale Riding Weather, is that sensibility there on a more subtle but conscious level?*

I refuse to write an AIDS play. All I can say is that in Whale Riding Weather it is definitely in the air. It's there, it's seething through the walls. It's happening... I think that one can feel it. One may think that the old character of Lyle is maybe in the last stages... suffering from dementia. I don't explore that any further. I allow the audience to decide that. I feel no.

*If Lyle were to be interpreted in that manner would it be a disservice to the play?*

Well you don't have to change a lot of lines because he is demented, he's a demented old queen. But there are lots of demented old queens that don't have AIDS. There's been so many fuckin' plays with people in hospital beds with oxygen masks on with people surrounding the bed and crying and making the audience cry. I'm not into making people cry

I'm more into the Phoenix and celebration of sexuality. At the end of Whale Riding Weather all three men have are freed from something - are freed from the lives they have been living. I don't know what's going to happen to them but I know that it's good.

*There's a liberation.*

Yep

*Is that an important theme for you?*

Liberation? YES! I have a lot of friends who are members of ACT UP and Queer Nation and I think that it's wonderful. But at the same time it saddens me that [the situation] had to get so severe [that it had to be responded to.] What ultimately excites about those organizations is seeing all of these young guys and young girls... I look at some of them and ask "how old are you?" and they're like 16, 18. I was home in my bedroom crying myself to sleep when I was that age. So I think that [youth involvement] is quite beautiful. I also think it's unfortunate that at that age their heads have to so full of the fight and not being able to just have some more fun. They're growing up far too soon.



NEPTUNE THEATRE STUDIO SERIES

## Whale Riding Weather



Adult theme, nudity

by **Bryden MacDonald**  
February 23 to 27

"A Whale of a witty tale"  
- VIT WAGNER,  
TORONTO STAR

Nova Scotia's Bryden MacDonald took Toronto by storm with this powerfully written play. Nominated for a Chalmers Award for best Canadian play of 1991, it is a challenging and eloquent drama for three men.

TICKETS ONLY \$14 (STUDENTS / SENIORS \$12)

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!  
429-7070

Sponsored by  
du Maurier Arts Ltd.

\* Trade Marks - du Maurier Arts Ltd.

## PRIDE '93 LOGO CONTEST!

**Theme: "Where have we come from & Where are we going?"**

1. Competition is open to anyone, anywhere.
2. Entries should illustrate, incorporate or reflect the theme.
3. Preference will be given to submissions expressing unity and diversity in lesbian/gay communities.
4. Designs should be amenable to a variety of uses.
5. DEADLINE for ALL submissions is MIDNIGHT, Saturday, March 13th, 1993.
6. Contestants may submit more than one design for consideration.
7. Entries will consist of the UNSIGNED design(s) plus a sealed envelope containing a signed photocopy of the design(s) and the contestant's name, address, and phone number. Rough sketches and photo-ready art will be considered.
8. The winning design becomes the property of GALA NS.

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE NO AWARD IF NONE OF THE DESIGNS SUBMITTED ARE SUITABLE.

Designer of the winning design will receive an Honourarium of \$100 & a 1-Year Rumours' membership.

Designs are to be submitted to:

GALA Pride Committee  
c/o GALA Office  
(Rumours lobby)

or

GALA Pride Committee  
2112 Gottingen Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3K 3B3

For more information contact Lynn at 455-0193(evenings).

**NEXT PRIDE MEETING, WED., Feb. 10th, 8:30 at Rumours**



## New Brunswick (506)

AA (Free To Be Me) — Sue at 455-3334.

AIDS NEW BRUNSWICK — 459-7518 or 1-800-561-4009.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS — Mary Anne at 472-0511.

AIDS SAINT JOHN — 115 Hazen St., E2L 3L3, or call 652-2437 or FAX 652-2438.

DOS LESBOS/FRUIT COCKTAIL — Mon. at 7:00pm on CHSR, 97.9FM, Fredericton. 453-4985.

EAGLE (EDMUNDSTON AREA GAYS AND LESBIANS FOR EQUAL STATUS) — Box 611, Edmundston, E3V 3L2, or phone 735-5029.

FLAG LINE — 457-2156 Mon & Thur 6-9pm

FLAG (Fredericton Lesbians & Gays) — Box 1556, Stn A, Fredericton, E3B 5G2.

FREDERICTON W.O.M.Y.N.'s ASSOCIATION — Box 20082, Fredericton, E3B 6Y8.

GALES NOR GAYS (GNG) — Northern NB contact Box 983, Bathurst, E2A 4H8.

GAYS & LESBIANS of MONCTON (GLM) — P.O. Box 1072, Riverview, E1B 1V0, 855-8064.

NEW BRUNSWICK COALITION for HUMAN RIGHTS REFORM — Box/CP 1556, Station/Sue A, Fredericton E3B 5G2

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN) — CP/Box 990, Caribou, Maine, 04736, USA.

SIDA AIDS MONCTON — 100 Arden St., Ste. 427, E1C 8R3 or call 859-9616.

THE GROUP — Saint John, 634-8296.

## Nova Scotia (902)

AIDS COALITION OF CAPE BRETON (accb) — 567-1766, or P.O. Box 177, Sydney, B1P 6H1.

AIDS NOVA SCOTIA — Support, education & information, services and resources 425-4882.

DEBBIE'S DINETTE — 22 Main Drag, Hubbards, 857-DEBB.

GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (SUNS) — Contact the Students' Union of Nova Scotia, 3rd floor, Dalhousie SUB, University Ave., 494-6654.

GAYLINE 423-7129 — Counselling, information and referral services. Thu-Sat, 7:00-10:00pm.

INFORM-AIDS 425-2437 — Toll free (NS) info hotline. Tuesday-Friday, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

KING'S COUNTY-A CADIA LESBIAN, GAY, & BISEXUAL GROUP — Contact 542-2287 or Gayline for the contact number. Confidentiality assured.

LESBIANS & CHILDREN TOGETHER — A group of and for mothers. For information call 469-5764.

NOVA SCOTIA Mi'kmaq AIDS TASK FORCE — PO BOX 961, Sydney, B1P 6J4, 539-4107.

NSPWAC (Nova Scotia Persons With AIDS Coalition) — Support network of and for persons with AIDS and persons who test HIV+. 429-7922.

TRURO LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP — Sundays 7pm, 897-6722.

VALLEY AIDS CONCERN GROUP — Suite 201, 28 Webster Court, Kentville, B4N 1H7 or call 679-3515.

WOLFVILLE LESBIAN GROUP — Tuesdays 7pm, 542-1547.

## Newfoundland & Labrador (709)

NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR AIDS COMMITTEE — 579-8656, or 1-800-563-1575.

NEW ALLEY PUB — 164 1/2 Water St., St. John's.

SOLOMONS — 156 Water St., St. John's.

# Out on the Town

## Dance



WOMYN's Valentine Dance (St. Charbel's Hall, Westmorland St., Fredericton, Feb. 13) For women only.

## Stage

WHALE RIDING WEATHER (Sir James Dunn Theatre, Halifax, Feb. 23-28) Cape Breton playwright Bryden MacDonald's story of love and death between men. THE gay theatre event of the year, not to be missed.

## Film

BEING AT HOME WITH CLAUDE! (Wormwood's, Feb. 12-18) This intense interpretation of Rene-Daniel Dubois's play stars one of Quebec's hottest actors, Roy Dupuis. It's the story of a murder investigation, in which the chief suspect is a tough street hustler who for the first time has found love. Not to be missed.

## TV/Radio

THE WORD IS OUT (Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., CKDU-FM 97.5) The first gay and lesbian ra-

COMMUNI  
To have your contributions included.

SUN

MON

TUE

31

Safe Harbour MCC  
Overeaters Anonymous  
Truro Lesbian Support Group

1

CARAS Service  
Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
Youth Group

2

HIV+ Support Group for  
Couples  
Gay & Lesbian ACA  
Wolfville Lesbian Group

7

Safe Harbour MCC  
Overeaters Anonymous  
Truro Lesbian Support Group

8

CARAS Service  
Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
Youth Group

9

Gay & Lesbian ACA  
Wolfville Lesbian Group

14

Safe Harbour MCC  
Overeaters Anonymous  
Truro Lesbian Support Group

15

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
Youth Group

16

Gay & Lesbian ACA  
Wolfville Lesbian Group

21

Safe Harbour MCC  
Overeaters Anonymous  
Truro Lesbian Support Group

22

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
Youth Group

23

Gay & Lesbian ACA  
Wolfville Lesbian Group

28

Safe Harbour MCC  
Overeaters Anonymous  
Truro Lesbian Support Group

1

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
Youth Group

2

Gay & Lesbian ACA  
Wolfville Lesbian Group

3

dio show in Atlantic Canada. Tune into your community every week.

LIVING AFTER DIAGNOSIS (Last Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m., CKDU-FM 97.5) The newest information on HIV/AIDS, treatment options and concerns. Presented in cooperation with The Nova Scotia Persons With AIDS Coalition.

FILL HER CUP (Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., CKDU-FM 97.5) Where maidens form, but don't conform. Hosted by Brenda Barnes.

DIN OF INIQUITY (Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m., CKDU-FM 97.5) Hosted by Dan Hart, a man with an inappropriate joke for every occasion.

TOSCA'S KISS (Wednesdays at 6 p.m., CKDU-FM 97.5) Opera with Robert Matthews.

LIFTME UP (Wednesdays at 7 p.m., CKDU-FM 97.5) Inspirational gospel music, hosted by Lorne Izzard

ONE LIFE TO LIVE (Weekdays at 3 p.m. on ABC) Last summer's plot involving a teenager (Billy Douglas, played by Ryan



# CALENDAR

ENDER. Box 34090. Halifax, N.S. B3J 3S1

THU

FRI

SAT

4

Halifax Gay A.A.  
Caregivers of PWA  
B-GLAD

5

Stepping Out AL-ANON

6

Gay Narcotics  
Anonymous

11

Halifax Gay A.A.  
B-GLAD

12

Stepping Out AL-ANON

13

Gay Narcotics  
Anonymous  
TIGHTROPE

18

Halifax Gay A.A.  
Caregivers of PWA  
B-GLAD

19

Stepping Out AL-ANON

20

Gay Narcotics  
Anonymous

25

Halifax Gay A.A.

26

Stepping Out AL-ANON

27

Gay Narcotics  
Anonymous

4

Halifax Gay A.A.

5

Stepping Out AL-ANON

6

Gay Narcotics  
Anonymous

## Atlantic Region

CONFERENCE PLANNING GROUP — (902) 422-0087 ex27 or write 2093 Gottingen St., Hfx, B3K 3B2.

### Prince Edward Island (902)

AIDS PEI 566-2437 — P.O. Box 2762, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 8C4  
PEI PHONELINE 566-9733 — Women on Wed., 7-10pm, and men on Thur., 7-10pm.

### Metro Halifax (902)

**AFFIRM** — Gays and lesbians in the United Church, 423-3072.

**BEREAVEMENT** — Support group for those who have lost loved ones due to AIDS, 425-4882.

**B-GLAD (Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Association of Dalhousie)** — Students and other interested individuals 7:00 p.m. in room 307 of the Dalhousie SUB, University Ave., Francis at 429-0378.

**CARAS (Church members Assembled to Respond to AIDS) Service** — 8pm St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Oxford at Jubilee.

**CAREGIVERS, FAMILY, & FRIENDS of P.L.W.A.** — support group, 5224 Blowers St., 8pm, 423-4882.

**DIGNITY** — Roman Catholic lesbians and gays, Fr. Mike McDonald at 429-7922.

**GALA NS (Gay and Lesbian Association of Nova Scotia)** — 7pm, 2112 Gottingen St., B3K 3B3, 423-2292.

**GAZETTE** — Meets at 2112 Gottingen St., 8:30 p.m. All interested parties are welcome.

**GAY & LESBIAN ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)** — Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., call 466-8479.

**GAY ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — 8:30 p.m. Commons Field House, Bell Rd., 461-1119.

**GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP** — 7pm, Children's Aid Society, 5244 South St., call Dave at 464-1995.

**GAY MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP** — 2093 Gottingen St., at 8:00 p.m., call 429-7850 for information.

**GAY NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** — 3 p.m. 2093 Gottingen St., 429-7922.

**INTEGRITY** — Anglican lesbians and gays, Fr. Mike McDonald at 429-7922.

**KINSHIP** — Seventh Day Adventist group, Terry at 422-6416.

**LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL COLLECTIVE of NSCAD** — Open to all those with arts/cultural interests, Mike or Toni 422-7381, ext. #132.

**"LIVING AFTER DIAGNOSIS"** — Last Tues of month at 5:30 p.m. on CKDU 97.5 FM, 494-6479.

**LIVING WITH AIDS** — Support for those HIV+ or living with AIDS, 5224 Blower St. 7pm, 425-4882.

**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS** — 11:00 a.m. 2093 Gottingen St., 422-6708.

**OUT & ABOUT** — Recreational club, 423-7129.

**OVER 30's CLUB** — An alternative to the bar scene, 455-0623.

**RED HERRING CO-OP BOOKS** — 1555 Granville St., 422-5087.

**RUMOURS** — A gay and lesbian private club, 2112 Gottingen St., 423-6814.

**SAFE HARBOUR COMMUNITY CHURCH** — Universalist Unitarian Church, 7:30pm, 454-2522.

**STEPPING OUT AL-ANON** — 12-Step group for gays, lesbians & bisexuals, 6225 Willow St. at 7:30 p.m.

**STUDIO** — Lesbian & Gay Bar & Dining Room, 1537 Barrington St., 423-6866.

**THE WORD IS OUT** — Tues. at 5:30 p.m. CKDU FM 97.5, 494-6479.

**TIGHTROPE** — Leather/Denim/Uniform group for men. Ken at 454-0264 or Wilson at 465-3083.

Phillippe) struggling to deal with his sexuality has been carried on over the winter. Most recently, Billy's introduced his new boyfriend, Rick Mitchell, to his mother. Dinner with homophobic Dad appears to be in the works. Amazing stuff.

**ARE YOU BEING SERVED** (Weeknights at 12 a.m. on PBS Detroit) This somewhat annoying British comedy about a department store features a swish gay man who works in menswear. Stereotypes, anyone?

**HEARTS AFIRE** (Mondays at 9:30 p.m. on MITV and CBS) Stars John Ritter as an out-of-touch Southern Senator and Markie Post as his assistant. It's a yawner, except Ritter's lesbian ex-wife and her new girlfriend seem to be regular characters.

**ROSEANNE** (Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on ABC) Watch it just for the unlikely couple of the season, Morgan Fairchild and Sandra Bernhard, as they chart new television territory.

**IN LIVING COLOR** (Saturdays at midnight on MITV) Dayman Weyans has left the show, so the Men on Film Sketch with its over-the-

top portrayal of two outrageously queer film critics is gone. But there's likely to be other stuff. Maybe. Well, maybe not.

**CODCO** (Wednesdays at 11 p.m. on CBC) This is the last season of queer-positive Atlantic humor from the troupe, so get it before it's gone.

**MATERIAL WORLD** (Thursdays at 7 p.m. on CBC) A new plot twist in this okay sitcom (hey, it's Canadian) has an uptight character discover his wife is having an affair with another woman. Rumour control says the story line will carry on for several episodes.

**MELROSE PLACE** (Thursdays at 8 p.m. on ATV) This twentysomething ensemble drama includes a realistically drawn gay man — Matt, played by Doug Savant. The network has been holding back on his character, but a recent plot twist involving a gay bashing has put him front and centre in the show.

**ENG** (Thursdays at 10 p.m. on ATV) Mac's coming out mid season last year has had little impact on the show or any subsequent plots. Maybe that's because that's what real life is often like. Naww...



**THE KIDS IN THE HALL** (Fridays at 10:00 p.m. on CBC) The Kids new one-hour format (which has been picked up by ABC for late nights Saturday) is a mix of old and new sketches. Which means we get to see all those great Buddy Cole sketches again...

**THE CANADIAN GARDENER** (Saturdays at 2 p.m. on CBC) Two delightful old queens share potting secrets. Honest. It's a cult classic.

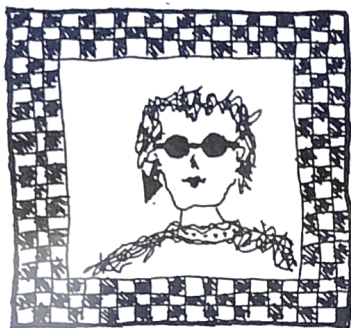
# ATLANTIC LESBIAN, GAY & BISEXUAL CONFERENCE

October 8-10, 1993  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Interested in helping? Write:  
Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Conference Planning  
c/o NSPWAC  
2093 Gottingen St.  
Halifax, NS  
B3K 3B2



# Quiet



# Noise

# Reviews

Paper, Scissors, Rock  
by Ann Decter

reviewed by Alison  
Paper, Scissors, Rock by Ann Decter is one of the most fascinating books I have had the pleasure of reading.

Decter, who is well-known for previous works, ranging from children's books, poetry, and short essays, is, in my opinion, well on her way to claiming a place for herself amongst Canada's best-known authors.

Weaving an on-going story with the background of the heroine's fascinating ancestors, and their interjecting a liberal dose of pertinent social comments, Decter has produced a work of art.

Jane, the heroine, shares her story of growing up in a proud, Jewish family. The reader comes to know and love Zeda Max and Baba Edith; to silently cheer Jane's Mother, Sophia, in her political bids; to feel proud sweat ticking down while clearing the caragana; to empathize with Jane while she comes to terms with her life and heritage.

I am astounded by the intelligent sensitivity of such a young writer. I am looking forward to reading Ms. Decter's next novel - one, which I am sure, will also remind me of Leonard Cohen's musical prose.

By Jane Kansas

I've been reading about S/M, and it makes me feel happy. It has felt sort of like breaking a limb: it doesn't seem like many people have a cast on until you yourself have a cast on and then everybody has a cast on. All of a sudden there are references to sadism and masochism and bondage and discipline everywhere. I read *Macho Sluts*, erotic short fiction from Pat Califia, published by Alyson Press. She is concerned, in her fiction, with the fantasy of S/M, and as she says, journal entries make lousy fiction; women have to begin to really let go in their erotic fiction writing. The stories of *Macho Sluts* are very witty and intelligent and nasty and biting; I liked them a great deal and now have no time nor patience for the so called erotic fiction that immortalizes long lingering glances between CGITs. Califia, I like to think, would be pleased. The introduction itself is a masterpiece and I'll quote from various parts of it: "If you live in a society that wishes you didn't exist, anything you do to make yourself happy disrupts its attempts to wipe you out, or at the very least, make you invisible ... lesbian pornography, especially if it has some humor, is a powerful antidote to this dehumanizing grind ... consider how narrow the acceptable sexual behavior is. Nobody comes out looking normal once you know the whole truth about how they fuck and what they think about when they jerk off...the closest you will be able to come to to sexual freedom of choice will be in the territories of the erotic minorities,

which you must struggle hard to locate and gain admission to, which you must work hard to maintain a membership in...." The entire book allowed me to think of some aspects of myself with a new edge, and a new dignity.

Then I read Garth Barriere's column in the December 11 issue of Xtra (available at Red Herring:\$1) dealing with Garth's attendance at a SM 101 workshop in Toronto. Garth wrote "In the dangerous terrain of sexual perversity, you have to approach the precipice in a sturdy four-by-four with a sober, sane driver at the wheel...I'm looking for that powerful switch that will return me to my body. I considered psychotherapy... I have known for a very long time that I would have to travel down this road..."

From Sallie Tisdale's article Talk Dirty To Me in Harper's, February 92: "I knew I was struggling, distantly and through ignorance, with a deep shame. It was undirected, confusing; for years I had been most ashamed of the shame itself. Wasn't sex supposed to be free, easy? What was wrong with me, that I resisted? Why did I feel so afraid of the surrender...I wanted vaguely to try...things, which no one spoke about; but surely people, somewhere, did...when I envision my own binding, my submission, I am seeing myself free. Free of guilt, free of responsibility...I needed reassurance, and blessing. I needed permission."

And then I received the kind gift of a copy of *Sex* by Madonna, a book that I like and admire, it being made by a woman and more or less taking pornography out of the

closet and putting it on to coffee tables where quasi pseudo intellectuals like you and I can coolly leaf through it making little chi chi mouse shaped lip noises while getting a load of it all. Madonna writes: "There's something comforting about being tied up. Like when you were a baby and your mother strapped you in the car seat. She wanted you to be safe. It was an act of love." (The photographs taken in The Vault were very interesting and educational, but my favourite is the shot of her and Isabella Rosselini.)

This is the recent reading that's left an impression on me, and my thinking is really shifting, lapping at me like a lazy swelling sea. Califia has shown me the excitement and dignity for all playing S/M. Tisdale has started me on a re evaluation of my attitudes toward pornography, convincing me that it can be part of the empowerment I seek; that none of my thoughts are bad, that anything goes. Barriere is another coming to realize that there is a path he must explore, and Madonna too has been dreaming dreams of permission and submission. A dominatrix in a recent episode of LA Law was found not guilty of manslaughter after one of her clients, bound and gagged, died of a heart attack. In her testimony she stated that the ratio of submissivees to dominants is 7 to 1. I've no reason to disbelieve. But why? Because we all really do not want responsibility? Authority? When I find out, I'll let you know. Meanwhile, the line forms to the left.

You Draw The Line

By Lizard Jones

Reviewed by Irene Sims

I didn't know what to expect when I went to Rumours to watch Lizard Jones' presentation about the Drawing the Line exhibit. I was very impressed. I had almost no idea who this person was or what she did other than she is an artist and a lesbian, two fine qualities! So I'm going to tell you about it.

Lizard Jones and two other lesbians, Persimmon Blackbridge and Susan Stewart put together an array of erotic black and white photographs. The arranged the photos in an order ranging from least to most "offensive", on a white paper background. Markers were available for women to draw a line where they thought the photos changed from erotic to pornographic.



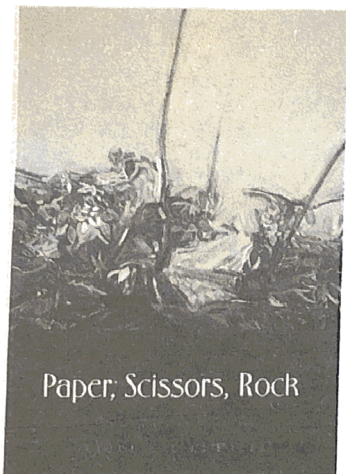
Nobody actually drew a line, instead women used the markers to write their comments on how the photos affected them. Lizard and Persimmon were the models in each photo so the comments would be on the acts and not on the people involved. Some women actually marked on the glass covering the photos so they could not be seen. Comments varied greatly for each photo.

The comments for a photo of a woman sitting naked on the floor tied up with ropes ranged from "Phoney Bullshit" to "Excellent Imagery."

Lizard spoke about why they decided to do this, the problems they encountered and the many surprises along the way. There was a photo of a woman with what could be perceived as blood smeared over her face and body. There were positive and negative comments for this one. The negative ones perceived the photo as suggesting torture, S&M, etc. The positive ones praised the celebration of menstruation. I spoke with Lizard after the presentation and learned that the "blood" was actually black paint but because the photos were black and white you could not tell.

People didn't realize that their reality is not the only reality. This exhibit allowed us to see the way many women react to the same image. When looking at photographs many people don't realize that there is a photographer. The images in *Drawing the Line* were completely constructed for the camera's view. Lizard mentioned that many of the photos were taken seconds before fits of hysterical laughter. Although the scenes are, in a sense, fake, the images are beautiful, powerful and erotic.

Lizard spoke of the cities that the exhibit had visited. She said that in most of the places the women would be tolerant, adding things to other comments &c. But in some places, San Francisco for example, the women were not very tolerant of each other, writing things like "shut up, bitch" after the comments to which they did not agree.



Paper, Scissors, Rock



**JARO**  
2000 INC.

*always to please you!*



"SGT. SWANN'S PRIVATE FILES"  
"THE MEN OF BIG SUR"



VIDEO PACK -2"  
"SUMMER HEAT"

ANYONE OF THESE 3 HOURS  
DOUBLE FEATURE  
FOR ONLY ~~\$49.99~~

**1/2**  
PRICE



"GIANTS (part one)"  
"THE BEST OF TIMES"

**New!**  
SUGG. PRICE \$12.95  
**\$9.95**  
4 OZ ONLY  
**WET**  
PERSONAL  
LUBRICANT®



**JARO**  
2000 INC.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ PROV. \_\_\_\_\_  
POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX ORDERS  
514-443-6030

FOR ORDERS  
1-800-363-9387 • (514) 443-1155

JARO 2000, CP416, STN. BROSSARD, BROSSARD, QC J4Z 3N3

**FREE!**  
3 CONDOMS  
WITH EVERY ORDER

PAYMENT: VISA  C.O.D.  MONEY ORDER

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ I AM 18 YEARS OF AGE OR MORE

I WISH TO ORDER THE FOLLOWING FILM(S)

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SGT. SWANN'S / THE MEN OF BIG SUR     | X 24.99 = \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIANTS (part one) / THE BEST OF TIMES | X 24.99 = \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VIDEO PACK-2 / SUMMER HEAT            | X 24.99 = \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WET PERSONAL LUBRICANT® 4oz.          | X 9.95 = \$ _____  |

POSTAGE FEES + TAXES \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PRIORITY POSTAGE FEES: \$14.00 ADD 7% G.S.T. VHS



# THE NEWS

## Pink List in Sydney

SYDNEY, N.S. — Activists say the RCMP is using a murder investigation as an excuse to compile a "pink list" of gay men living in the Sydney area.

Roddy MacLeod, a 51-year-old music teacher, was brutally stabbed to death in his Sydney River home last Nov. 24.

Police claim they have few leads in the case. But among MacLeod's possessions they found a diary and photo album.

Investigators have been systematically interviewing anyone mentioned or pictured in either book, even though they admit there is no evidence linking them to the murder.

Disturbingly, police have been asking unrelated personal questions, such as "when did you first know you were gay?" and "have you ever done it doggy style?" And they've taken pictures of everyone they question.

Activists say those aren't questions that would be put to straight people in a murder investigation.

Those interviewed say they feel harassed, and they're furious about the RCMP's methods.

In one case, a man who wasn't out to his parents was dragged from their home and taken to police headquarters for further questioning.

Another man who told police he wanted to call his lawyer before talking to them, said police tried to intimidate him into giving up the idea.

"The office's tone suggested 'what have you got to hide?'" said the man, who asked not to be identified.

Another man who refused to allow police to take his picture said they threatened him, and told him "it doesn't look good for you."

"We'll get your picture one way or another," the man said he was told.

The man said police visited his home on the pretext of getting him to identify another photograph, but he said it soon became clear they had another agenda.

Although the two officers told him he wasn't a suspect, they proceeded to ask two hours of detailed questions about his sex life, and showed him a list of over 300 names they said they had already questioned.

The man says police told him they needed the photographs to try and keep straight everyone they had interviewed. But he questions that, given they already have MacLeod's own photo album.

In December, a concerned group met to discuss how to handle a growing panic in the community.

A three-person liaison committee was struck to approach police. But it didn't prompt RCMP to change their tactics.

An RCMP spokesman told CBC news their investigation technique was not discriminatory.

This is not the first time the Sydney detachment of the RCMP has found itself criticized for its questionable investigation

techniques.

In 1991, a 19-year-old woman who complained she was sexually assaulted by three male students in a residence at the University College of Cape Breton found herself interrogated for several hours and eventually charged with mischief. The charge was later dropped by the Crown prosecutor.

Almost a year later, three male students were charged with sexual assault, after RCMP supervisors in Halifax reviewed the file.

## Compensation spotty for mil queers

HALIFAX — Even though the Canadian Armed Forces has stopped forcing lesbians and gay men out of the military, it hasn't stopped discriminating against those it's drummed out over the past several years.

When the Department of National Defence dropped its policy against gays and lesbians last fall, it announced it would consider compensating those whose careers had been affected.

Officially, DND says since 1985, when the Charter of Rights came into effect, only 14 people had their careers frozen under the policy and 61 were dismissed.

"I don't believe that," says Halifax lawyer Lynn Reiersen, who represents three people considering more legal action against DND. "It's quite possible that they froze or dismissed hundreds of people."

"They were pressured and coerced into signing a voluntary resignation from the Forces because of their sexual orientation and they would not necessarily show up on the records as a person who was released they were gay."

According to DND, there are only two people in Atlantic Canada whose careers remain frozen — both of them are currently serving at CFB Gagetown. But the Gaezette has learned of at least one Halifax-based person who's in that situation.

DND now says its compensation plans include only the people it has on its list. It says it'll be reviewing each case in its records one at a time. Anyone who was forced out, or agreed to leave rather than face dismissal, is on their own.

That's left the hundreds of people whose

careers — and lives — were ruined no alternative but to take DND to court.

"I have clients who I believe are entitled to compensation because of the way they were treated by the military as a result of their sexual orientation," Reiersen says. "That said, many people in that position don't have money to finance legal fees for that kind of an application or even to negotiate that kind of a settlement on their behalf."

Reiersen's clients are currently looking for seven to 10 others to join in to share costs for more legal action.

DND could find itself on the line for millions of dollars.

In the lawsuit that prompted the military to change its policy, former air force lieutenant Michelle Douglas was awarded \$100,000. Four other lawsuits were to be settled out of court. There's been no word on any settlement yet.

Reiersen says people may have valid claims for things like general damages or lost past and future wages.

"For example, they may have lost a \$30,000 job with DND and making \$15,000 at a minimum wage job now. Their loss of past income could be very significant if you add it up over seven years."

## Human Rights online in Newfoundland

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. — Newfoundland's Human Rights Commission has begun accepting complaints from lesbians and gay men, even though sexual orientation isn't included in the provincial human rights code.

"We believe that it is protected but not listed," executive director Gladys Vivian said Dec. 10.

The move follows a court ruling in Ontario last August that ruled the federal Human Rights Act was unconstitutional because it didn't protect lesbians and gay men, and ordered the federal commission to begin handling complaints.

Commissions in Alberta and Saskatchewan have made similar moves.

But a report released by the Newfoundland Advisory Council on the Status of Women, released the same day, said

R.J.'s Home Brewing  
Beer & Wine Supplies



Cornwallis Inn  
P.O. Box 694  
Kentville, N.S.  
B4N 3X9  
(902) 678-0600

Monday - Saturday

## Home Brewing is Fun and Easy To Do

*10% Discount on all equipment with this ad!*

### Special Offer For Beer Lovers

My \$79 beer kit includes quality ingredients and all the equipment and instructions.

Why not brew today? When you taste it you won't believe it!

### The Largest Home Brewing Store in the Maritimes

We have 55 types of beer from England, Australia, Canada, Holland, Belgium, the US, Scotland and Ireland. Twenty-eight types of wine from France, California, and Spain.



the government should be doing much more.

The council interviewed 17 lesbians, and documented fears of losing custody of their children, child support or their jobs because of their sexual orientation.

The council wants the province to amend its human rights law to include a broader definition of the family so that same-sex partners have a legal right to pensions, assets and other benefits.

## Anonymous posters for Scouts

FREDERICTON — City police were called in to investigate a series of posters that call the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization, "the newest gay club in town."

The posters offer young boys for "whatever you have in mind."

The posters began appearing at St. Thomas University in December following a highly publicized fight between a gay social work student and Big Brothers over its refusal to allow him to volunteer.

In the end, Big Brothers decided to head off a human rights investigation and announced it was changing its policy to allow anyone to volunteer.

That's been the policy of the national organization for more than a year.

## Colorado 2 on ice

DENVER, Colorado — A controversial amendment to Colorado's constitution that makes it illegal for any level of government to protect lesbians and gays from discrimination has been put on hold.

A Denver judge ruled Jan. 15 that Amendment 2, passed by 54 per cent of voters in last November's elections, couldn't take effect as scheduled until it had a chance to hear a legal challenge to the law.

"There is a fundamental right here, and it is the right not to have the state endorse and give effect to private biases," said Denver District Judge Jeff Bayless, in granting an injunction.

Bayless said it appeared opponents of Amendment 2 had a good chance of proving the law is unconstitutional. And he agreed the law might subject lesbians and gay men to statewide discrimination.

Gov. Roy Romer, who campaigned against the amendment, says the injunction will appeal to the state Supreme Court. Romer says the ruling needs the endorsement of a higher court.

Colorado for Family Values, the group that sponsored Amendment 2, says it doesn't consider the injunction a setback.

"We are on the cutting edge nationally here," says Kevin Tebedo. "America has always wanted to take its time in situations like this to make sure we're being fair and doing the right thing."

Aspen, Boulder and Denver — which will be forced to rescind their anti-discrimination laws if Amendment 2 goes ahead — joined the court challenge.

A national boycott of Colorado, meanwhile, continues to gather momentum.

At least a dozen major U.S. cities — including New York, Seattle and Atlanta — have decided not to do business with any

state where laws specifically deny people rights because of their sexual orientation.

Several major conventions have been cancelled. It's estimated the state has already lost about \$20 million dollars worth of business.

"This could be very painful," says Rich Grant, director of communications for the Denver Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The New York Times called for a national boycott in an editorial Dec. 21.

"A successful boycott can help energize the most progressive ... Coloradans to overturn their new law. And it would send a potent warning to other states that may soon consider similar measures," the editorial said.

A similar boycott of Arizona over that state's refusal to proclaim Martin Luther King Day eventually cost the state over \$500 million, and forced it to change its mind.

But the boycott isn't having an effect where the state can feel it the most — on the ski slopes. Top Hollywood celebrities continue to make Colorado a vacation spot, and ski resort operators in Aspen say business is way up.

Some stars, like Melissa Etheridge, have cancelled plans to perform in Aspen in protest of the amendment. Groups like Manhattan Transfer have offered to donate proceeds from concerts to help fund the legal challenge.

John Denver and Harry Hamlin were two of the stars who turned out for a benefit variety show Dec. 29. Liza Minelli was supposed to perform, but backed out citing the boycott. About \$50,000 was raised for Undo 2, a local organization trying to overturn the amendment.

But other celebrities, like Jack Nicholson — who calls the boycott "rubbish" — still plan to vacation in Aspen.

Meanwhile, the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre in Denver reports anti-gay attacks have increased sharply after the measure was passed.

The centre says its anti-violence project received 42 reports of harassment or violence in November. Before November, the project got an average of 12 calls per month.

"More than 50 per cent of the reports clearly are related to Amendment 2," says centre director Sue Anderson.

But not all lesbian and gay groups support the boycott.

"Why bite the hand that feeds you?" asks Terry White, chairman of the Aspen Gay and Lesbian Community. "I think we can deal with it in other ways."

A poll conducted in December suggests the average Colorado citizen doesn't like the pressure being brought to bear from outside the state.

The poll found 96 per cent of those asked would not change their vote if given the chance, and 43 per cent said the boycott made it less likely they would change their minds.

At the same time, the poll suggests most Coloradans think they have liberal attitudes about lesbians and gay men — 59 per cent back the idea of queer military personnel, 73 per cent have no problem with

gay and lesbian school teachers and 81 per cent think gays and lesbians are just the same as everyone else, except for their choice of partner.

But 40 per cent thought homosexuality is morally wrong, and 54 per cent thought the battle over Amendment 2 was about "special" rights.

## New stats on HIV deaths.

TORONTO — New methods of counting deaths attributable to AIDS have boosted the number cases in Canada to date to well over 11,000.

And scientists say it appears the number of new cases is growing, not declining.

Health and Welfare Canada released its quarterly report Jan. 11 for the first time reflecting numbers experts believe more accurately reflects the true state of the epidemic.

The number of AIDS-related deaths between 1979 and 1992 previously accepted was 7,282, including 4,700 deaths.

Before the change, the federal health department counted 407 new cases in 1992 alone. But that number is now believed to be closer to 1,500.

"It's rising and we would expect it to rise next year," says Dr. Don Sutherland of the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control.

A study of male outpatients at several Quebec hospitals showed infection rates more than doubled in Montréal in 1992.

"This is certainly not the time to turn away from the concern about AIDS and HIV," Sutherland says. "There are some hints that it may be rising again, so we need to be vigilant."

The numbers may jump again. Federal and provincial health ministers meet in February to discuss expanding the definition of AIDS to include deaths by a broader range of illnesses. A similar change last year in the U.S. saw totals go up dramatically.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY  
FROM

THE STUDIO

Get  
Happy

Sun - Wed  
4:30pm - Closing

Get  
Looney

Thu - Sat  
10:30 - 11:30pm

Hours - MON - SAT 4pm - 2am, SUN 6pm - 1am  
1537 Barrington Street • 423-6866



# THE NEWS

## Axe waving at Alb. Human Rights Comm

EDMONTON — A move by the Alberta Human Rights Commission to begin handling complaints from gays and lesbians has prompted the new provincial cabinet under Premier Ralph Klein to consider abolishing it.

"Perhaps we can tighten up laws in other areas where we won't even need a commission," said Dianne Mirosh, minister responsible for the commission Jan. 12.

She said doing away with the commission could save the province \$1.6 million.

The controversy blew up in early December, after the commission announced it was following the lead of other provinces in handling complaints from lesbians and gay men.

*It argued that while the Individual Rights Protection Act doesn't protect people on the basis of sexual orientation, recent court decisions made the law unconstitutional.*

That prompted new Community Development Minister Diane Mirosh to launch a review of whether the commission had the legal right to do that. Later she revealed the review included whether the commission is even needed.

The crux of the matter appears to be that Mirosh is fundamentally opposed to giving lesbians and gay men human rights.

"They have a strong lobby group. They are asking for special rights," Mirosh says.

George Davison of Gay and Lesbian Awareness says Mirosh cannot legally deny protection to lesbians and gay men, because of a court ruling late last year.

"The courts have ruled sexual orientation is protected under the Charter, and the government of Alberta must respect that," Davison says.

Davison's group is also furious with Premier Klein, and are accusing him of renegeing on a promise made during the Conservative party's leadership campaign to change the human rights law in exchange for lesbian and gay support.

A spokesman for Klein's office says no such promise was made.

The province, meanwhile, has yet to name a new chief commissioner to replace Fil Frazer, whose contract wasn't renewed last year.

The commission has been lobbying the province to change its legislation since 1972.

A report compiled by the commission and lesbian and gay groups last year documented at least 16 legitimate cases of discrimination that could not be dealt with because of the law.

## Feminist, dyke, Rhodes Scholar

MONTREAL — Cecil Rhodes probably wouldn't have approved.

One of this year's 11 Canadian winners of the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship is not only a woman, not only a feminist, but a lesbian.

Carlelin Brooks, an angry runaway kid turned activist, says she has no qualms about accepting the \$40,000 scholarship to study at Oxford University.

"I've never had a problem accepting money from people who I strongly disagree with," says Brooks. "If some right-wing reactionary wants to endow his will to give people like me the change to completely fight against whatever system he was concocting, his old revamped British Empire, more power to him."

Her parents split up when she was very young and Brooks stayed with her mother in Vancouver until she was eight. At 11, her father dropped her off at some friends in the U.S. for the weekend. He never came back.

Authorities put her in a foster home in Salt Lake City, where her foster father sexually abused her for four years.

Eventually she ended up living with her grandmother in Ottawa, where Brooks says the Children's Aid Society became a big influence in her life. The agency paid her tuition through McGill University.

On her application for the scholarship, Brooks listed extracurricular activities like Dykes on Mikes, a lesbian radio show, women's self defence courses and a babysitting service for single mothers.

Women have been eligible for the scholarship since 1977, set up after Rhodes' death in 1902 for men who "displayed the qualities of manhood."

Rhodes himself enjoyed the company of rugged men far more than the company of women.

## Deviant lifestyle, that's the problem

LEWISTON, Maine — City council in Maine's second-largest city voted 5-2 on Jan. 7 in favor of a human rights ordinance that would protect lesbians and gay men from discrimination.

Nearly 1,000 people crammed into a high school gymnasium for a hearing on the law, which covers housing, employment, credit and public accommodations.

Despite vocal opposition from Roman Catholic and right-wing Christian groups, the ordinance got the backing of Lewiston's police chief, Laurent Gilbert. Police records showed more than a dozen recent verbal or physical attacks directed at gays and lesbians in recent weeks.

"No one should have to live with that fear — fear of assaults and discrimination," Gilbert said.

The ordinance also got support from Maine's deputy attorney general. But opposition was particularly vicious.

"If the homosexuals feel discriminated against, it's because of the deviant lifestyle they have chosen," said Councillor Paul

Grenier, who voted against the motion.

"Civil rights laws must not protect the sexual preferences of a wealthy and politically powerful minority establishing some special protective status when it is so unnecessary and undeserved," said anti-gay campaigner Jasper Wyman, who heads the Christian Civic League.

After the vote, opponents vowed to launch a referendum drive to repeal the ordinance.

## James Birch

OTTAWA — James Birch, a former Canadian Forces pilot who fought to have lesbians and gay men protected under the federal Human Rights Act died in early January.

An obituary in the Ottawa Citizen said Birch, 34, committed suicide "after a long struggle with depression and the lingering demons of childhood sexual abuse."

Birch, and Ottawa activist Graham Haig, together launched a challenge to the Canadian Human Rights Act in 1989.

The Ontario Court of Appeal ruled last August that the Act was unconstitutional because it did not protect lesbians and gay men from discrimination. It ordered the federal Human Rights Commission to begin hearing complaints as though the Act included sexual orientation protection.

Birch also founded a support group for men and women coping with incest and childhood sexual assault.

## Queer Radio Seeks Change

"We aspire to be the gay Donahue," says Dan Smith, co-host and producer of "The Word Is Out," Atlantic Canada's premiere lesbian and gay radio show. On the air at CKDU 97.5 FM since 1987, a number of different hosts have taken the reins. But this year they belong to Smith, Adam Marriot and Tony Roberts, who depend on other members of the volunteer staff for input.

The trio are committed to making "The Word Is Out" interactive. This means keeping the community abreast of happenings in the gay community and soliciting the help of people who are at present not directly involved in CKDU. "This is your show," emphasizes Smith, who has introduced mail-bag, call-in and round-table discussion segments. "We want to be a forum where complicated issues affecting us can be addressed."

Consequently, another current priority is to find a lesbian co-host, so that the lesbian community can be more wholly represented. The three have included features pertaining to the women's community, such as an interview with director Aerlyn Weissman, whose award-winning docu-drama "Forbidden Love" was featured at this past Atlantic Film Festival, and AIDS activist Cindy Patton.

Regular commentaries by Roberts address such issues as Kim Campbell and human rights legislation, and homophobia on campus. Music by gay performers — such as Erasure, k.d. lang, Phranc and The Plintons, who were in town in December — links the gay audience to familiar icons. And a weekly newfile disseminates information

He's survived by his longtime companion Michael Smith.

A memorial service was to be held in Ottawa in January.



## My nipples explode with delight

BANGKOK, Thailand — Police say they've arrested a band of transvestites who have been robbing tourists by inviting them to suck on their tranquilizer-laced nipples.

Police arrested four transvestites and a woman Dec. 27 after complaints from two men, who said they were robbed of nearly \$6,000 and a Rolex watch.

Drugging drinks is a favorite tactic for gangs preying on tourists.

"But many of our customers did not drink so we would get them to suck our drug-laced nipples," one of the accused was quoted as saying.

about the wider community to the public. On top of all that, they are committed to having fun.

Smith insists that the show has enhanced his confidence ten-fold: "Since becoming involved in CKDU and 'The Word Is Out,' I've been able to come out to my family. Plus I am more informed about what's going on." For this reason alone, he invites more people to be come involved.

Another tie to the community is around AIDS and HIV. The last "Word" of each month is devoted to "Living After Diagnosis," an AIDS treatment show produced by James Shedden, Information Coordinator at the Persons With AIDS Coalition, and Dan Hart.

"Living After Diagnosis" is designed by the Coalition to address specific issues for people living with HIV or AIDS, to give a positive sense of living and to inform the community of support available," they maintain.

Of his own role in the show, Shedden says, "CKDU has increased by own belief in the accessibility and accountability of the media.

"I was initially involved at the Coalition as a volunteer and was invited to become involved in the show as an extension of that. It's been great — it's definitely enhanced my knowledge of AIDS-related issues and my own confidence."

"The Word Is Out" and "Living After Diagnosis" can be heard on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.



# Dykes To Watch Out For

## Lesbians Linger in Wolfville

Several of us from the Wolfville area have been throwing around the idea of starting a lesbian group of some sort for a number of months now. However like most women, our lives are filled with days that don't seem to end, even when we go to sleep. After exchanging tales of Christmas with families that we are not out to yet, we brought up our long ago discussed idea of forming a lesbian group. We decided we had procrastinated enough and the next night, after many phone calls, we had our first meeting. We have since had a second meeting and have decided to continue as long as there is an interest.

Our group has several purposes. We would like to build a sense of community among women in Wolfville and the surrounding areas. At times we all need to be around other lesbians to discuss the heterosexual world. We hope this group will be a comfortable place to meet and talk about what is going on in the community, along with providing support and information. In addition we plan to be a social group. For the most part, we want the group to be what people need it to be and we are always open to new ideas. We would like to encourage anyone who is interested to contact us for more information.

Wolfville Lesbian Group  
Tuesdays 7pm  
542-1547

*Of Course...*  
A Café & Bistro  
Make your reservations now  
for our special

**Valentine's Dinner**  
Saturday,  
February 13th

Telephone 492-2455  
for details.

European Continental Cuisine  
Fully Licensed  
1546 Hollis Street, Halifax





## Letters Cont.

clined to appeal are the cases that her lawyers kept on losing with regards to employment rights - most specifically in the Armed Forces. In fact, Campbell goes one step further and complains (brays, sniffs, gripes or fulminates in the lexicon of Persky when he writes of gays and lesbians) that the Ontario Human Rights Commission decision in the Leshner case, granting Leshner's male partner spousal rights to pensions, is wrong. The only thing that let that decision stand is that it was the Ontario government, not Campbell, that had to make the decision about an appeal.

Persky, it seems, does not understand why we are so displeased with the amendments. Perhaps he has forgotten that a court decision this past August required the Canadian Human Rights Commission to act as if "sexual orientation" were already in the act. Thus, the only really new part of the federal act to touch on sexual orientation is the exclusionary definition of marital status. It seems rather foolish, to say the least, to cheer changes that will actually put us in a worse position than we've been in since August.

What lesbians and gay men are asking for is very clear. We want our relationships recognized because we want access to the same benefits we would get were we heterosexual. When we or our children are sick we want access to our lover's health plan at work, when we fall in love with a non-Canadian we want that person to be able to move here and build a life with us, when our life partner dies we want survivor benefits under the Canada Pension Plan and her/his other pensions, when our partner or one of his/her family dies we want bereavement leave. These are not unimportant or secondary issues. The federal government's unwillingness to recognize our relationships and its continuing efforts, both through the courts and Parliament, to belittle, trivialize and delegitimize our relationships means that we will continue to face undue hardship and heartbreak. Perhaps Stan Persky wants to welcome such a situation but I prefer to call it what it is - discrimination - and I join many other lesbians, gay men and other human rights supporters in condemning it.

In its efforts to find commentators on the politics of lesbian and gay liberation in the future, the Globe and Mail would perhaps better serve its readers by finding analysts more fully aware of current debates within our communities and more fully informed of the current legal status of our rights in this country.

Patrick Barnholden  
Lockhartville, Nova Scotia

Dear Gaezette:

I am sorry that this letter will contain explicit language you can censor words out, or sounds like I am preaching, but I am angry. I am angry about all the articles that appear on AIDS/HIV because of all the lectures I get from guys who tell me what is safe to do so I will not catch this. While it's true that AIDS and HIV leads to a person's passing away - most people now live ten years with help from AZT drugs before this happens. While it's true that you cannot catch AIDS/HIV from kissing, oral sex without

cumming inside; anal sex without condom but pulling out before cumming. You can get other diseases! From saliva in french kissing and in oral sex without condom you can get 'hepatitis B.' Hepatitis B disease gets inside your liver and makes your skin yellow - called jaundice. You are six months sick before getting well by following doctor's orders. For anybody out there who does not have 20 weeks of work to get unemployment sick benefits, you are up a creek without a paddle. Because I do not imagine welfare would help you out. Only other options is to find a family member with training in St. John's Ambulance home care course to take care of you. Because other members of your family will be ignorant about the facts of this disease, and will treat you like an AIDS/HIV outcast. From anal sex without a condom but pulling out before cumming you get venereal warts. Venereal warts are treatable but not curable. Meaning they will be recurring and you will give them to everybody you have sex without a condom with. Since they get on your penis. They can get on your dick while getting sucked too hard and someone's teeth cuts your dick and then you have anal sex without a condom and pull out before cumming. Anyways now I hope when I will not suck or fuck without a condom someone will remember this letter. By taking one day out of 365 days per year to read this. Other things gays can still get are body crabs, syphilis, gonorrhoea, venereal diseases, maybe herpes since they are in cold and canker sores which are on some gays' mouths.

Yours truly, the fictitious John Doe,  
Halifax.

P.S. Free condoms from main line are available 2385 Agricola Street, Halifax. Hours: Tue-Wed: 7-10pm; Thu: 2-5pm and 7-10pm; Fri: 2-5pm and 6-11pm; Sat 6-11pm. Phone: 423-9891.

Thank you and Congratulations.

My many heartfelt thanks and congratulations to all in our gay and lesbian community who made New Year's Eve the success it was.

I especially want to thank Air Nova, who, once again, supplied air travel for two to Newark - our grand door prize.

We have received many good words about New Years Eve, and are delighted that so many had a good time.

Again, - on behalf of the staff of Rumours and myself, - thanks for a great time.

Sincerely, Marilyn Lamb,  
Manager, Rumours

[Names have been changed to protect the privacy of those involved.]

Dear Sirs,  
Well I really don't know how to begin to write this letter, but will try my best.

My name is F.N. and my lover's name is S.S. and we will have been living together nine years Aug. 5 and have a really open and wonderful relationship which grows as each day goes by. I am 39 years of age and S.S. is 62, but the age doesn't make a difference as far as love is concerned, but as for sexual

matters are concerned, well there is none. I really don't blame S.S. for his sexual impotency but I would really love to have a real good time once in a while which is getting harder and harder to have as with AIDS and other diseases make it almost impossible to find anyone.

When one lives in a place such as Sydney, Cape Breton, one has to be really careful about your sexual preferences as homophobia is rampant down here. It is so bad that most of the so-called Gay Community is even turning on each other. As for a support group or even a club such as Rumours, well forget it. That is out of the question as no one wants to hear about something like that.

What we do have here in Sydney is what they call the "fag drag" (Bsplanade) where young and old alike go cruising and partying and also they get chased and beat up. I really think it is sad in this day and age that one has to go sneaking around like a thief in the night and also I do not know for the life of me why a person has to be charging for their sexual pleasures as I believe it is just great to be able to have a great sexual experience with someone who enjoys it as much as I do.

Oh yes we do have our little cliques, as I am sure is in every group but I feel no matter what your age or financial status is you should be welcomed into the group wity open and loving arms.

The reason I am writing this letter in the first place is that for all my years of being gay and around out in the world I have never ever felt threatened by anyone as I have never given anyone reason to really hate me or also hate my lover and for the nine years I have been living with my darling Thomson we have always went everywhere together and never once did we ever cause problems for anyone so I really cannot see why anyone would write such nasty, sick and intimidating letters to us.

I am sure there is just as many problems in Halifax but I would love to believe there is a place where one can go to be on even ground (or should I say equal ground) such as Rumours or one of the many of the support groups which exist within Halifax.

I and my lover are very proud to be gay as I believe we are the most loving and understanding people as person could want to me and I believe God put Gay people on earth so we could teach other people to be able to love in a caring and feeling way.

I will close this letter hoping you will be able to understand where I am coming from. I may not have a good education and whole lot of money, but what I do have is a lot of love and enough to go all the way around the world.

So I will close and will enclose the sick letters which we have received. I hope you will print this article the Gaezette and your earliest convenience and may God bless you all and me he bring us closer and stronger together.

Yours in brotherly love,  
F.N.

Dear SS & F. faggot

I want to drop you faggots a line. if I ever see you S.S. near my son I'll have your old prun to give to my pit bull. He pointed you out

one day and said you and F. were given him some trouble. But a few other teenage boys pointed you out. you girls better leave the kids alone. A certain policeman friend of yours cannot be trusted, you fags will eventually drop like flies due to AIDS. I be nice and let you know who is HIV in Sydney S. Q. and friends 2 boys from the Pier K. and C. I be nice and not reveal there full identity. Just remember my source is from the horses mouth - the lab at the hospital has a leak who hates fags because he was given a hard time when he lived down a certain part of town.

S. & F.

This note is to let you know that your buddy K.D. has been saying some pretty nasty things about you. I am a friend but would like to remain anonymous. he told me things like that you two have VD and that you guys talk about him and spread rumors. he said if it means me becoming friends with the fruits down the north end that's what he will do to get you guys. he also wants to get K., E., S. who he says all have viral warts and claims he seen them on K. K. says he got them of...

I am a good friend of you guys and that's why I'm telling you this



Look, I'm really sorry, and it'll never happen again. No, wait. It just might happen again. Alright, there's a strong possibility it'll happen again. Okay, okay, it'll definitely happen again, so why don't you just go ahead and forgive me for that one too?



## Classifieds

Drawer # 12101.

## Business

**OUT IN THE WEST** Productions, Canada's leading gay video production company, featuring some of Canada's sexiest young guys. You like YMAC? Then you'll love us! For further information, write to Box 39175, Point Grey Postal Outlet, Vancouver, BC, V6R 1G0. apri

**CONDOMS BY MAIL** Send \$11.00 for package of 12 (taxes included) to LYNX, PO Box 48037, Bedford, NS, B4A 3Z2. Delivered in Plain brown envelope. Please include return address and quantity desired. marcb

**CRUISELINE TORONTO'S FAVORITE** telephone connection service for gay and bisexual men. Access CruiseLine, The Backroom, and Conferences. For membership information, call 24 hrs (416)966-ORAL.

ADDRESS YOUR  
REPLIES TO  
DRAWER

c/o  
CLASSIFIEDS  
RPO BOX 34090  
Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1

## Personals

**RECENTLY OUT MAN** 40ish, educated, likes outdoors, sports, travel. Enjoys quiet evenings and company of others. Looking for friendship, possible relationship. Respond to

**BATHURST, NB LOVER**, friend, correspondent seeks either for sex exchange or love. Looking for young guy under 30. Height, sex dimension unimportant. Sincerity, appearance, adaptability is. Not interested in ugly problems, commercial, obese. I'm sincere, serious, looking for real relation. 40's, 5'8", 210 lbs, blond, blue. Photo please. French/English. Write to drawer # 11302.

## Penpals

**MANE MEN: PENPAL** network for long haired gay guys! Send photo, SASE, PO Box 231, Stn. B, Ottawa, ON, K1P 6C4. Headbangers, hippies, write to us!

**COMPATIBLE GAY PENPALS**, bilingual, worldwide selected to suit you: 75 criteria applicable. Low \$2 "anti-recession" fee. Forget isolation: reach out! CONTACTS, Box 38015, Ottawa, K2C 1N0.

## Publications

**MALE-CALL!** Are you an aspiring writer or photographer? Or maybe you just have a hot, dirty story to tell and some sexy pix to show! **MALEBOX**, Canada's only national contact magazine for Gay men, wants to hear from you! (Stories: max. 2-pages typed. Photos: B&W, any size.) Send all submissions, with a signed letter stating your age, to: MALEBOX, P.O. Box 4639, Station E, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5H8.

**WORLDWIDE CONTACTS FOR** all liberated males, females, couples, gays, lesbians, etc. Legal age. Details to: Raynald M., Box 1113, St-Pascal, QC G0L 3Y0.

## Call for Submissions

**PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS** is calling for unpublished writing and artwork for a Canadian/New Zealand lesbian anthology to be edited by Beth Brant and Cathie Dunsford. Short Stories, biographical writing, B&W art-

## ZACK:

when first we met on separate shores, this rocky ground, not mine, not yours. the planets shift and move around, and take us to that higher ground.

LOVE,

RUBY

## MY DARLING BOBBY:

The promise of oneness with your soul doesn't wither with the time I spend away from you. It only increases. Miss you, love you, always yours,

MARK

## VOLUNTEERS!

**GALA (Rumours)** is seeking individuals who would be interested in decorating Rumours for planned special events. Those on the Decorating Committee could also be involved in planning and making decorations as well. If you are interested, call the GALA Office at 423-2292 and leave your name and phone number. The GALA Secretary will get back to you.



• Rochefort

Postage &  
Handling  
& GST  
incl

\$21.00 ea or 3/\$53.00

Orders processed same day via air mail. Plain wrapper. We accept certified cheques, money orders, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Diners' Club (include expiry date). Please print name, address, and postal code clearly, or call

**514-932-6004**  
**MALE ORDER®**

Box 143, Station A,  
Montreal, PQ, H3C 1C5



Canada's LARGEST penpal/contact club for gay men  
Members ACROSS Canada and in the USA  
1,000's of SUCCESSFUL contacts completed since 1976

Write today for information on how YOU can also meet socially and sexually compatible friends, lovers, penpals and phonepals.

GSJ, Box 3043  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3S9

Bringing gay men together  
since 1976.

## To Advertise in the Classifieds

Write clearly in the spaces provided, one word per space. Your first three words are in bold type.

| BOLD | BOLD | BOLD |  |  |  |
|------|------|------|--|--|--|
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |
|      |      |      |  |  |  |

FIRST FORM, \$7

EXTRA FORM, \$4

Name:

Address:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Send To:

GAEZETTE CLASSIFIED, RPO Box 34090, Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1

## THE COST:

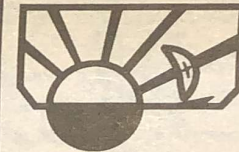
The First form (25 words) is \$7. Additional forms are \$4. 10% off if you run the ad for 3 or more issues. Classifieds for Non-Profit Community Groups are free.

Specify your category: Personals, For Sale, Announcements, Business, etc.

ALL ads must be paid for in advance by cheque, or money order. If we can't read it, we won't print it.

## Travel

**VISITING TORONTO?** For listings of Clubs, Saunas, Restaurants, Accommodations, Shops and Community Resources. Free 24 hours a day with your touch-tone phone. Call (416) 925-XTRA.



Safe Harbour  
Community Church

A New Ministry of the  
Universal Fellowship of  
Metropolitan Community Churches

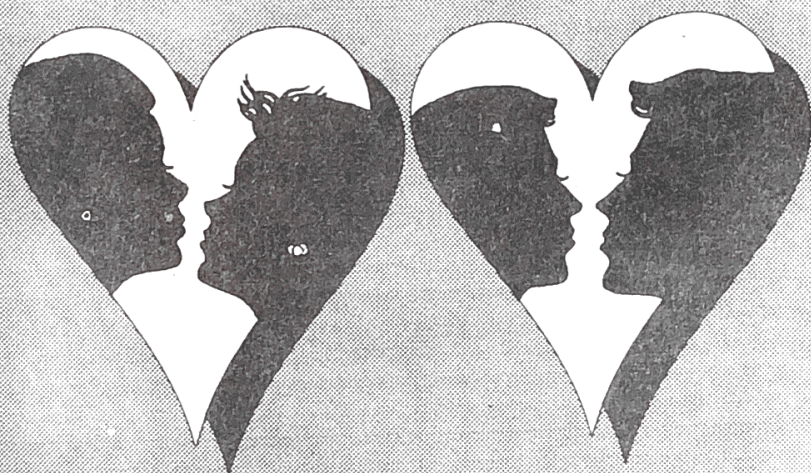
Sunday Worship 7:30pm

Singspiration: 7:15pm  
Universalist Unitarian Church  
5500 Inglis Street  
(Bus route 9 stop 0248)



# RUMOURS

## VALENTINES WEEKEND



### Part I

Valentine's Dance

Sat., Feb. 13

Bar open til 2 am

Regular cover

- Come play the

*Numbers Game!*

### Part II

Queen of Hearts II

-*The SEQUINS*

Sun., Feb. 14

Door open: 8:30 pm

Showtime: 9:30 pm

\$3 - Members \$5 - Guests

FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS • MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE  
2112 GOTTINGEN STREET HALIFAX • (902)423-6814