

nated "women only" and yet Wilson stopped reading at A Woman's Place and asked a man in the audience to leave. According to a Catbird Seat employee, men were present at Wilson's appearance there and Wilson made no objections.

We think that actions such as Wilson's will only serve to deny some of us access to the widest selection of feminist books in Oregon. And that would be a shame.

## Chicago banks recirculating "Gay \$"

Banks in Chicago are learning that gays and lesbians are a force to be reckoned with. After a meeting with "Gay \$" backers, two banks having branches in neighborhoods with large gay populations agreed to recirculate currency stamped with "Gay \$". The banks had sorted out the stamped currency because it was "mutilated." The Federal Reserve and Secret Service have said that such markings, to the left of the portrait, are legal and the agencies are recirculating the stamped currency already, according to the *Windy City Times*.

The meeting with the banks also addressed the banks' responsibility to the community. The banks in question admitted to returning very little money to the community despite the large amount of gay and lesbian accounts, both business and individual. A gay assistant manager at one of the banks which changed its policy estimated that at least 70% of the activity at his bank involves lesbians and gays.

Isn't it about time that gays and lesbians all over the country begin showing our clout, too? And show it, as the people in Chicago are doing, with the money we circulate.

## Things to come?

A Senate race in Maryland between two women received nationwide publicity as an example of negative campaigning at its worst in a year when such tactics hit a high point. The two month battle pitted liberal Democratic Congresswoman Barbara Mikulski against Reaganite Republican Linda Chavez.

Chavez, former spokesperson for the Reagan administration's controversial Commission on Civil Rights, called Mikulski a "San Francisco style liberal" who should "come out of the closet" to debate her in her nomination speech in September. As the campaign progressed Chavez repeatedly claimed that Mikulski, who has never married, is "anti-male" citing her association with her former congressional aide, an alleged "radical feminist."

Mikulski easily won the seat vacated by retiring Senator Charles M. Mathias with a 61% to 39% margin drawing strong support from voters of all ages, incomes, educational levels, and religious and ethnic backgrounds according to the *Washington Blade*.

The Maryland Senate race must be viewed, I think, as politics as usual. The prize at stake was control of the U.S. Senate, which the Republicans wanted to retain at any cost. And what made this campaign particularly odious was Chavez's carpetbagger approach. Chavez was a Democrat and minor bureaucrat in the Carter administration. About 18 months ago, Chavez moved to Maryland and surfaced as a Republican candidate for Mathias' Senate seat. (Sort of like Oregon's carpetbagger, Joe Lutz.)

Across the nation, all four openly gay elected officials won re-election in easy races. Massachusetts Congressman Gerry Studds took two-thirds of the vote in a field of three. Minnesota State Senator Allan Spear and

State Rep. Karen Clark were re-elected by wide margins. City Councilman Bob Gentry will retain his seat for another term in Laguna Beach, California.

In San Francisco no openly gay candidates were elected in several citywide races but the LaRouche Initiative was rejected by 95% or more in many precincts.

## On the Right flank

Drew Davis and Gordon (Gordo) Shadburne, fundamentalist politicians and homophobes, now have something else in common. Neither Davis nor Shadburne was able to convince enough voters that they deserve being returned to public office. Both candidates came in fourth in their respective races. Shadburne was trying to regain the seat on the Multnomah County Commission which he forfeited last July after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor. Davis ran for a seat on the Lake Oswego City Council and lost by only 65 votes.

Anywhere, USA (in this case a small town in Florida): The daughter of a Baptist minister objected to two well-known literary works which were parts of a book used in her high-school humanities class. The girl's father and his followers put pressure on the school board. The school board gathered up the books and locked them in a closet.

The two well-known literary works? Aristophanes' "Lysistrata" and "The Miller's Tale" from Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*.

The objection to "Lysistrata" is its feminism, according to NPR's *Morning Edition*. "Lysistrata" is about Athenian and Spartan women who organized to pressure their men to stop warring by refusing to sleep with them. Chaucer's "The Miller's Tale" is prized for its depiction of lower-class life during the 14th Century.



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# WHAT ABOUT RE-EXPOSURE TO THE AIDS VIRUS?

Some men have the mistaken belief that since they have probably already been exposed to the AIDS virus, it doesn't matter anymore whether they practice Unsafe Sex or not.

**Repeated exposure to the virus may make the difference between staying healthy, and getting a diagnosis of AIDS.**

Re-exposure may well be an important co-factor for AIDS. Although we don't have final proof yet, it is the belief of many AIDS doctors that one of the important differences between those who get infected without getting sick, and those who actually come down with AIDS, is the extent to which they are re-exposed to the virus.

**Those who are already infected are probably also contagious.**

To have Unsafe Sex with someone is to risk that person's life. You could be passing on the virus to someone who has not yet been infected at all. Or you could be re-infecting someone who has already been exposed, thereby increasing

## UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Anal Intercourse Without Condom
- Rimming
- Fisting
- Blood Contact
- Sharing Sex Toys or Needles
- Semen or Urine in Mouth
- Vaginal Intercourse Without Condom

their chances of actually coming down with a diagnosis of AIDS. You could also be continuing the spread of this disease in our community, thereby harming all of us.

**Maybe your body will successfully deal with your past exposure.**

After all, it seems that only 10 to 20 percent of those infected actually get AIDS. Do you want to be a part of the 10 to 20 percent who come down with AIDS, or part of the 80 to 90 percent who don't? Besides, what about your partner's health? And our community's health?

There may be nothing you can do

about your past. But there is a great deal you can do about your future!

**As a community, we're all in this together.**

Each of us is affected by the loss of any one of us. Each of us has the opportunity, and the responsibility, to do what we can so that this epidemic does not get any worse in our community. In the absence of a medical solution for AIDS, is all up to us, each of us, all of us. An overwhelming majority of gay and bisexual men have already given up Unsafe Sex. We now have the chance to stop the spread of this

virus in our community.

**Let's end Unsafe Sex in Portland until this epidemic is over.**

No one has ever died from the frustration of giving up a few Unsafe Sex practices. Far too many have died of AIDS. If we as a community are to survive this epidemic, Unsafe Sex must cease to be a part of our gay male lifestyles until a medical solution for AIDS is available. Together, we can do it.



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