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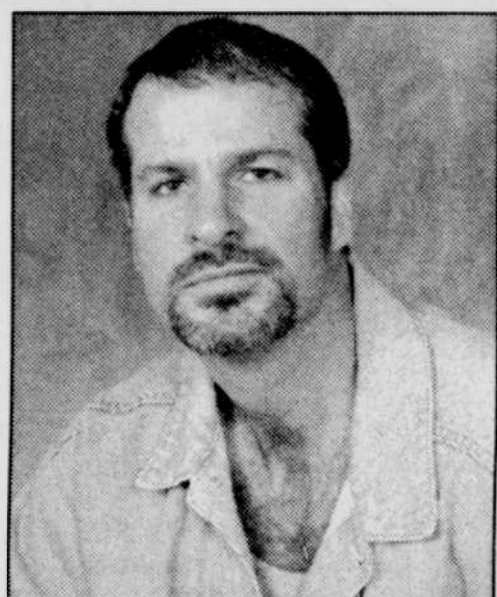


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NORTHWEST news

RESOURCE CENTER DIVIDES OSU

A proposal for a Queer Resource Center at Oregon State University got a unanimous thumbs-up from the student fee committee March 14.

The vote was the first of several steps in the approval process for any new program asking for a portion of student fees. The center's annual budget would be \$7,000, about 45 cents per student a year.

The issue has divided the campus, said Beth McGinnis, a member of the Rainbow Continuum, the university's only gay group. More than 350 people showed up to the Memorial Union Ballroom for the meeting. When the committee finally voted 7 to 0 in approval, supporters stood up and applauded.

"Oregon State University touts that it is a place for open discourse on a variety of issues, from racial profiling to the controversy over abortion," the Rainbow Continuum said in a statement read during a press conference. "However, if we would censor one group's views, what does that mean?"

OSU College Republicans have been particularly vocal about their opposition to the center, McGinnis says. Vice president Mike Kingsella told *The Oregonian*, "Being gay or lesbian should be an individual decision, not pushed on an insecure student, especially by an organization funded by the student body."

About 100 students belong to the Republican group. After the vote, members told *The Barometer*, the university's student daily newspaper, that they have resolved to fight even harder to keep the center from gaining final approval.

But proponents have received surprising support on the notoriously conservative Corvallis campus. During a recent quasi-protest, they raised \$150—15 cents each from 1,000 people.

The graduate and undergraduate student senates now will consider the proposal. If both bodies approve it, university president Paul Riser will review it before a final decision is made.

For more information about the Rainbow Continuum call 541-713-7378.

celebration. All are welcome.

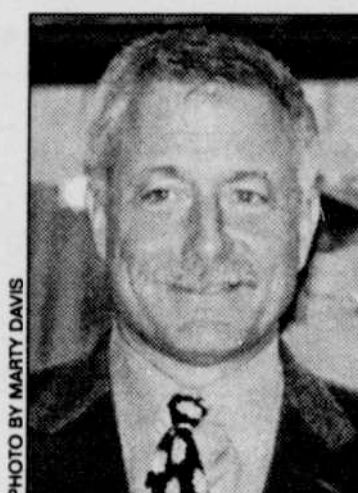
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VICTORY FUND CHALLENGE ANNOUNCED

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Foundation announced a challenge gift of \$100,000 to the Victory Fund if its members raise that amount during 2001. The political action committee works to increase the number of openly gay and lesbian public officials at the local, state and national level.

Portland businessman Terry Bean, a Victory Fund founder, made the announcement last fall during the Victory Fund's "Honoring Our Founders" brunch in Washington, D.C. The challenge is dedicated to former board member Chuck Holmes, who died last September.

To contribute call Jennifer Jones at 202-842-8679, ext. 304, or send e-mail to jjones@victoryfund.org.



Terry Bean

BUYER BEWARE

A gay-positive Internet site, PsychotherapySource.com, warns that other mental health-related sites are not so gay-friendly.

"If you are seeking psychological counseling online, you need to be very cautious," says CEO Lynne Freeman, Ph.D. "These sites list issues they address. It is important that the words 'gay' and 'lesbian' appear among the selections."

If those words are not there, Freeman says the online counselor might have no experience working with sexual minorities or might use reparative therapies to try to change the client's sexual orientation.

She says Barbara Adams, a therapist who operates an online counseling business via Therapyoffice.com based in Grants Pass, admonished her in an e-mail for providing services to homosexuals:

"To have a special section touting gay and lesbian services is highly distasteful and unprofessional, to say the least. Your promotion of deviant behavior and the reverse discrimination towards the mainstream heterosexual community is revolting."

Adams has denied that she or someone in her office wrote any letter. "I don't find personal belief systems to be professionally relevant, in terms of treatment of mental disorders—for instance, schizophrenia would be treated the same way (other than theoretical orientation variances) in a

PRIDE 2001 VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Organizers are looking for performers and volunteers for the Pride 2001 celebration June 16 and 17.

Artists who want to display their works, performers who would like to jump up on stage and speakers who would like a few minutes at the microphone to talk about their organization all are encouraged to apply. The "Bridges of Pride" festival at Tom McCall Waterfront Park will feature two stage areas.

The annual event requires many behind-the-scenes volunteers in security, entertainment and other areas of the cel-

