EXPOSE YOURSELF TO JUST OUT

A Portland parable

by Inga Sorensen

K, so the Goose Hollow Inn's got the best Reuben in the world. The sting of the horseradish rocks, the sauerkraut and Swiss ooze profusely, and the Russian dressing slathers the corned beef like a lover.

The beer flows and the blues moan.

There are the low points—like the sign that firmly declares: "This is a smoking establishment." And there's something about roast beef served up medium rare.

But the worst part? Call it a peeve, but when we learned a tavern employee recently headed to the dumpster with a stack of *Just Outs* faster than you can say "Rolling Stones," well, we got a smidgen vexed.

Just Out had previously been greenlighted to make drops at the Portland haunt. However, a few days later when

we brought over a bunch of our April 16 issue, our distributor spotted an eatery employee making for the dumpster within moments of the delivery.

Our drop guy popped back to the *Just Out* office and told us: "The manager said it was not their style of magazine."

So is that the way it went down? "In essence, yeah," admits a man who identified himself as Nick Brown, manager of the Goose Hollow Inn, located at 1927 S.W. Jefferson St. "It's not the type of magazine I feel comfortable carrying here.... It's a judgment call."

What you will find, he says, are copies of Willamette Week, Northwest Neighbor, Blues Review, Cinema 21 updates, and other odds and ends.

But apparently no Just Outs.

So, we asked, is the gay content behind the discomfort? "Probably. Yes." he told us.

Sure, the Goose Hollow Inn is the kind of place where hard hats dot the wall and orange Naugahyde prevails. But we are everywhere, are we not? Plus, Just Out got the nod to do the drop, and there's the fact that—for those deficient of Portland-oriented institutional memory—the joint is owned by Bud Clark, the Rose City's mayor from 1984 to 1992.

One of Portland's more funky figures,



Clark—who's been operating the inn for 30-plus years—sports a furry face and transports himself via bicycle.

As mayor, he oversaw development of Pioneer Courthouse Square and Pioneer Place, orchestrated the construction of the Oregon Convention Center, and appointed Penny Harrington as chief of police, the first appointment of a woman as police chief of a major U.S. city.

And he's the guy who has been immortalized in the scandalous "Expose Yourself to Art" posters.

According to a 1991 Oregonian report, the poster was originally produced in 1978. It features Clark brazenly opening his coat (a k a flashing) in front of a nude statue in downtown Portland.

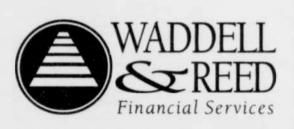
In an effort to retire campaign debt eight years ago, several thousand reprints were created and sold for \$35 a pop. (By late 1991, more than 425,000 prints had been sold since the poster's creation 13 years earlier.)

We couldn't help but note the irony of a queer paper poised for trashville in an enterprise owned by a bold and brash, pro-arts former politician.

By the way, we left a message with Brown asking Clark to give us a buzz. As of press time, we hadn't heard back.

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PORN ON THE RUN

A brouhaha has ensued over a recent police crackdown on Seattle adult video arcades.

The Seattle Gay News says during the past several months it has received numerous reports from gay men who charge they have been victimized under a city ordinance that, according to the paper, claims "'unprotected sexual activities in public places' was contributing to a 'public health hazard' and 'information shows that such activities occur' in the adult boutiques, making the ordinance necessary."

SGN reports Seattle City Councilmember Tina Podlodowski, an out lesbian and chair of the Public Safety Committee, defended the recent crackdown saying it was a "public health measure" designed to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

She was part of the council that unanimously approved the ordinance two years ago.

In the April 2 issue of SGN, Podlodowski said, "I do believe that the city has an interest in regulating what happens in Seattle's businesses, especially when it comes to public health and safety. I do not believe that this regulation is anti-gay."

But others beg to differ.

Seattle attorney Gil Levy told SGN the "peep show" laws are aimed at gay men.

"These are, like sodomy laws, specifically designed to harass gay men. This is their sole purpose, they have no other function," he charged.