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The Portland Area Business Association provides excellent opportunities for you to promote your business to gay men, lesbians and their friends in business. Our monthly luncheons offer a forum to meet dynamic and influential people in politics, business and the arts. We offer dozens of social activities, from plays to parties to picnics. For more info on PABA and upcoming events, call us or visit our Website.

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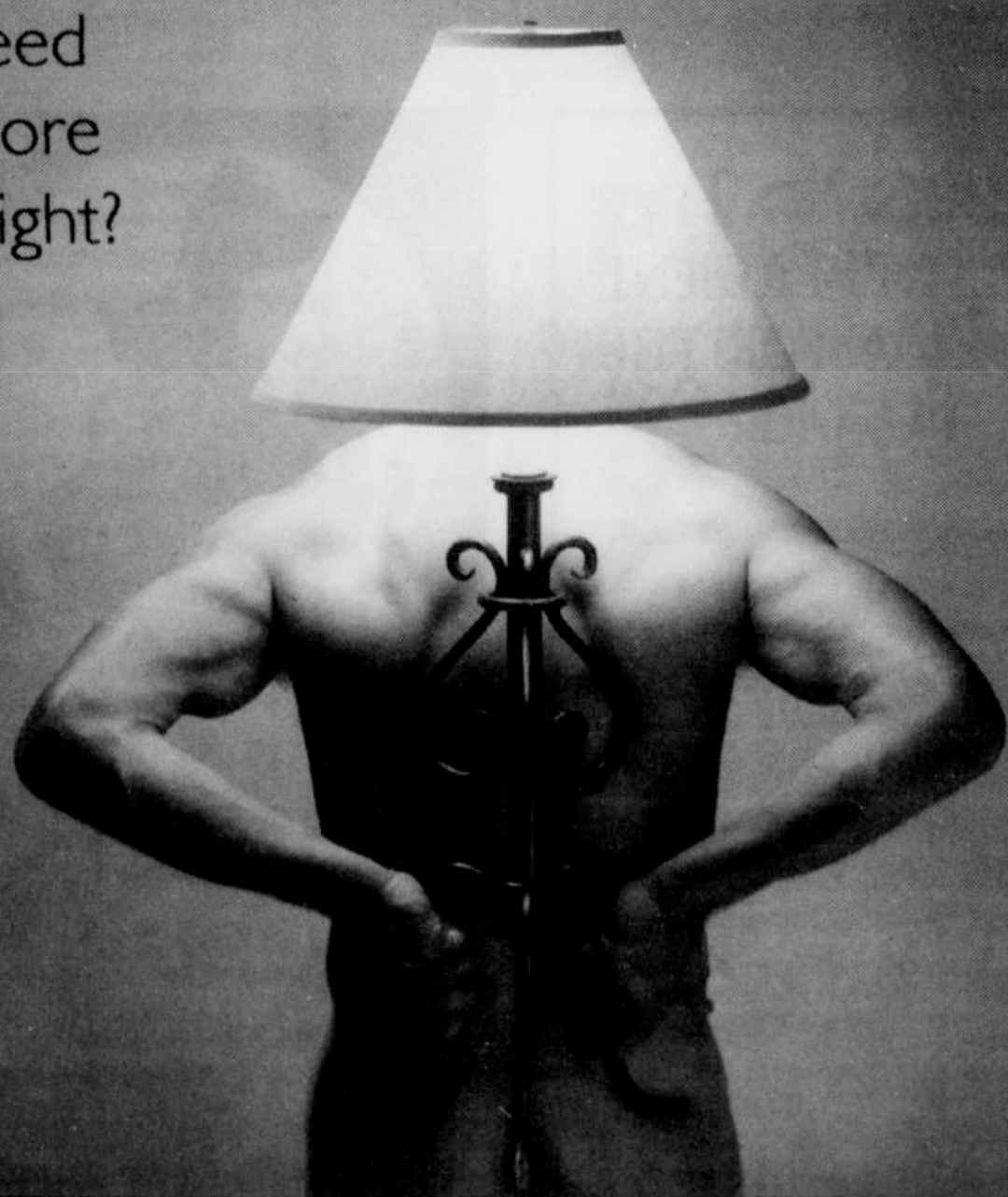
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## world briefs

### AUSTRALIA

Green Party member Bob Brown, 52, Australia's only openly gay member of Parliament, was arrested June 13 in an anti-logging protest at Goolengook Forest.

A longtime environmental activist, Brown says newly authorized logging in the old-growth forest endangers numerous birds and ferns and one type of orchid. He faces a \$2,000 fine.



### BRITAIN

Neal Dagleish, the same-sex partner of Ben Bradshaw—an openly gay member of Parliament—has been recognized as Bradshaw's spouse for purposes of House of Commons fringe benefits.

Dagleish's spousal pass gets him essentially unlimited access to Parliament, including use of its cafeterias, bars, parking garage, family room and gymnasium.

Dagleish will also likely be granted travel benefits—15 first-class rail tickets between Westminster and Bradshaw's district in England's West Country.



The new leader of Britain's Conservative Party, William Hague, apparently approves of same-gender marriage.

"When they're not causing any harm to other people, why should we object?" Hague said.

A protégé of Margaret Thatcher, Hague, 36, succeeded former Prime Minister John Major. On most other issues, Hague is aligned with the party's right wing.

Meanwhile, the *Sydney* [Australia] *Sun-Herald* reported June 22 that there are rumors Hague is gay—which he denies.

Additional rumors say Rupert Murdoch's tabloid *News of the World* has photos that contradict Hague's denials, and that Hague has obtained an injunction to prevent publication of the snapshots.

### CANADA

Eight hundred gay men and lesbians and 200 "family values" protesters clashed in downtown Vancouver's Robson Square on June 7, according to *Xtra! West*.

The occasion was a rally by the anti-gay Citizens' Research Institute to protest gay-positive curricula in public schools. The confrontation was part of an ongoing battle over the issue.

On one side, members of the British Columbia Teachers Federation are funding development of workshops, policies and curriculum recommendations that combat anti-gay bias.

On the other side, the school board in Surrey, a Vancouver municipality, has banned three gay-related children's books, and the British Columbia Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils approved a non-binding resolution barring school materials related to homosexuality.

### CYPRUS

Amnesty International is calling on Cyprus' House of Representatives to legalize gay-male sex.

Cyprus was ordered to do so by the European Court of Human Rights in 1993 but legislators have procrastinated on the matter. The court said the nation's sodomy ban violates privacy rights.

Meanwhile, the European Commission on Human Rights has declared admissible an application from a Cypriot gay man, Stavros Marongos, charging his human rights are being violated by the ban.

The commission attempts to settle cases before handing them off to the European Court of Human Rights for a hearing.

The court, located in Strasbourg, France, is the judicial organ of the Council of Europe, a group-

ing of 40 nations pledged to uphold human rights. It enforces the 1952 European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

### FRANCE

An estimated 200,000 people turned out for EuroPride on June 28 in Paris.

More than 100 floats and thousands of marchers stretched three miles from the Place de la République through the city's east side to Reuilly Lawn, site of an all-night concert.

Police estimate the crowd at 145,000, organizers say 300,000, and independent observers opt for 200,000.

EuroPride moves to a different city each year.

In the lead-up to the parade, 5,000 athletes competed in the fifth gay EuroGames. The greatest number of medals—a whopping 107 (41 of them gold)—was snagged by London's 82-member Out To Swim team.

Meanwhile, in the midst of the Euro blowout, France's new Socialist government said it will keep its promise to enact a same-gender partnership law.

The proposed "contract of social union" will give gay and lesbian couples spousal rights in such areas as housing, inheritance and taxes.

### MEXICO

Delfino Martinez Galvez, the openly gay head of Mexico's Green Ecology Party, was found shot dead June 16 in a bathtub at his party's offices in Ometepec, Guerrero.

Media reports say police have not identified any motive or suspects in the case.

### PORTUGAL

The gay group ILGA-Portugal has launched a postcard campaign to Prime Minister Antonio

Guterres demanding recognition of same-sex partnerships.

A group of Socialist members of Parliament is planning to introduce registered partnership legislation for opposite-sex couples and, if it passes, amend it to include same-sex couples.

The measure grants registered couples every right of matrimony except access to adoption.

According to the Lisbon newspaper *Expresso*, the developments have disturbed local Roman Catholic officials, who are reportedly "preparing for war."

"This desecration of the family threatens the state and reminds me of the fall of the Roman Empire," a diocesan spokesman told reporters.

### SPAIN

Spain's new conservative People's Party government has killed off the Spanish Tourism Institute booklet "Gay Spain: Feel the Passion," which had been distributed by Spanish tourism offices in the United States and elsewhere.

Coordinadora Gai-Lesbiana, a gay and lesbian organization, responded by posting the entire booklet on its World Wide Web site ([www.pangea.org/org/cgl/](http://www.pangea.org/org/cgl/)).

### ZIMBABWE

Canaan Banana, a former president of Zimbabwe, is denying that he forced sex on male students, bodyguards and associates.

"The so-called allegations are a mortuary of pathological lies, a malicious vendetta of vilification and character assassination," he said.

Police have given prosecutors a docket of nine sodomy and other charges against Banana, claiming he forced himself on male associates during his presidency (1980-87) and at the University of Zimbabwe where he chairs the Religion Department.

Compiled by Rex Wockner