

STEPPIN' OUT

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Written and graphic materials are welcomed for submission. All written material should be typed and double-spaced. All graphic material should be black ink on white paper.

Deadline for submissions is ten days prior to publication date.

Out About Town is a courtesy to our readers. Items must be received ten days prior to publication date.

Display advertising will be accepted up to five days before publication date, if camera ready, if not then seven days prior.

Classified ads must be received at the office of *Just Out* seven days prior to publication date, along with payment.

Editorial policies allow the rejection or the editing of an article or advertisement that is offensive, demeaning or may result in legal action. *Just Out* consults the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual on editorial decisions.

Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns, and features may not necessarily be those of the editorial staff of *Just Out*.

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E D I T O R I A L

**Gay baiting in
Oregon media?**

Last week, two of Oregon's major news sources, the *Oregonian* and KGW-TV, reported the discovery of AIDS in a blood donor in Portland who gave blood six times in the past three years. Both stories, straightforward and to the point, gave little or no hint of anti-gay sentiment. Both stories stressed the importance that persons in groups at high risk refrain from donating blood. So far, so good.

However, the presentation of both stories leaves much to be desired. The *Oregonian* placed another story, headlined *AIDS kills innocent bystander*, directly below the local AIDS story. The second story reported the death of a woman in San Francisco who, after surgery two years ago, received 20 units of blood, one of which had been donated by a man later diagnosed with AIDS, "a fatal disease that mainly strikes homosexual men."

The story did not explicitly state that the woman died from AIDS; it said she "fell ill with mysterious ailments and exhausting fevers."

In the same vein, but a bit more heavy-handed, KGW-TV sandwiched the local AIDS story between a report on Rajneeshees recruiting street people in several cities across

the nation and a story on leaking germ-warfare cannisters at the U.S. Army's storage facility at Umatilla, Oregon.

The end of the germ-warfare item was especially appalling — footage shot from a helicopter of the grave-shaped mounds which cover the storage chambers stretching to the horizon and looking for all the world like a huge cemetery.

Both the *Oregonian* and KGW-TV are owned by the Newhouse chain. And for what it's worth, the Newhouses also own *Gentlemen's Quarterly*.

To the Editor,

One of Cherry Hartman's last monumental tasks of Administration of Phoenix Rising was the organization of the first annual "Women in the Woods."

Taking place at Breitenbush "Women in the Woods" consisted of sixty-one lesbians (I have no doubt that the second annual will be twice as many) leaving reality behind for four days of total relaxation, healing workshops, hot tubbing, saunas, swimming, hiking, and making new friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Cherry and the staff of the Breitenbush community for making possible one of the best four day weekends I have ever had.

Kay Bockman



Mark Goldsmith

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