

Lesbian couple challenges family housing regulations

By PETER KAFKA

Daily Cardinal, U. of Wisconsin

When Ann Marie Piazza, a post-graduate student at the U. of Oregon, and her partner, Pamela Harbeintner, applied for admission to the school's family housing units in the spring of 1990, housing officials turned the couple down.

The reason? If you ask Piazza, it is because she and her partner are gay.

"By being a lesbian, I'm denied recognition of my marriage by the United States of America," Piazza said.

Piazza was married to Harbeintner by a Unitarian layperson in 1988.

"We have a thousand times more proof than any regular couple that we're bound," Piazza said. "People are people. Just because I'm gay and someone else is straight doesn't mean my marriage is worth less than theirs."

Piazza's application for family housing was rejected by the U. of Oregon and is now being appealed to the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Her case is symbolic of a question that has begun to appear on campuses across the country: Should gay and lesbian couples be treated as families and given the same rights as married heterosexuals?

Mike Eyster, director of housing at the U. of Oregon, said the school is "constantly evaluating" its housing policies and could conceivably change them in the future.

"There's ongoing pressure," he said. "People that administer the (housing) policy want it to be fair."

But Eyster said many others seem comfortable with the way things stand at the U. of Oregon.

"There are people in Oregon who feel very strongly that gay and lesbian couples should not be allowed to live in family housing," he said.

Some college administrators have said gays should be able to live together in a family housing environment, an encouraging sign for many gay activists.

Last May, following a year-long series of meetings, debates and forums, the U. of Wisconsin-Madison announced it would open its family housing complex to any couples registered under the city of Madison's domestic partnership law.



JEFF PASLEY, OREGON DAILY EMERALD, U. OF OREGON

Ann Marie Piazza and Pamela Harbeintner wanted to live together in U. of Oregon family housing. The administration said no.

Norman Sunstad, UW-Madison housing director, said the decision was a reflection of today's changing society.

"It just seemed to us that culture's changed a bit, and why not change the policy?" he said. "I think it's sort of a trend."

And in 1990, administrators at Stanford U. made all services available to married students, including couples housing, which is available to students "in an established, long-term domestic partnership."

The policy, which does not require students to submit proof of their relationship, was enacted to make sure Stanford students "don't have to choose between academic and social responsibilities," said Bill Georges, assistant director of the Stanford Housing Center.

Georges said five single-sex couples are living in family housing this fall.

Piazza said she would remain optimistic about her case. "I think people are becoming more practical," she said.

Piazza said she thinks it is important that issues of this nature are brought to the attention of university administrations.

"I encourage any gay and lesbian couples or even single people to not hide behind their co-workers and friends," she said.

U News

News from around the country

GEORGIA

Volley till you drop... If U. of Georgia students Jack Bauerle, Mark Guilbeau, Todd White and Chris Brown ask you to play tennis with them, check your calendar first for next week's appointments. The four netters broke the Guinness World Record for endurance doubles play by gutting out 125 hours of straight tennis from May 27 to June 2. In the process, they raised approximately \$75,000 for the American Cancer Society. The previous record was 103 hours. Under Guinness rules, the tennis marathon allows five minutes for sleep time for every hour of tennis played. The players added up each of these five minute breaks and took two or three hour naps every 24 or 36 hours. "When we first went out there, we were pretty pumped up for the first 36 hours," White said. "We didn't feel very tired, but after we took a break and got up, it was tough to get going again." ■ Randy Walker, *Red & Black*, U. of Georgia

MINNESOTA

Sweet justice... Josef Mestenhauser left Czechoslovakia a political criminal in 1948, covered in mud and crawling across the German border amid freezing rain. But at the end of last spring, the international education director from the U. of Minnesota returned to his native country to receive the law degree his abrupt departure denied him. Mestenhauser, now 65, was awarded his degree from Charles University in Prague during a special ceremony. More than 43 years ago he was expelled from the school for his anti-communist political activities. "I feel it's a very wonderful, marvelous story," he said. "It says there is a sense of justice. Even though things take a long time, it recognizes that some wrong has been done, and this is an attempt to make it right." After his escape from Czechoslovakia, Mestenhauser continued his education in the United States and received his doctorate in political science from the U. of Minnesota. ■ Patrick Howe, *The Minnesota Daily*, U. of Minnesota

INDIANA

Mandatory service... If passed, a recommendation to the U. of Notre Dame Student Government Board of Trustees will require incoming freshmen at the university to complete a service program in order to graduate. While some administrators believe that mandating a volunteer program may hurt the spirit of service-oriented work, others feel the requirement could easily be fulfilled during the freshman year. The service class would be for one credit and could start as early as 1993, according to the report. A follow-up report on the proposal will be introduced and presented to the board this year. "Many students who may never have engaged in volunteer work would learn the importance of service/social awareness, which would foster within them a social sensitivity," the report said. One trustee's proposal suggests the proposal could be amended to include a four-year period for completion of the requirement. ■ Monica Yant, *The Observer*, U. of Notre Dame and St. Mary's College

OHIO

And she changed her major... Graduating in four years may seem challenging for some students, but for Tina Andrew two years at Ohio U. was just fine, thanks. By taking advanced placement classes in high school Andrew was able to start classes at Ohio U. with 43 credits. With a class load averaging 20 hours per quarter, it might seem that Andrew would have no time for activities. But she said she not only found time to spend with friends, she also was a member of Kappa Phi sorority. "I'm not hitting the books all of the time," she said. "I try to balance classes so I'm taking a few easy classes and a few hard classes each quarter." Despite her early undergrad work, Andrew said she came to OU uncertain as to what she wanted to do with her life. After first majoring in business, she later made a change to art history. "I didn't start out saying I'd do this in two years," she said. ■ Doug Nicodemus, *The Post*, Ohio U.

Cookbook stirs up the best ingredients for pseudo-terrorists

By RON MATUS

Florida Flambeau, Florida State U.

It has been 20 years since *The Anarchist Cookbook* first burst onto the scene, but the self-proclaimed "survival manual," which teaches readers, among other things, how to make bombs and booby traps, still manages to stir up a little controversy every now and again.

This summer, Florida law enforcement officials became more than a little nervous when they learned that Marshall Ledbetter, a Florida State U. student who barricaded himself in the Florida state capitol and demanded 600 jelly donuts, was familiar with *The Anarchist Cookbook*.

"I don't want to tell you that he was planning on making a bomb or blowing up anything," sheriff's department spokesman Dick Simpson said. "But (his reading of the

Cookbook) was a definite concern."

Long identified with the underground youth culture, *The Anarchist Cookbook* falls into the gray area of publishing where the First Amendment clashes with the public's right to remain safe in their respective communities.

"Once a fairly conservative community finds out the book is out there, it might get their goat up," said Rick Dominguez, an employee at a Florida bookstore that orders the *Cookbook* for interested customers.

But the book's publisher, Lyle Stuart, said given the *Cookbook's* colorful origin, that's to be expected.

"It was a time of flower people, and a lot of people were doing crazy things," Stuart said. "I thought it would be a good First Amendment test, and it has been."

Essentially a comprehensive "how-to" guide compiled See COOKBOOK, Page 8



STEVE CANNON, FLORIDA FLAMBEAU, FLORIDA STATE U.

The Anarchist Cookbook is a hot item with college students.