

national briefs

CALIFORNIA

San Francisco's new Main Library opened April 18 with a unique and historic archive. The library contains the James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center, named for the gay philanthropist who is its biggest benefactor. The center is the first specifically devoted to documenting gay and lesbian history and culture in a public library.

The library's growing archives include late Supervisor Harvey Milk's collection, the papers of journalist Randy Shilts, the papers of Naiad Press founder Barbara Grier, early video footage by documentary filmmakers Rob Epstein and Peter Adair, and many items from the archives of the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California.

To protect the collection from the winds of political change, the collection endowment is controlled by a board with a strong gay presence.



School district trustees of the Glendale Unified School District Board are considering a proposal that would require students to get their parent's permission before joining most school clubs. Although the district's plan involves more than gay and lesbian clubs, the district's superintendent did not request a legal opinion on the parental permission issue until after lesbian and gay students at Hoover High School asked to form a regular club.

CONNECTICUT

Upholding a lower court ruling that banned military recruiters from the University of Connecticut Law School, the Connecticut Supreme Court cited the military's "current discrimination against gay men and lesbians." In the 3-2 decision the court held that the "don't ask, don't tell" policy violated a state anti-discrimination law, the Associated Press reported.

The suit was filed by the American Civil Liberties Union in 1992 on behalf of gay and lesbian students who charged that the state violated their rights by allowing an organization that discriminates against gay men and lesbians to recruit on state property.

COLORADO

Several transgender people were cited in March for using the women's restroom at a Denver Red Lion Inn. They were at the hotel to attend a local drag event. Unable to find any law that had been violated by the transgender people, the police finally decided to charge them with "disturbing the peace," a General Sessions citation that requires a public courtroom appearance in Denver.

Hotel Security Chief Robert Higdon claimed that a "hysterical woman" had complained that men were in the women's restroom. He then posted security guards outside the restrooms. The guards watched event participants enter the bathrooms, then followed them in and arrested them.

Some of those arrested were transsexual-identified, on hormones and living full time as women. Some carried papers from their doctors explaining their status and that they were under treatment. The police refused to make any exceptions.

CYBERSPACE

An electronic forum for Arab- and Middle Eastern-identified queers now exists on the Internet. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to majordomo@queernet.org. The message must say: subscribe queerarabs [insert your e-mail address].

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

"Vital Signs: A Celebration of Essex Hemphill," a multimedia showcase of the late Hemphill's works, was presented at Hine Junior High School on April 16.

Hemphill, a black gay writer and activist, used his poetry, essays and activism to address the cutting-edge issues facing Black America

and, particularly, black gay men. He produced a number of books of poetry, edited the black gay anthology *Brother to Brother* and received several literary awards and fellowships. His work appears in the films of Isaac Julien and the late Marlon Riggs.

FLORIDA

The Sixth Annual Gay and Lesbian Day at Walt Disney World in Orlando is scheduled for June 1. A full weekend of activities is scheduled



May 30-June 3. More than 40,000 visitors are expected to attend.

For information, contact organizers at their Web site at <http://www.gayday.com> or e-mail them at info@gayday.com.

KENTUCKY

The Kentucky General Assembly adjourned its 1996 session without passing a single piece of anti-gay legislation. Thirteen proposals, most introduced by conservative Republicans with ties to the radical right, were either buried in committee or failed to make it to the floor for a vote.

Among the bills introduced were three different proposals to re-criminalize same-sex sexual activity between consenting adults; four to bar same-sex marriages, whether performed in Kentucky or another state; three to allow ballot initiatives, thus opening the way for ballot measures like Oregon's Measures 9 and 13; three AIDS bills, two of which would have required public schoolteachers to teach that "homosexual sodomy" is the primary method of contracting HIV; and a bill to prohibit a person with HIV from getting a cosmetology license. A proposal to increase insurance premiums for people with life-threatening diseases like cancer and AIDS was also defeated during this session.

NEW YORK

Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings signed into law a measure establishing a domestic partnership registry. The city's Common Council passed the measure over conservative protests that the city was eroding the family by legitimizing unmarried cohabitation.

The law applies to both heterosexual and homosexual couples.

TEXAS

Victims of anti-gay hate crimes and other incidents can now call a new, nonprofit, toll-free hot line for information and referrals. The Gay and Lesbian Victims' Assistance Hot Line is a 24-hour project of LAMBDA Services Anti-Violence Project. Located in El Paso, the hot line is staffed by trained volunteers. Callers may remain anonymous. All information is kept confidential. The hot line will assist people who have experienced violence, as well as those who have been the victims of discrimination, harassment or vandalism.

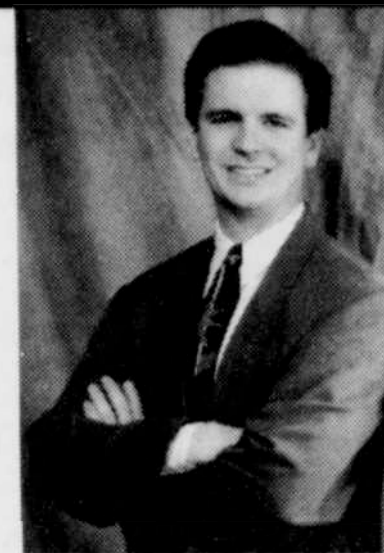
The hot line number is 1-800-259-1536. For more information, write PO Box 31321, El Paso, TX 79931-0321; e-mail avproject@aol.com; or call (915) 533-6024, fax (915) 534-7778.

Compiled by Kristine Chatwood

Are you ready for **HONEST ANSWERS** about protecting your financial future?

I've worked with many organizations in our community to chart a course for their future. I can do the same for you.

Whether you're single, or in a partnership, we can work together to find better ways to manage your money now, while planning for a better future.



Call for a free consultation.

503-238-6036
800-684-5245

Waddell & Reed
FINANCIAL SERVICES

ERIC D. BROWN
ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE

500 NE Multnomah, Suite 278, Portland, Oregon 97232

HAVE YOU EVER HAD DIFFICULTIES...

- Unfriendly Sales
- Lack of Credit
- First Time Buyer
- Low Down Payment
- Collections
- Derogatory Credit

Call
CHRIS STEVENS

Vancouver Nissan-Kia
New & Used Cars & Trucks
503-226-0006
1-800-527-7542

Coventry
Cycle
Works



Portland's Largest
Selection of Recumbents
All 1995 models now at reduced cost
OPEN TUESDAY-SUNDAY
230-7723
2025 SE Hawthorne

IN JANUARY OF 1991,

GAIL SHIBLEY BECAME THE FIRST OPENLY GAY

LEGISLATOR IN THE HISTORY OF OREGON,

BLAZING A TRAIL FOR THE 5 OTHERS

WHO HAVE FOLLOWED.

IN ADDITION TO A

STELLAR PERFORMANCE RECORD,

HER TENACITY AND COURAGE

HAVE WON GAIL ACCOLADES

FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL

AND EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITIES,

AS WELL AS FROM OUR OWN.

PORTLAND
HAS A
GAY
TRAIL BLAZER.

RIGHT TO PRIVACY PAC IS PROUD TO ENDORSE

GAIL FOR PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL,

POSITION ONE.

PORTLAND'S OWN TRAIL BLAZER.

GAIL IS A PERSISTENT EXAMPLE

OF THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

MADE BY INDIVIDUALS IN OUR COMMUNITY

EVERY DAY.

GAIL SHIBLEY FOR CITY COUNCIL.

PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY RIGHT TO PRIVACY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE,
921 SW MORRISON, SUITE 546, PORTLAND, OR 97205 • (503)228-5825