

"On Our Backs" off the racks?

by W. C. McRae

Women's erotica is raising eyebrows — and hackles. *On Our Backs*, a magazine dedicated to lesbian erotica, is presently being sold at A Woman's Place Bookstore, and was recently advertised in *Ragtimes*, a Portland feminist monthly. But not all women are comfortable with the sale of visual depictions of lesbian sex acts.

Amid cries of pornography, the PSU Women's Union organized a debate October 1 originally entitled "Is there a place for violent pornography in a feminist bookstore?" and invited representatives of A Woman's Place, *Ragtimes*, and NOW.

So what if you gave a debate and nobody came? A Woman's Place declined to participate because the bookstore board perceived the issue as censorship; "The bookstore's purpose is to make things available."

Ragtimes refused to participate because, as editor Sharon Hill explained, the debate was simply a forum for academic feminists to lecture lesbians about their sexuality.

NOW refused to participate, pleading a prior engagement.

According to Katherine Sadler of the Women's Union, a four-woman forum was scheduled, but under the somewhat less prejudged title, "Dialogue on lesbian erotica and its relation to pornography."

Ragtimes staffer, Leslie Waygren, dismissed the forum as "a bunch of straight women telling dykes how to have PC [politically correct] sex. If they were really upset about pornography, they'd be picketing Sin City."

Community moves

Daniel Stutesman, newly appointed Director of the Gay and Lesbian Project of the American Friends Service Committee, will be on the job in Portland starting October 20. Stutesman was chosen to fill the new position after an extended, nationwide search.

Stutesman's credentials include a staff position with the Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation Masters of Divinity with a major in theology and counseling and years of activism with Dignity, the Oscar Romero Coalition, and other groups.

Stutesman will be doing outreach to area religious institutions by focusing on homophobia in the religious establishment.

Chicago cardinal at UoP

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago whose opposition on "moral principles" helped defeat a proposed gay rights ordinance, will speak at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, October 4, at Chiles Center, University of Portland.

During protracted hearings, delays and maneuvering which surrounded the Chicago ordinance, representatives of the gay and lesbian community met with Bernardin. "We specifically asked the Cardinal if people engaged in sexual actions outside of those approved by the church were entitled to any civil rights whatsoever. He said that in some cases they were not," said Vicent Samar, an attorney who attended a meeting with the Cardinal on July 22, according to a report in the *Windy City Times*.

Cardinal Bernardin's appearance in Portland is part of a conference on the "Consistent Ethic of Life" which will explore critical social questions such as abortion, nuclear weapons and euthanasia.

No referendum on gay rights, yet

by W.C. McRae

The Oregon Court of Appeals in August reversed a Circuit Court ruling mandating a referendum on County Ordinance 448, which sought to prohibit discrimination in county hiring based on sexual orientation.

December 20, 1984, Ordinance 448, masterminded by then acting Commissioner Richard Levy, was passed by the Multnomah County Commissioners, with only Commissioner Gordon Shadburne demurring. (Levy would go on to take a job with Shadburne, with consequences that neither could have foreseen.)

Shadburne's political cohorts, among them Drew Davis and Bill Sizemore, immediately began circulating petitions to refer the ordinance. On March 12, 1985, County Director of Elections Vicki Ervin certified that the petitioners had gathered enough signatures to force a referendum. However, on March 20, the County Commission voted to repeal the ordinance (with Gordon Shadburne again casting the lone dissenting vote) and replaced it with a resolution to the same effect, which was not referable.

However, since the referendum papers were filed before the ordinance was reversed, Chief Petitioners Priscilla Martin, Bill Sizemore, and Ronald Engman, stating that their constitutional right to referendum was denied, and represented by Henry Kane, took the matter to Circuit Court, where Judge Donald Kalberer found in favor of the plaintiffs. The county appealed to the state appellate court, which reversed Kalberer's decision.

Judge J. Van Hoomison, writing for the majority, states, "The issue is what a county may do to an ordinance which is referred after it has taken effect," and finds that "repeal by the enacting body achieves the goal that a successful referendum would have produced... plaintiffs had achieved their goal without a vote."

"Plaintiffs may believe that a successful referendum would have discouraged the county from adopting a similar ordinance in the future, but the referendum process is not intended to be a vehicle for creating political pressure other than in the context of a viable, live ordinance, nor is it intended to produce an advisory opinion."

Chief petitioners Priscilla Martin, Bill Sizemore and Ronald Engman haven't given up, though. On September 6 an appeal was filed with the Oregon State Supreme Court.

Broadway Cab takes Owl routes

Getting home late at night need not be a hassle just because Tri-Met is no longer making Owl runs.

Broadway Cab Company, which has had several vans in its fleet for some time, began servicing all late night Tri-Met routes the same day that Tri-Met dropped the routes.

Broadway's Owl Service representative, Raye Woolbright, said that Broadway's vans will follow the same routes and use the same schedules as the defunct Tri-Met Owl service.

The only differences in the service are vehicles and fares. Basic fare up to forty blocks is \$1; add 50¢ for each additional forty block increment with a maximum charge of \$3.

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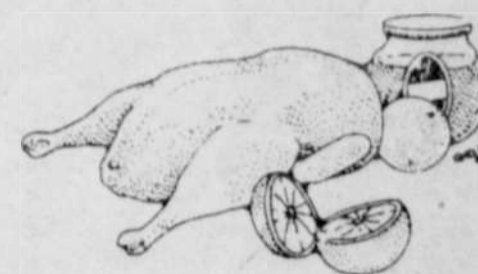
The Primary Domain

NEW FALL MENU

ENTREES

Choice of Soup or Salad

- CASHEW MUSHROOM STROGANOFF**
Toasted Cashews and sauteed mushrooms in a sour cream and herb sauce; tossed with egg noodles. 5.95
- ARTICHOKE TART**
Artichoke Hearts, tomatoes, Feta cheese, black olives in an olive oil and garlic dressing. Baked in a Pastry Tart shell. 5.75
- ENCHILADA DOMAIN**
Chicken and Cheese. 5.75
Cheese, olives and onions. 4.95
- BROCCOLI AND MUSHROOM STRUDEL**
Broccoli and mushrooms, pot cheese, and herbs; wrapped and baked in Strudel leaves. 5.50
- CALZONE**
Italian Hot and Mild sausages, Mariana Sauce, Mozzarella, Provolone, and Parmesan cheeses in a Pull Pastry triangle. 5.95
- CHICKEN PARMESAN**
Whole Chicken breast in a Mushroom, Walnut, Parmesan and Garlic Sauce. 7.50
- FILET MIGNON**
10 oz. Filet with Butter-whipped potatoes. 7.75
- FILET + FETTUCCINE**
10 oz. Filet Mignon with Fettuccine Alfredo. 9.50



PASTAS

A la Carte

- FETTUCCINE ALFREDO**
Parmesan, Cream, Wine Garlic and Herbs. 4.95
- PASTA EXQUISA**
Mushrooms, Peppers and Scallions in a Cream Horseradish Sauce. 4.95
- CHICKEN PESTO**
Chicken Breast and Broccoli Tops with a sauce of Basil, Garlic, Parmesan and Olive Oil. Tossed with Spinach Fettuccine. 5.95
- SEAFOOD PASTA**
Shrimp, Scallops, Tomato and Scallions with Cream and White Wine. 7.25

SALADS

- SESAME CHICKEN**
Chicken Breast, Water Chestnuts, Broccoli Tops, Red Bell Pepper and toasted Sesame Seeds. Tossed with Egg Fettuccine. 4.25
- MEDITERRANEAN**
Pepperoni, black olives, Feta cheese, green olives, garbanzos, tomatoes and scallions tossed with an olive oil Vinaigrette. Topped with Parmesan. 4.25

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Events

Thursday, 16th

Swing into Fall

Music of the 40s & 50s
L.C. Earnest-D.J.

- Door Prizes • Sweetheart Tree
- Snowball Dance • Bunny Hop
- Limbo • Stroll • & Jitterbug •

A joint effort of the Lesbian Aging Project and the Lesbian Community Project
7:30pm, \$5 donation

Sunday, 19th

Cowkids Country Music Nite

Wednesday, 22nd

A benefit for the Women's Spirituality Group with entertainment by Susan Arrow and the Quivers.

Friday 31st

Halloween is for vamps, let yours come out tonight!!!

\$2 cover, includes one free draft or soft drink with costume!

\$20 inhouse tab for SEXIEST and MOST ORIGINAL costume!



1033 N.W. 16th 224-4135