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# Just Out

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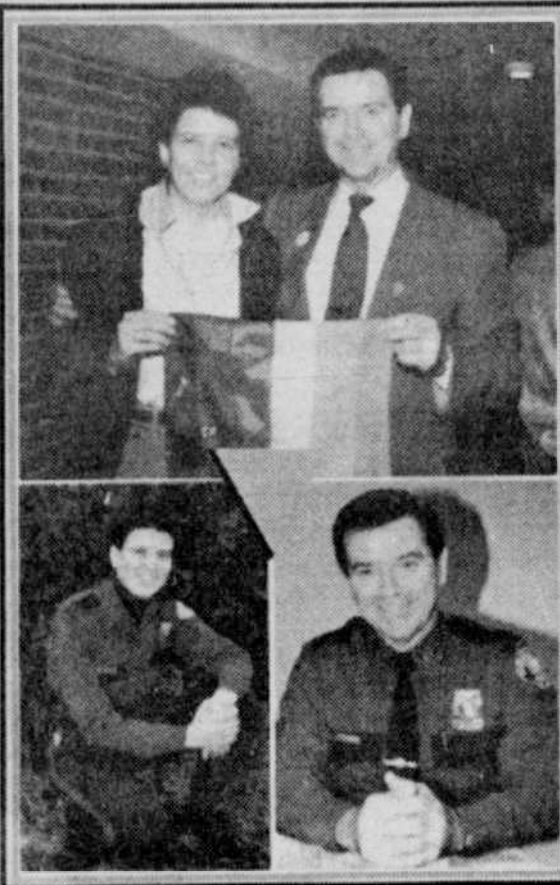


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 Linda Lee lets her hair down  
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Portland, Oregon FREE

## just out

INSIDE:  
 Hawaii and Connecticut  
 join Massachusetts and  
 Wisconsin as only states to  
 protect gay rights



### Potter stresses equality

Daughter patrols in father's footsteps

by Anita Hackman

A Portland Police Bureau officer ending last month, Tom Potter was talking about equality, a message that has gradually become his major focus for business politics since last November.

He said the officers are to most women—women or outside the police bureau—differently, and they needed. He told them not to fear members of minority groups differently.

"Then I said, 'And that's our people who are gay or lesbian differently,'" Potter recalled. "And you could see the non-verbal reaction. There was a shuffle. I told them, 'Now I've said something that makes you feel uncomfortable. You have to ask yourselves why.'"

The story reveals much about Portland's new police chief and the 1,000-member bureau he commands. It shows how far the agency has evolved since Potter joined as a rookie cop in 1965—and the rocky path that lay ahead.

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Potter recently led off training in the Spring '98. He said that would be the beginning of the end of a long tradition. It passed through generations to a 14 margin. The bill will go to the House that the first week of May and is expected to pass there.

Cover girl-cop Katie Potter then (Just Out's May 1991 cover, above) and now (right)

# The Thin Queer Line

Sketches of three of Portland's finest  
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PHOTO BY LINDA KILMER