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Charles and Andrew could not agree. Which themed room should they reserve at the See Vue Oceanfront Inn for their 5 year anniversary? They had their first overnight date in the Santa Fe room, so Charles wanted to stay there. They honeymooned after their commitment ceremony in the Cottage, so Andrew wanted to stay there. They had great make-up sex in the Study after Spring Relationship Strain sent Andrew cruising Stark St. for a spring fling. Neither wanted to remember that. They finally settled on the Mountain Shores room, because that was all that was available when they finally called for their reservation.

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Advertise in the **just out** Pocket Book. Here's why...

ERIC BROWN • financial advisor, **just out** Pocket Book advertiser

Advice to other businesses

"If you are in the gay community - be visible. Advertise in the Pocket Book and **just out**. The people that have become clients from my ads there have been some of the most profitable and loyal."

HALA GORES • attorney, **just out** Pocket Book advertiser

Visibility

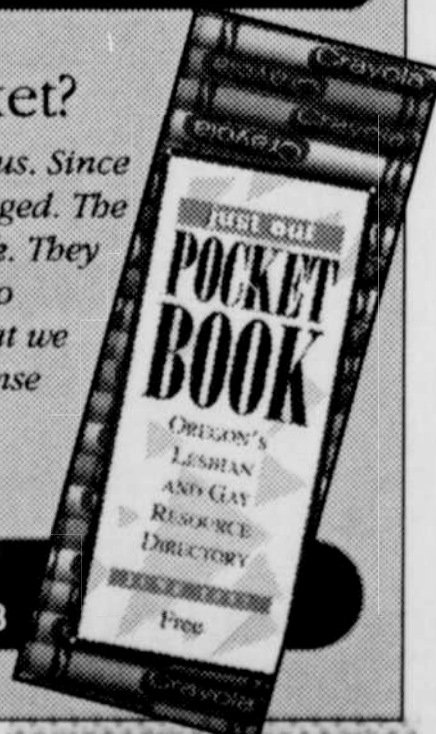
"I was so pleased with the results of my ad in the 1997 **just out** Pocket Book that I purchased a larger and more visible ad for the 1998 edition. **just out** is consistently an excellent value for my advertising dollars."

BRIAN COLE • The Golf Shop, **just out** Pocket Book advertiser

Why the gay and lesbian market?

"In the past, it has been a struggle to get people to find us. Since our ad in the **just out** Pocket Book, that has all changed. The customers are glad that we advertise in the Pocket Book. They appreciate our support. We will be continuing this ad to increase our customer base and to let readers know that we support the gay and lesbian community. I watch response closely and the Pocket Book has been good for us."

To advertise in the **just out** Pocket Book,
call Marty Davis or Meg Grace, 503.236.1253



NATIONAL news
BRIEFS

CALIFORNIA

Santa Clara County supervisors repealed the county's domestic partnership registry Feb. 24, ending the threat of an ugly electoral contest in June, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reports.

According to the paper, the "raw and abusive testimony that dominated the hearing made the 4-1 vote to repeal even more unpleasant for the mostly liberal board, because it illustrated the political muscle of the Santa Clara Valley's religious right [wing]."

The county's registry was approved by a unanimous vote of the board in 1996. It allowed gay male, lesbian and unmarried heterosexual couples to register their "intimate and committed" relationships with the County Recorder.

The measure immediately ran into opposition. Within 30 days of the registry's approval, opponents gathered nearly 60,000 signatures demanding that it be repealed or placed on the ballot.

COLORADO

Fort Collins is the newest battlefield in the state's ongoing gay and lesbian civil rights struggle.

According to United Press International, gay rights opponents there plan to attack a new law passed by the city council that protects gay men and lesbians from discrimination.

A petition drive to put the matter before city voters is the strategy being adopted by the large-church-going opposition.

FLORIDA

Melbourne resident Coral Lee Craig knows how to get her way.

The Associated Press reports that Craig, after failing to get *Daddy's Roommate* banned, has kept the children's book dealing with gay parents perpetually checked out of a Brevard County Library.

While the library system owns four additional copies of the book, Craig, a member of the Christian Coalition, has managed with the help of friends to limit the book's accessibility. Florida's confidentiality laws prohibit library officials from discussing how long copies of the book have been checked out.



INDIANA

Gearing up for its 25th anniversary in June, the Fort Wayne Metro Human Relations Commission boldly appointed an out lesbian to its top post, reports the *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel*.

The commission, which has been struggling with a damaged reputation, voted unanimously to approve Leslie Raymer's appointment as executive director, effective March 2. Nevertheless, commissioners anticipate complaints from some community members.

"If we put God in the position, we'd hear from somebody," says Commissioner Alice Jordan-Miles.

IOWA

A gay pastor is appealing a Lutheran church decision to revoke his ministry because of his admission that he is a practicing homosexual.

A disciplinary committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Church voted Feb. 3 to revoke the Rev. Steve Sabin's ministry for violating a church policy that allows the ordination of gay and lesbian ministers only if they take a vow to abstain from having relations with others of the same sex.

According to media reports, Sabin is scheduled to be removed from the list of the church's ordained ministers on April 15. He has asked for a delay until the appeals committee issues a decision.

MASSACHUSETTS

Fire recently struck one of the queerest spots in one of the queerest cities, Provincetown.

According to the *Washington Blade*, several buildings, including one that housed a number of popular gay bars, burned down on Feb. 10.



The five-alarm fire caused several million dollars in damage and involved more than 200 firefighters.

MISSOURI

The first openly gay member of the General Assembly is pushing to repeal the state's longtime ban on gay sex, says a Feb. 26 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* report.

Tim Van Zandt, an openly gay Democrat from Kansas City now in his fourth year in the assembly, has filed a bill with 15 other sponsors to do away with the Sexual Misconduct Law, which criminalizes homosexual activity between consenting adults.

Missouri's sodomy law, one of only six in the country that apply exclusively to same-sex couplings, can land someone in jail for up to a year on a first offense and require a \$1,000 fine.

In 1986 the Missouri Supreme Court upheld the law, ruling that the legislature can enact laws to bar homosexual activity because of the state's role in "implementing and promoting the public morality."

NORTH CAROLINA

Instead of stopping harassment, Doyle Criswell became a victim of it.

An outreach director for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in Gastonia,

Criswell sent letters to two public school principals regarding anti-gay discrimination in the classroom. According to *The Charlotte Observer*, the only response he received from the publicity-generating letters was a barrage of anonymous, harassing phone calls.

The *Observer* quotes Criswell as saying, "This is the first time that I—a straight, white, married male and father of two—have been harassed. All because I'm trying to promote diversity."

TEXAS

Two lesbian high school students in the Lone Star State challenged—and toppled—John Marshall High School's opposite-sex-only prom date policy, according to the *San Antonio Express-News*.

Bryon Trott of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of San Antonio calls the young women's actions "pretty courageous."

Students at the school will now be allowed to attend the prom solo or with same- or opposite-sex partners.

Compiled by WILL O'BRYAN