

world news

ALBANIA

Three members of Albania's first and only lesbian and gay organization, Shoquata Gay Albania, were allegedly nabbed and severely beaten by police Oct. 14 in Tiranë, the country's capital.

The police wanted to know the name of the group's president, said the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. The three were accused of belonging to an illegal association and were reportedly beaten for several hours.



According to the IGLHRC, one of the activists is still being held and interrogated by police, a second is hospitalized, unconscious with a broken leg, and a third has been released.

Shoquata Gay Albania was founded in March 1994. The group is illegal because homosexuality is illegal.

AUSTRALIA

On Oct. 8, lesbian separatists persuaded founders of Sydney's proposed lesbian community center to ban transsexual dykes from membership, reported *Capital Q*, a Sydney queer newspaper.

Following the vote at a "community consultation," the center's "caretaker committee" announced that only "lesbian-identified women who are born female" can join.

The vote was 27 against transsexual membership and 15 for, with six abstentions.

Capital Q said the decision "prompted several community organizations to reassess their support" for the center.

The paper quoted several gay and lesbian leaders as opposing the move, including officials from Mardi Gras, the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby, Stonewall, and the Transgender Liberation Coalition.

"If someone knows they are a woman, they are a woman," said Mardi Gras' Lou Glover.

"Discrimination against transsexuals by anybody under any pretext is not acceptable," said TLC's Aidy Griffin.

ENGLAND

Protesters from OutRage disrupted the enthronement of Church of England Bishop Michael Turnbull on Oct. 22 in Durham.

Turnbull was outed by the media in September as having been arrested in a restroom 26 years ago while having sex with a male farmer. He later spoke against the ordination of lesbians and gay men.

The protesters surged forward shouting "Sack the bishop," as Turnbull knocked on the door of 900-year-old Durham Cathedral for admission, the traditional start of the ceremony, Reuters reported.

OutRage leader Peter Tatchell and another, unidentified, man were shoved to the ground by police and arrested.

"Michael Turnbull has stated that in his view homosexuality is incompatible with [the] ministry," said protester Glenn Halton. "We feel it is extremely hypocritical in view of his previous conviction."

Later, during the ceremony, Turnbull said people had "a right to be shocked about" his past.

The bishop of Durham ranks fourth in the Anglican Church hierarchy.



According to *The Independent*, the British charity Save the Children apologized Oct. 25 to television star Sandi Toksvig for dropping her from a scheduled appearance at its 75th anniversary celebrations Oct. 4.

Toksvig was dumped following publicity about her female lover and their three children, conceived by artificial insemination.

Originally, the charity said Toksvig's presence would "distract" from the celebration. Save the Children is headed by Princess Anne.

FRANCE

Heads of government from 41 nations will meet in Paris on Dec. 1 to affirm their commitment to fight AIDS.

The summit, the first of its kind, is being organized by the French government and the World Health Organization.

Among five planning meetings held this autumn was one on "protecting vulnerable populations."



Clews Vellay, co-founder and former president of ACT UP/Paris, has died from AIDS complications at age 30. ACT UP said Vellay would be remembered for fighting homophobia and for pressing the government to speed AIDS prevention and education efforts.

NICARAGUA

Nicaraguan gay men and lesbians are fearful after losing their appeal against the country's new anti-homosexuality law, which passed the National Assembly after Conservative President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro replaced the socialist Sandinista government.



The Nicaraguan Supreme Court ruled that the law, Penal Code Article 204, is constitutional. It calls for up to three years in prison for anyone who "induces, promotes or practices in scandalous form, sexual relations between persons of the same sex."

"Promotion" of same-sex sexual relations could be as simple as publishing a newspaper or holding a dance.

The court also labeled queer sex an "attack" on matrimony that threatens the "political, economic and social advancement of the country."

Said the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, "Feminist, lesbian, gay and AIDS activists must now all operate under the threat of prosecution, should the judiciary determine that they are 'inducing' or 'promoting' scandalous sexual relations."

Compiled by Rex Wockner

Imagine Yourself...

in

LOTTA'S SELECT beaded cocktail dresses, vintage fashion, sequined evening wear and fine collectables!



Quality selection to fit both men and women of all sizes



Attentive service in a safe and comfortable environment

Be Yourself,
that's



MEET US AT THE PIANO:

A
melodious soirée of
community
&
friends!
Champagne,
sparkling cider
and hors d'oeuvres

Every third
Wednesday
7-9pm

IN NORTHWEST PORTLAND ON THE CORNER OF VAUGHN & 23RD PLACE

Buying or Selling? Let me give you a hand.

You deserve representation whether you are selling or *buying* real estate. Millynn is one of the few top agents in Portland who offers buyers the same level of representation that sellers have traditionally counted on.

And, of course, Millynn continues to offer top personalized service to sellers, bringing you top dollar with the least amount of hassle. Call now for a free market evaluation if you need to sell before you buy your next home!

With her client-oriented services for non-traditional families in all our diversity, Millynn has become the #1 Eastside agent for Professionals 100 (the #1 company in Oregon). In today's competitive market, don't you want to be represented by the best?

CALL MILLYNN NOW to schedule a free consultation (with no obligation).

Millynn James, CRI
Associate Broker

Multi-Million Dollar Producer
Your Real Estate Professional
(503) 287-9632, x.122
Mobile/Voice Mail 720-4642

PROFESSIONALS 100
REALTORS



"I start by listening."

~ Specializing in classic and restorable homes
in Portland's established neighborhoods ~

See Classified for this month's selected listings.

▼ THANK YOU, LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY !!! ▼
FOR STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST THE OCA (again...)