

local news

Burning gay books

Efforts are underway to remove *The Joy of Gay Sex* and *Our Right to Love: A Lesbian Resource Book* from the shelves of the Vancouver Community Library in Washington state. Library officials have refused to remove the books despite a threatened signature drive by the publications' opponents. Candy Morgan, deputy director for Community Libraries, says library officials are even working to add a new gay sex manual to their collections, *Gay Sex: A Manual for Men Who Love Men*, which includes illustrations and a strong emphasis on AIDS prevention.

"We believe it's vital people have access to all types of materials, that's the purpose of a library," says Morgan.

Residents Enthusiastic for Quality Education reportedly opposes the books because they portray unprotected sexual acts and is attempting to collect 3,000 signatures to present to the Fort Vancouver Library System's Board of Trustees. The signature drive began after library officials

denied Tim Armstrong's challenge to remove *The Joy of Gay Sex*. Armstrong says he has taken custody of three books, including *The Joy of Gay Sex*, *Our Right to Love*, and *Gay: What You Should Know About Homosexuality*. Two other books were taken and burned by members of Armstrong's group last year.

Morgan denounces the group's activities. "We're also strongly urging the gay community to get more involved. We'd like them to come forth and let us know what materials they feel should be added to our collections. That input is really helpful and important to us."

Inga Sorensen

Marriage license action

The Lesbian Community Project is sponsoring a marriage-in. Get your partner and go to the Multnomah County Marriage License Bureau at 610 SW Alder, 9 am, Dec. 9 (see Nov. issue for more details).



PHOTO BY CATHERINE STAUFFER

Nancy Parr (right), coordinator of the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance at Portland State, seated next to Donna Red Wing, executive director of the Lesbian Community Project. Parr participated in numerous campus security trainings before Cameron's visit. She is concerned that PSU cared more about "protecting the controversial Cameron than the lesbian, gay and bisexual students on campus."

Cameron debate

An estimated 200 people, mostly human rights supporters, packed into a Portland State University gymnasium for a Nov. 13 debate between David Allen of the Oregon Gay and Lesbian Law Association, and Dr. Paul Cameron, an anti-gay "psychologist" who advocates for the quarantine and extermination of gays.

Occasional shouts of "shame" could be heard from the otherwise attentive and polite audience. Those shouts were, not surprisingly, directed towards Cameron, who has been dismissed by the American Sociological Association because he "consistently misinterpret(s) and misrepresent(s) sociological research on homosexuality." Cameron has authored materials that link gays to mass murder and child molestation, and also advocates gays to be quarantined to halt the spread of AIDS. His unethical practices have led to his expulsion from the American Psychological Association.

"Cameron practices something known as pseudo-science," Allen told the crowd. "Everything he says is a big lie. His findings are based on the manipulation of the techniques of science for propaganda purposes. We should not take him or his campaign lightly."

Inga Sorensen

Live and Let Live Club vandalism

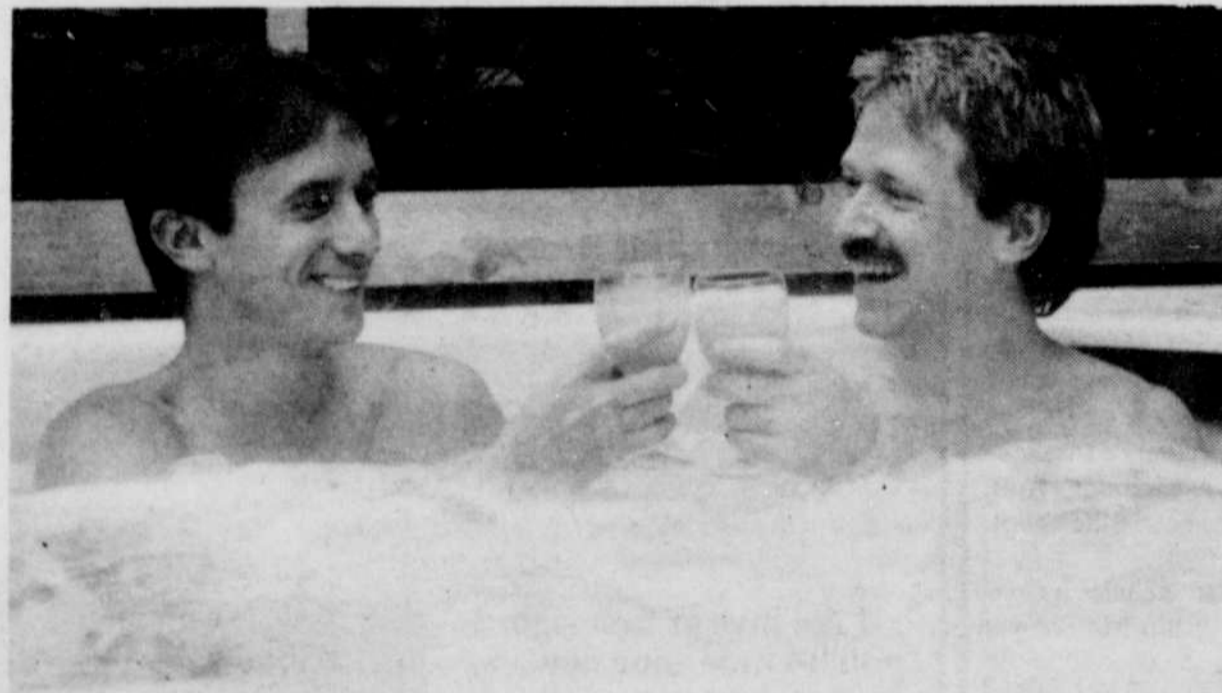
Portland's Live and Let Live Club, a lesbian and gay space for 12 Step gatherings was vandalized three times the week of Nov. 17. Sunday night the space was trashed, Tuesday night furniture was slashed, art was torn off the walls, literature was scattered and someone urinated on the tables. On Wednesday night the vandals were spotted at the club by a lesbian member who was driving by. She pursued two white teenagers and called the police. The youths have not been apprehended. There have been no further incidents since the last attempt was interrupted.

Live and Let Live Club member Tom Mahon says they have contacted police and are treating this as a bias crime.

Quilt in Portland

The Names Project Portland says there will be a major display of the Quilt in Portland in Feb. 1992. The site and the dates are still not finalized. The Steering Committee needs volunteers for all aspects of this display and those interested should call Warren Oster, 274-4028 or Patricia Corman, 249-0662.

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