

just out
since 1983

PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

Renée LaChance

COPY EDITORS

Kelly M. Bryan
Jeff Boswell

REPORTERS

Inga Sorensen
Bob Roehr
Rex Wockner

CALENDAR EDITOR

Kristine Chatwood

PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Kliewer

OFFICE MANAGER

Teri Ventura

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Meg Grace

ADVERTISING REPS

C. Jay Wilson Jr.
Marty Davis

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

E. Ann Hinds

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Rupert Kinnard

FORMATTER

Christopher Cuttone

TYPESETTER

Christopher Cuttone

DISTRIBUTION

Ambling Bear
Rachel Ebor
Helen Ford

CONTRIBUTORS

Howie Baggadonutz
Kristine Chatwood
Burnie Gipson
Daniel Vaillancourt

Just out is published on the first and third Friday of each month. Copyright ©1996 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 Libel Manual* on editorial decisions.

Letters to the editor should be limited to 500 words. **Deadline for submissions** to the editorial department and for the **Calendar** is the Thursday before the first and third Friday for the next issue. Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns and features are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The **display advertising** deadline is the Monday after the first and third Friday for the next issue.

Classified ads must be received at the **just out** office by 3 pm the Monday after the first and third Friday for the next issue, along with payment. Ads will not be taken over the telephone.

Ad policy. No sexually exploitative 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 \$2. Advertising rates are available on request.

The mailing address and telephone numbers for just out are PO Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400; (503) 236-1252. The phone number for the advertising department is 236-1253. Our fax number is 236-1257. Our e-mail address is JustOut2@aol.com.

steppin' out



k.d. lang wowed a Portland audience at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on April 8

PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

editorial

It's no joke

Rupert Kinnard, Just Out graphic designer, is seriously injured in an auto accident on Easter weekend

by Renée LaChance

It's the kind you thing you pray is an April Fool's joke. "Hello, this is the Elvis Presley Trauma Center in Memphis, Tennessee," the voice, heavy with Southern accent, said on our office manager's voice mail. "We have Rupert Kinnard in our facility. He was in an auto accident. He said he has health insurance through you, and we need information about it. Could you please give me a call?"

Rupert is known for his love of surprising people, but on April 8, the day after Easter, who would expect one like this? Rupert had gone to Mississippi for his grandmother's funeral. He had flown into Chicago and was planning to drive down to Mississippi with several of his family members. My head was reeling with the possible accident scenarios.

I immediately got on the phone to the trauma center and then to Rupert's partner, Scott Stapley, who was in Portland. Scott told me that Rupert had suffered a spinal cord injury, was awaiting surgery, and was at that time paralyzed from the waist down. Scott had just found out, too. I hung up, torn between rising to the crisis and needing to feel the emotions that were welling up at the thought of my dear friend and co-worker lying in a hospital bed in Tennessee without any of his family of friends there for support.

Within moments of getting this news, every staff person came into the office, except Ann, our creative director, who had somehow known to call in. I told everyone what had happened. Shock and grief flooded the room. We were in the middle of production for our April 15 Seattle issue, and production for the April 19 Portland edition was just around the corner. As our

graphic designer, Rupert is an integral part of that process. While dealing with the emotional shock of the situation, I also had to think of the practical elements of how we would get the work done that Rupert normally does. I spent most of that day stumbling around the office being pretty ineffective.

As time passed, the facts became known. Rupert had been driving alone down a "desolate road" in rural Mississippi. As he rounded a bend, an oncoming car nearly side-swiped him and he swerved to avoid it. He lost control and ended up in a ditch. The other car didn't stop. Rupert knew he couldn't move and laid on his horn until a passing motorist stopped to help.

Eventually he was taken to a hospital in Clarksdale, Miss. where he was put on a helicopter and flown to the trauma center in Memphis.

One of his lumbar vertebrae had been crushed by his seat belt, collapsing his spinal column at that site and causing his paralysis. He underwent surgery to repair the vertebra only, and any lessening of the paralysis will come from future rehabilitation.

It soon became obvious to the doctors that Rupert would need to recuperate in his hometown of Portland, where his loved ones eagerly awaited his return. The insurance company chartered a jet to transport Rupert and Scott back to the Northwest.

Rupert is currently in Providence Hospital's rehabilitation unit, learning to live in his new body. If anyone can meet a sticky situation with grace and aplomb it is Rupert, and we all hold out hope that his persistence and determination will have him dancing to his own music in no time.

We love you, Rupert, heal well and soon.

If anyone can meet a sticky situation with grace and aplomb it is Rupert, and we all hold out hope that his persistence and determination will have him dancing to his own music in no time.

contents

VOL. 13 NO. 12 APRIL 19, 1996

FEATURE

Primary primer

Just Out takes an informative look at the gay and lesbian candidates facing opponents in the May 21 election
(p. 19)

DEPARTMENTS

World news

Gay cops are welcome to wear lipstick on the job, says Manila mayor
(p. 6)

National news

"Don't ask, don't tell" struck down in circuit court; Lavender Action watches right-wing legislators in Washington state
(pp. 7-11)

Local news

Portland lesbian will run in the Olympic torch relay; you may want to cancel that garden burger order
(pp. 12-15)

COLUMNS

Civil rights

Seattle's Partners Task Force brings the power of images to the struggle for marriage rights
(p. 17)

Sports

Take someone out to the Rose City Softball season opener
(p. 37)

ARTS

Books

Marion Winik on loving a gay man and helping him die
(p. 31)

Cinema

Michael Kearns brings Intimacies to the silver screen
(p. 35)