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The healing process was a long one for each of us; my parents had to pick up their pieces, and I was thrust into the adult world. There were some awkward moments — especially when Dad first started dating other men. The first time I saw him kiss another man, I was speechless for half an hour; but I was able to be honest with Dad, and once we'd talked openly about his preference and his new lifestyle, I was able to accept him as a human being. I guess that's a problem most young people face as they become adults; they tend to put their parents on a pedestal when they're kids, and when their parents can't live up to such contrived standards, the kids get disillusioned. My parents' divorce and my Dad's coming out taught me to accept my parents as *people*, nothing more or less. And it's a lot easier to talk to human beings than to gods.

*I hope that other straight people read this paper (sometimes I think we're the ones who need to) and realize that when someone you love comes out, he's still the person you know and love - only more so. He can be himself more fully, because he can be true to himself.*

*I have read your publication before - I'm impressed with the quality, honesty and freshness in the writing and graphics. I hope you can publish this letter so others can know that gay parents aren't weird - they're just people, and are worthy of the same considerations. In fact, they've earned a great deal of respect - they must live in two worlds.*

—Beth Hamon

## Get involved in Lesbian and Gay Pride '85.

To the people:  
Greetings!

Special things are happening within Portland's lesbian and gay community and we want you to be involved. *Lesbian and Gay*

*Pride '85* is being created and we are uniting in our efforts to make this year's celebration more festive than ever before. However, we cannot be united without your input and participation.

*Lesbian and Gay Pride '85* will occur in Portland the week of June 15-19th. In celebration of the 16th Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and the rebirth of the modern Lesbian and Gay Rights Movement, the week will provide the opportunity to bring together the diversity within our community in a visible expression of solidarity.

The week's events will include a parade and rally, workshops, music, dances, recreational activities, open houses, educational forums, a candlelight vigil, and much more. This week is a time for us to meet people, become familiar with the resources available to us, and to celebrate the spirit and courage that is uniquely our own. Come join us!

There is much that you can contribute to a major event such as this and you will find it rewarding to become involved. There are several work committees that need your assistance in the preparation of *Lesbian and Gay Pride '85*. We are eager to listen to your ideas, accept what you are able to contribute, and to welcome you into this very special celebration. For more information call: 233-1169 or write to Box 6611, Portland 97228.

—Community Outreach work committee  
*Lesbian and Gay Pride '85*

## No Business as Usual lauded

To the Editor:

Really glad to see the article on "No Business as Usual." Like many of your readers, I am concerned about the war preparations that are being made for WWII and am glad to hear people speaking out against it, and supporting NBAU.

Towards a real positive step . . .!

—Rye Martin

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