

# LETTERS

## Safe Sex IS working, says CAP

To the Editor:

The Cascade AIDS Project was quoted in the last issue of *Just Out* as saying that the increasing number of diagnoses in Oregon is an indication that gay men in Oregon are not practicing safer sex. In actuality, CAP knows for a FACT that gay men in Oregon are practicing safer sex, most of the time. Multnomah County reports that cases of sexually transmitted diseases among gay men, other than AIDS, have dropped by up to 70% in the past five years.

The rising number of AIDS cases in 1986 and 1987 reflect the behavior of gay men three to five years ago. We are confident that the change from high risk behavior to low risk behavior in many gay men this year will mean that the rate of increase in diagnoses of AIDS will slow over the next five years. Over 100 people will have been diagnosed with AIDS in Oregon by the end of the summer and even with the "safer" attitude and behavior of gay men today, we can expect that the number of diagnoses of AIDS in Oregon will exceed 2,000 by 1991. The *only* way to stop the spread of AIDS and to prevent this impending catastrophe is for *all* gay men to practice safer sex *all* the time. And we *can* do it.

CAP has been running a series of safer sex workshops called "NEW ATTITUDES" since January. 94% of the participants report that they are more encouraged to practice safer sex and 100% say they would recommend "NEW ATTITUDES" to their friends. If you need the support of others and want to talk about practicing safer sex with other people come to the "NEW ATTITUDES" workshops

starting up again in September. "NEW ATTITUDES" is very non-threatening, supportive of your lifestyle and, surprisingly, a great deal of fun for the participants. Many men return again and again just to meet new people and to talk.

Gay men are not *fated* to get AIDS. AIDS is completely preventable. The prevention, however, is totally up to you. For more information about AIDS, CAP or our summer BIKE-FOR-LIFE, contact CAP at 223-5907.

Sincerely,  
Brown McDonald, Executive Director  
Cascade AIDS Project

## Shadburne's attacks reprehensible

To the Editor:

Like most members of Portland's gay communities, I am infuriated by Gordon Shadburne's cowardly and malicious hypocrisy concerning homosexuality. I am both pleased to have his hypocritical attacks on the gay community and its efforts to achieve equal rights revealed for what they are, and disturbed that there are still people like Shadburne so dominated by the prevailing anti-homosexual prejudice that they are willing to turn against themselves and against a community to which they properly belong.

Whether Gordon Shadburne is homosexual, bisexual or just mildly attracted to the same sex, those feelings are a part of him, and they matter. By attacking a community which is struggling to achieve an equal and just recognition in society of those feelings, he is negating a part of himself.

The first step of any oppressed minority struggling for an equal place in society must be self-affirmation, the shucking-off of years, sometimes centuries, of internalized oppression. I am saddened to learn of people like Shadburne so fixed in self-hatred that they are willing to become the active agents of their own oppression.

Marvin Vann



## Alpenrose loses another customer

Carl Cadonau, President  
Alpenrose Dairy  
6149 S.W. Shattuck Rd.  
Portland, OR 97221

Mr. Cadonau:

After 26 years of being a happy Alpenrose Dairy customer, during which time my husband, our five daughters and I drank Alpenrose milk, consumed quarts of Alpenrose cottage cheese, and enjoyed gallons of Alpenrose — and Baskin-Robbins — ice cream, we now cancel, immediately, our home delivery service with you. And — none of our family, and many of our friends, will

never again, knowingly, consume any Alpenrose Dairy products.

What you probably do not know is that three of those daughters are lesbian in their sexual orientation, and, in light of your distaste for the Food Front Grocery using the Alpenrose name in their advertising in *Just Out*, a Gay publication, I'm sure you wouldn't want Alpenrose products to be sullied by being consumed by any persons whose sexual orientation is other than heterosexual.

We used to be so proud of the Alpenrose activities for children — school visits to the dairy farm, Little League games, Santa's Lane, the Li'l Britches Rodeo — what a shock it would be for you if the 10 to 15 percent of those children who are homosexually oriented were to come back now and thank you for your constructive programs when they were young! Would you eject them as "undesirable visitors"?

You have the right to choose your advertising media. Your (former) customers have the right to choose the products they purchase.

Ann Marcotte Shepherd

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our  
advertisers!*



## Books

Robert Mapplethorpe, Dianora Niccolini, Cynthia McAdams

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