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OFFICE  
(503) 281-4040

1730 N.E. 10th  
Avenue  
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97212

VOICE MAIL  
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### A New Dental Research Study at Russell Street Clinic

## Are You HIV POSITIVE?

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Do you have a persistent tooth ache, intermittent tooth pain, or swelling in your mouth or face? Have you been told your tooth needs a root canal?

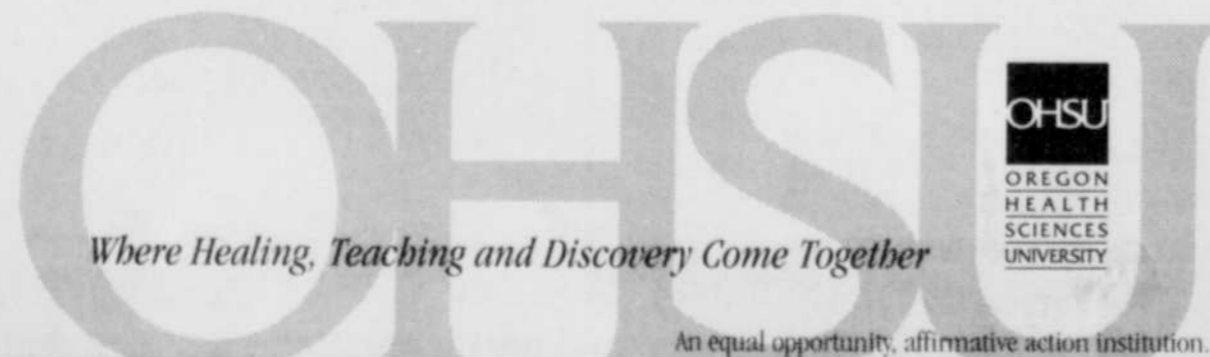
#### Participate In A New Free Research Study

You may qualify to participate in the *Oral Health Enhancement Study* being conducted by the Russell Street Dental Clinic, a part of OHSU. Volunteers must be HIV positive, 18 to 65 years of age and have at least 20 teeth.

#### Benefits

Participants will receive free root canal treatment, free CD4 counts and viral load blood tests, free check-ups, and \$125 for participation. Participants will also be helping to improve the quality of life for people with HIV.

For more information, call: **(503) 494-6300**



# world briefs

## BRITAIN

The 1998 gay EuroGames will be staged in Manchester, England. The city beat out Cologne, Germany, for the honor of hosting the event.

The games will run from Aug. 21 to Aug. 26, coinciding with the local Mardi Gras celebrations.

## CANADA

The Calgary, Alberta, School Board voted Feb. 25 to make life easier for sexual minority students, reported the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

Schools will offer counseling for students struggling with sexuality issues—with or without parental consent.

They also will let queer support groups advertise public school meetings, and will announce a zero-tolerance policy on anti-gay name calling, harassment and violence, the CBC said.

## EUROPE

A gay man who was sacked from the British Navy saw his case referred to the European Court of Justice on March 13. Terry Perkins was dismissed on grounds of his sexuality in November 1995.

The European Court likely will decide whether discrimination based on sexual orientation breaches the European Union's Equal Treatment Directive and, if so, whether the law applies to the military, Britain's High Court said in referring the case.

A hearing is expected this year with a decision within 18 months.

If Perkins wins, it would become illegal for any employer in the 15-nation European Union to discriminate based on sexual orientation, and sexual minorities who have been kicked out of the military could demand compensation.

Last year the European Court held that the Equal Treatment Directive was breached when a transsexual was fired after undergoing a sex-change operation.

Government health plans pay for protease inhibitors in Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden but not in Belgium,

Italy, Spain or the United Kingdom, reported the March issue of the *Journal of the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care*.

"We estimate that about 11,830 deaths could be prevented in these four countries during 1997 if only they would take full advantage of these powerful treatments," said Philippo von Schloesser of the European AIDS Treatment Group.

## ISRAEL

The Israeli Defense Forces is appealing a ruling that gave a military spousal pension to a gay man.

A Tel Aviv District Court Appeals Committee ruled on Jan. 8 that the military engaged in illegal gender-based discrimination when it withheld benefits from Adir Steiner after his male lover, Col. Doron Meisel, died of cancer in 1991.

## MEXICO

Enlace Lesbico, a network of Mexican lesbian organizations, staffed a booth in the Zócalo, Mexico City's central square, on International Women's Day, March 8.

"The Enlace booth was one of the most visited, attracting lesbians and heterosexuals," said a spokeswoman. "It was a big boost for visibility... It shows the force we can have as lesbians when we combine our energy."

SuperGay, along with SuperEcologist and SuperBarrio, zapped the Mexico City offices of

the conservative National Action Party (PAN) on March 3.

Wearing a rainbow mask, a black sequined cape, tight shorts and extravagant glasses, SuperGay slapped a "Closed" sticker on PAN's front gate.



"I am here to fight for the rights of gay citizens," he declared.

The other two superheros represented environmental and urban-neighborhood concerns.

PAN, the most conservative of Mexico's three main parties, has a so-called "family values" bent.

In some cities where the party has come into power, it has closed gay clubs and harassed homosexuals. But in other PAN cities, such as Tijuana and Mexicali in Baja California, there have been no problems.

The less conservative but more corrupt Revolutionary Institutional Party (PRI) still controls most Mexican cities, but PAN has gained on PRI in every recent election.

## THE NETHERLANDS

Dutch Railways has granted gay and lesbian employees' families foreign-travel benefits.

Employees' spouses and children receive a certain amount of free foreign travel each year and a 50 percent discount on other foreign tickets.

The move follows a court ruling and another from the Dutch Equal Treatment Commission in favor of the benefits. At first, the rail line announced plans to contest the rulings but then said it had changed its mind.

For the time being, queer family tickets for foreign travel will be paid for out of Dutch Railways' own pocket since international agreements among train companies do not recognize such families.

Operators are waiting at the new Gay Games 1998 hot line at Amsterdam's Cafe April.

The games are expected to draw 15,000 participants and 200,000 attendees.

The hot line is staffed from 6 pm to 11 pm Dutch time on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The number is 011-31-20-427-1998.

## NEW ZEALAND

Pharmac, the New Zealand government agency that subsidizes drugs, will pay for saquinavir starting April 1 but is holding back on ritonavir and indinavir.

Saquinavir is said to be the least helpful of the new protease inhibitors which, when combined with older anti-HIV drugs, halt disease progression in most patients.

Pharmac head David Moore blamed a lack of money for the agency's poky movement on the life-saving medicines.

## ZIMBABWE

Former Zimbabwean nationalist leader Michael Mawema on March 5 called on the government to punish homosexuality with public flogging and castration.

"Zimbabwean laws against sexual pervers, especially rapists and gays, are too soft," Mawema said. "I am proposing that those convicted of these sexual crimes, such as homosexuality, rape, incest and bestiality, be whipped at least 100 times in a public square, and that, if they are men, they be castrated."

Mawema was speaking at a public meeting he called via a newspaper advertisement. About 100 people attended.

Compiled by Rex Wockner