

An unusual disclaimer

Publicity material for "Men in Love," a film about gay men healing from the trauma of AIDS losses, carried the unusual notation that the producer is "a recently married heterosexual."

... Between the Lines ...

BY JACK RILEY

And now, the rest of the story ...

Ronald Bailey, 41, spent the last night of his life cruising the bars on Stark Street, looking for someone to provide a little companionship on a cold October night.

Unfortunately, he crossed the path of Jeffrey S. Winchester, 30, who carried a 1984 conviction for manslaughter in San Francisco.

Bailey, who had a few drinks with his new-found friend, took Winchester up to an apartment on nearby Alder Street. According to Winchester, Bailey made a "sexual overture." And that was seemingly cause enough to strangle Bailey, rob his apartment of jewelry and other items and then set fire to the place to conceal both crimes.

Winchester, quoted by the *Oregonian* as being "remorseful," pleaded guilty to

aggravated murder, after the state agreed not to seek the death penalty.

Winchester told Multnomah County Circuit Judge Ancer Haggerty that he was drunk when the crimes were committed. "I am very sorry about what happened," Winchester said slowly with his head bowed. "If I could trade places with him, I would."

Haggerty then sentenced Winchester to life in prison with a 30-year minimum term before he becomes eligible for parole.

The state dropped charges of burglary, robbery and arson.

Give credit to Winchester's defense attorney, Marc Sussman. He did a great job of coaching his client to be remorseful in front of the bench, and even told the judge that Winchester, "unlike most convicts, accepted full responsibility for the homicide."

Well, the fact is that Winchester actually killed a drag queen in San Francisco in 1984 in what some believe to be a long-time pattern of preying on gays in homosexual bar districts. That makes two gay people dead because of this creep who stalked our community over the years.

How many other people did Winchester rob, beat or even kill?

That man deserved the death penalty.

Hate crime reporting mushrooms

Nearly 400 hate crimes against gays and lesbians were reported in three Northwest states last year, with 90 percent of

the reported incidents occurring in Oregon.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, in a report released in Washington, D.C., listed 351 hate crimes against homosexuals in Oregon, 33 in Washington and seven in Montana.

Researchers admitted that Oregon has better reporting procedures than the other two states, which might account for the inflated figure.

The report included the story of Skinheads dismembering a dog and placing the dog's head on a gay man's front porch in Portland.

With the escalation of violence and verbal harassment against gays increasing, it's important to step forward and report all such acts, no matter when and where they occur. The Portland Police Bureau has stated that it welcomes such incident reporting.

If you are verbally or physically assaulted, gather as much information about the assailants as possible, including their clothing and any distinguishable features which would help police identify those involved.

University battles gay student harassment

Michael Scarce and Tom Fletcher are sophomores at Ohio State University. They shared a dormitory room until recently when they came under heavy harassment from other students living on the same floor.

The harassment started last fall when both men were verbally threatened. The university, citing a policy against harassment in residence halls, notified students by mail that such

conduct would not be allowed. Fifteen of those letters wound up tacked to Scarce and Fletcher's door with "Die fags" written over the letters.

Then there were signs carrying slurs placed in the dormitory bathroom. Finally, the university stepped in and moved 32 students from the same floor to other dormitories on campus, and then moved Fletcher and Scarce to a university-owned apartment.

Despite what college students should be taught about past treatment of blacks, Jews and Catholics, you'll be shocked to learn that students actually demonstrated *against* the University's decision to move the 32 students elsewhere. They claimed the university overreacted and that the incidents had been exaggerated.

Sunday, Sunday

Somehow on weekends, I don't feel much like getting up and cooking a large breakfast. If you are one of us, let me pass on a great alternative: Try the weekend brunch at the Silverado. It has to be one of the best-kept secrets in town.

For \$2.95 you are treated to an "Eat-All-You-Can" buffet which includes fresh eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, corned beef hash, biscuits and gravy, a full salad bar with fresh fruit and a dessert table ... not to mention a few specialty items cooked by Brian and Flo. Theda's on duty behind the bar and pours a great Mai Tai based on years of making such concoctions in Hawaii.

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