

relations with a prostitute is held to be acceptable as long as you pay the person yourself.

Adding to the confusion is the fact that the Tibetan leader has previously made remarks which indicated his approval of same-sex love.

A group of gay Buddhists who have called on the Dalai Lama to address the issue have been granted an audience with him in June, when he will be visiting San Francisco to speak at a conference on nonviolence sponsored by Tibet House.

Eva Herzer, president of the International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet and coordinator of the meeting, said the statements may appear to be discriminatory against homosexuals, but are not because they apply to straight people as well. For example, the Dalai Lama writes: "Homosexuality... is not improper in itself. What is improper is the use of organs already defined as inappropriate for sexual contact."

Steve Peskind, co-founder of San Francisco's Buddhist AIDS Project, contends there is still cause to be alarmed, because the Dalai Lama's words have already contributed to anti-homosexual attitudes around the world. In an open letter to the leader published in the January issue of the newsletter "Gay Buddhist Fellowship," Peskind pointed out the inconsistencies in the teachings and their potentially harmful effects.

The degree of distress caused by the remarks varies widely among gay Buddhists, with many saying it simply doesn't matter because the religion does not revere the Dalai Lama as a final authority and encourages practitioners to interpret and make decisions for themselves. Still, others feel the Dalai Lama's position as a world-renowned Nobel Peace laureate give greater weight to his words, particularly outside the Buddhist community, and hope the June meeting will produce a statement supporting universal human rights for sexual minorities.

Seattle man with HIV improves, sues to regain job

In what should prove to be a precedent-setting case, John Mace of Seattle is suing Alaska Airlines to get his job back, reports the *Seattle Times Company Business News*. He resigned his position as a flight attendant in 1994, after being told by doctors that he had six months to live. Mace, 41, was suffering from AIDS complications and had been on unpaid medical leave for several months when he received that prognosis. He quit—rather than extend his leave as allowed under union contract—in order to gain access to his retirement account, pension plan and life insurance so that he could pay for the drug treatments which have now lowered the presence of HIV in his system to undetectable levels.

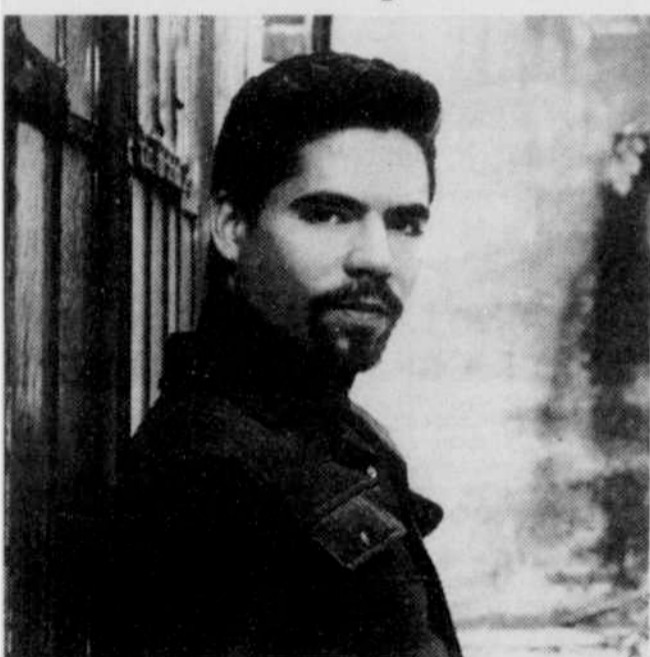
Alaska Airlines has agreed to rehire Mace, but it will not reinstate his previous seniority of nearly 10 years because he resigned. The company says

this policy maintains fairness to other employees. However, beginning again as a new hire would require Mace to be on call 24 hours a day and would likely mean reassignment to Anchorage or Los Angeles, far from his doctors in Seattle. Retaining his seniority would allow him more flight choices and scheduling options.

Mace's lawsuit contends that the seniority benefits he is being denied by the airline constitute "reasonable accommodation" under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Lou Cancelmi, an Alaska Airlines spokesman, told the *Business News* that the company's actions are not discriminatory, and that the reasonable accommodation rule for people with disabilities does not apply in this situation because Mace told the company he had "recovered."

Youth celebrate pride in D.C.



Rudy Galindo

The first youth pride celebration in the nation's capitol brought a few celebrities to Washington, D.C., on April 19. According to a Youth Pride Alliance press release, figure skater Rudy Galindo, author Torie Osborn and activist Jessica Xavier were featured speakers at the event, which was sponsored by the organization in order to provide a safe place to celebrate visibility, awareness and pride for all young people and to highlight issues facing sexual minority youth in particular.

Galindo is the first Mexican American and the first openly gay person to win a national figure skating championship. Osborn, a life-long activist and former director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, is the author of *Coming Home to America: A Roadmap to Gay and Lesbian Empowerment* and writes for the *Advocate*. Singer-songwriter Xavier, an out bisexual transsexual, is the founder of the D.C. chapter of Transgender Nation and a board member of It's Time, America!, the first national transgender political action committee.

Compiled by Christopher D. Cuttone

Food The Way Mother Nature Intended

Organic Produce
Natural Groceries
Delicious Deli From Scratch
Cruelty-Free Personal Care
Vitamins, Homeopathics, & Herbs
Environmentally Safe Cleaning Products

Community
Owned



Food Front
Cooperative Grocery

2375 NW Thurman St. Portland 222-5658

Open
9 am to 9 pm
Daily



SMUT! COMIX! WEIRDNESS!

That's right, kids, you won't find any books filled with big words here at **CounterMedia**. *Too hard on the brain!* What you *will* find is Portland's best assortment of:

- o Old gay physique mags and nudie mags
- o Gay photo and art erotica
- o Hard-to-find gay mags (*T*R*A*S*H*, *STH*)
- o Erotic gay fiction and non-fiction

Plus, of course, the usual stuff on (yawn) body piercing, serial killers, drugs and freaks. **CounterMedia**: One-stop shopping for Portland's depraved! 927 SW Oak (half a block from Powell's). 11-7 M-Sat, 12-6 Sun.

THE CONFERENCE

FOR GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL
COLLEGE LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS AND MEMBERS

May 16 - 18, 1997
at Central Washington University

Friday: Northwest Collegiate Drag Show, Queer Dating
Game and dance

Saturday: Guest Speaker Paul Siegel from Washington,
DC, First Amendment Rights for GLB and an
update on gays in the military...PLUS
Workshops on: relationships, campus activism, GLB
families, how to organize your campus/community,
Northwest GLB history...and TONS more.

Sunday: Brunch, information and directory dissemina-
tion, good-byes

Call: (509) 963-1411 for reservations
E-mail: galaclub@aurora.CWU.edu for more information
EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND

Registration Fee: \$60. This includes meals, lodging, tick-
ets to events, information directory and all the hoop-la of
THE CONFERENCE!

EEO/AA/Title IX Institution. Persons of disability may make
arrangements for reasonable accommodations by calling Courson
Conference Center at (509) 963-1143 or TDD (509) 963-3323.

A NINI FERRUCCI IS ETERNAL

*Offering a
wide selection
of custom and
imported rugs...*

- ◆ Braided Colonial Rugs
- ◆ Ferrucci
- ◆ Corinthian
- ◆ Louis de Poortere
- ◆ Missoni
- ◆ Custom Designing Available

**CORINTHIAN
RUG COMPANY**
Showrooms:
140 NE Broadway
287-6989