

just out
since 1983

PUBLISHER

Renée LaChance

EDITOR

Ariel Waterwoman

CALENDAR EDITOR

Meroe Elahi

FEATURE WRITER

Grant Michael Menzies

PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Kliewer

ADVERTISING

Meg Grace

E. Ann Hinds

Jewel Robinson

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

E. Ann Hinds

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Rupert Kinnard

PROOFREADER

Beth Hyams

TYPESETTER

Dee StarDancer Fultz

OFFICE MANAGER

Fred Allemann

DISTRIBUTION

Up Front Distribution

CONTRIBUTORS

Lee Lynch

Dr. Tantalus

Christopher Kamera

Howard N. Dana

Beth Hyams

Susan Patrick

Doug Zeb

Bob Roehr

Patrick Freiberg

Just Out is published on the first and fifteenth day of each month. Copyright ©1993 by *Just Out*. No part of *Just Out* may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher.

The submission of written and graphic materials is welcomed. Written material should be typed and double-spaced. *Just Out* reserves the right to edit for grammar, punctuation, style, liability concerns and length. We will reject or edit articles or advertisements that are offensive, demeaning or may result in legal action. *Just Out* consults the *Associated Press Style Book and Label Manual* on editorial decisions.

Letters to the editor should be limited to two double-spaced typed pages. **Deadline** for submissions is the 1st and 15th of the month preceding publication. Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns and features are not necessarily those of the publisher.

Display advertising will be accepted up to the 2nd and 17th of each month.

Classified ads must be received at the office of *Just Out* by the 2nd and 17th of each month, along with payment. Ads will not be taken over the telephone.

Ad policy. No sexually exploitive advertising will be accepted. Compensation for errors in, or cancellation of, advertising will be made with credit toward future advertising.

Subscriptions to *Just Out* are available for \$17.50 for 12 issues. First Class (in an envelope) is \$30 for 12 issues.

A copy of *Just Out* is available for \$1 and/or advertising rates are available on request.

The mailing address and telephone number for *Just Out* are PO Box 15117, Portland, OR 97215; (503) 236-1252. Our fax number is 236-1257.

steppin' out

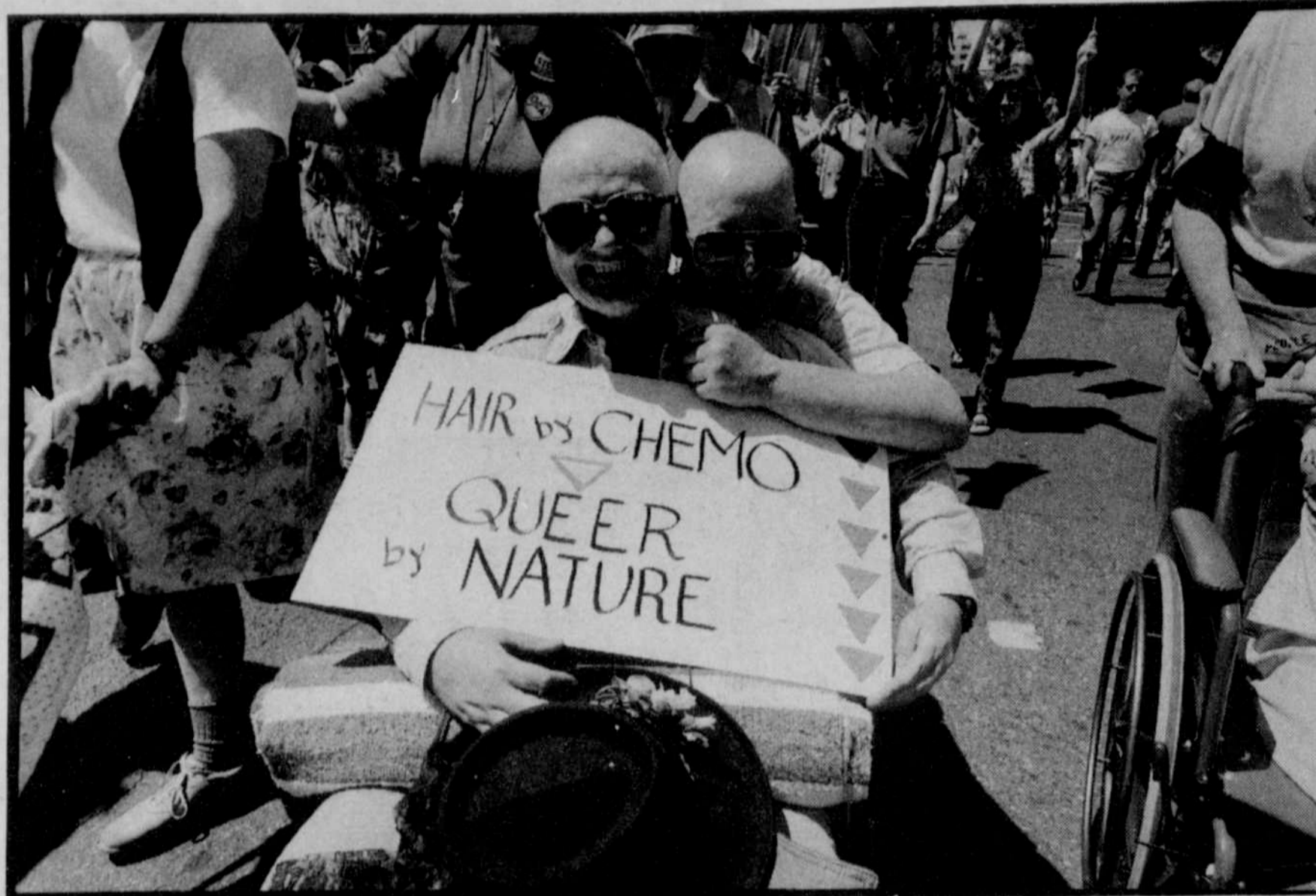


PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

editorial

Is it a sign?

From floods to dueling magazines, the past few weeks have been lively in newsland

by Ariel Waterwoman

Pat Robertson was on national television telling everyone that his god was punishing the United States for supporting "homosexuals" by flooding the Midwest. I wonder if he has been listening to the same news reports I have? The newscasters keep repeating, "The dikes are failing!" Maybe, but wouldn't that be a stretch, Pat? (The first time I entered these words into the computer, it crashed and refused to give me the editorial back. Pat Robertson can shock even the subtle sensibilities of a computer.)

In World Briefs this issue there's an interesting piece from Australia in which the judge said he heard testimony that it was easier to convert a heterosexual into a homosexual than it was to convert a homosexual into a heterosexual. Comparative analysis boggles the mind, rapidly resulting in shouts of "Who cares?" and "How is this going to nurture hungry children?"

Some excellent news that might inadvertently feed some hungry children in Oregon is that House Speaker Larry Campbell is not opting for reelection. We stand and applaud this fine public service he's performing. We hope it will be his last public service.

Perhaps the most stunning measure of the success of normalizing the existence of queers (and that we're not all gay men) is found on the covers of some recent national magazines. We've been calling it "dueling magazines." *Newsweek* and *Vanity Fair* seem to be duking it out in the "best lesbian cover" category, while *U.S. News and World Report* is running last in timeliness.

Vanity Fair certainly outdid itself in the fantasy category with the cover and inside display of k.d. lang and Cindy Crawford. It's fun to see k.d. playing with Cindy. In a perfect

world these images would be viewed with delight and innocence. As it is, this dyke is left wondering who is being served? It's painful to think that these innocent pictures have reduced lesbians to sex objects. This is not a perfect world.

The *Newsweek* cover and inside story certainly were more grounded in the reality of lesbian experience. It presented a fairly balanced view of lesbians and the lives we lead. It also offered visuals that were more representative of who we might be.

The July 26 issue of *Newsweek* presents an intimate look at what's really happening on the open seas in a story called "Homoeoticism in the ranks." It's an interesting piece that looks at how the military actually creates the circumstances that force young men to confront their feelings for other men. The military, in these cases, serves as a catalyst for young men to "become" gay. Combine this with the ritualized drag shows and the paddling sessions that "straight" men in the military do, and it's no wonder there's so much confusion and hostility about queers being out in the military.

It's obvious that this military confusion will drag out for the next bazillion years, until someone in power (judge, president, etc.) has the courage to uphold the separation of church and state on social issues. But how any sane and healthy person could support or want to be in the military is beyond my conceptualization. The U.S. military protects its citizens from nothing, and unashamedly perpetrates genocidal sweeps through indigenous populations worldwide. Lifting the military ban is not the shortcut to a federal reform of civil rights for sexual minority people. The military complex is a genocidal machine that wreaks mayhem and havoc throughout the world. What's the point?

contents

VOL. 10 NO. 18 AUGUST 1, 1993

FEATURES

Lesbian Avengers
A national direct-action group provides an outlet for explosive feelings
(pp. 16-17)

DEPARTMENTS

World briefs

London police investigate a serial killer known as "Sado Sam" who has vowed to kill one gay man a week
(p. 4)

National news

Clinton's new gays-in-the-military ban confuses experts
(pp. 5-9)

Local news

The Lesbian Community Project takes one giant step for lesbiankind
(pp.10-11)

COLUMNS

Strategies

Jackson County plans a civil rights march in August
(p. 12)

Health

Update on beta-carotene
(p. 15)

Religion

(p. 14)

Amazon Trail

(p. 27)

It's a Queer Thing

(p. 26)

ARTS

Theater

Oregon Shakespeare Festival is incorporating real life into its productions this summer
(p. 24)

Cinema

Orlando is a vast, dazzling, amusing experiment
(p. 25)

Music

We'll have fun, fun, fun if summer gets here
(p. 23)