"Fruit Loop" arrests may continue

Arrests in Washington Park's "Fruit Loop" will continue if sexual activity there is not curtailed, says Police Captain Roberta Webber of Central Precinct. On the weekend of June 27-28, police made 14 arrests using undercover police officers as decoys to lure some of the men into sexual activity. Ten of the men arrested were charged with sexual abuse ("subject[ing] another person to sexual contact") and four were charged with Public Indecency ("an act of exposing the genitals with intent of arousing sexual desire"). Charges were dropped against all the men.

Captain Webber said she decided to investigate allegations of sexual activities after complaints by residents near Washington Park. Webber said that "it must be made clear that sexual activity in Washington Park is not acceptable behavior. We will work with the gay community," says Webber, "but we will continue to monitor the situation to measure the effect of press coverage of the arrests."

No move is bad move for building owners

The Cascade AIDS Project (CAP) offices have moved, but not quite as far as hoped. CAP had planned to move from its offices in the Governor Building to the Oregon Trail Building, 333 SW Fifth, where Phoenix Rising now has its offices. However, according to CAP's Executive Director, Tom Koberstein, the owners of the Oregon Trail Building, Landsing



Property of San Francisco, withdrew a proposed lease agreement "because of the nature of our organization." CAP offices have expanded down the hall into the old Phoenix Rising offices on the fourth floor of the Governor Building, 408 SW Second.

Koberstein has asked Labor Commissioner Mary Wendy Roberts to look into the matter to determine if CAP has been unfairly discriminated against according to Oregon's handicap laws, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of handicap. It has not been determined if an organization that serves the handicapped is protected by the law. An ACLU-appointed lawyer is representing CAP in the matter.

"Just Out" design wins

The Lesbian and Gay Press Association award of Outstanding Overall Design was presented to *Just Out* at the association's seventh annual convention in San Diego. It was the second time in four years that *Just Out* has received the award for outstanding production and graphic values.

Suit brought in Chicago phony personals case

Three members of a Chicago group accused of anti-gay harassment have been named in a \$10.1 million libel and emotional distress suit. The three men are members of a group called Great White Brotherhood of the Iron Fist, which has vowed to be "the complete ruination of homosexuality." The suit has been filed by three gay men, two lesbians, and the parents of one of the men, all of whom contend they were the focus of a malicious anti-gay campaign orchestrated by the defendants (see *Just Out* [May 1987] for more details).

The lawsuit claims that the three defendants, two of whom are students at the University of Chicago, sent death threats to the plaintiffs; mailed "libelous and inflammatory" letters to family and friends of the plaintiffs; and harassed others who answered phony gay personal ads in a newspaper, the Chicago Reader, or who signed an open letter condemning anti-gay violence printed in the University newspaper. The identity of the three men was determined only after an attorney for the plaintiffs went to court to obtain informa-

tion from the *Reader* on who placed the phony personal ads. The University of Chicago has suspended the two accused students for two years.

Reagan names AIDS Commission

President Reagan named twelve members of his National AIDS Commission late last month. The administration apparently reversed its previous position that no gays would be named to the panel and appointed a gay man, Dr. Frank Lilly, a geneticist, to the committee. The New York Times claims that Lilly is "the most controversial appointee."

It is difficult to see how Lilly could be more controversial than some of the other "Wise Men" that Reagan assembled: Richard M. De Vos, president of Amway Corporation; Cory Servaas, editor of the Saturday Evening Post; Admiral James D. Watkins, a retired chief of naval operations; and John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York and arch homophobe. Others on the committee are characterized by their hawk-like views on AIDS testing and right wing morality, and were chosen, Mr. Reagan stated, with the advice of wife Nancy's father, Dr. Loyal Davis.

The chairman of the committee, Dr. W. Eugene Mayberry, who was named last month, was attacked by critics for his lack of experience with AIDS. In contrast to the Committee he will head, he now seems an oracle of wisdom. Mayberry, who is head of Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, has close friends in the administration. "Nancy Reagan chose doctors from the Mayo Clinic to operate on President Reagan's prostate gland" reported the *Times*. Mayberry may not know anything about AIDS, but if he's good enough for Reagan's asshole, he's good enough for the nation.

Entertainment, briefly

William Hoffman, author of the play As Is, has completed the libretto for "A Figaro for Antonia," an opera by John Corigliano. The Metropolitan Opera of New York commissioned the work. David Leavit, who wrote Family Dancing and The Lost Language of Cranes, is asking for \$250,000 bids for two new books, reports New York magazine. The BBC's Radio I in Britain and several American radio stations have refused to play a single by George Michael called "I want your sex." The record was considered "too sexually explicit for the age of AIDS," according to The New York Times.

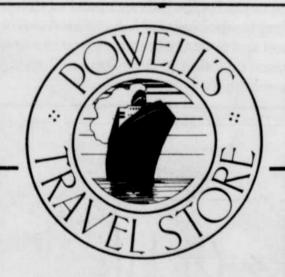
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