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PHOTO BY JOSE JOHNSON

"I was a 'nervous first time buyer' when I met Tina. But once I started working with her, she answered all of my questions and then some. Tina was patient, knowledgeable, trustworthy, and had a great sense of humor. I couldn't be happier with my new home...and I owe it to Tina!"
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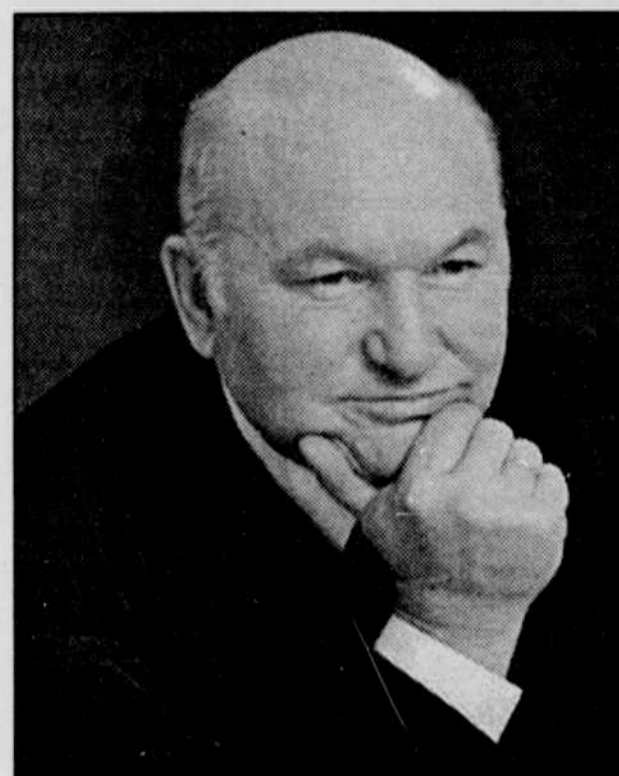
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WORLDnews

RUSSIA

Moscow will have no Gay Pride parade, Mayor Yuri Luzhkov said July 23.

"The city government will not allow holding this march...because such demonstrations outrage the majority of the capital's population, are in effect propaganda of dissipation and force upon society unacceptable norms of behavior," his press office said. Homosexuality "goes against the traditional moral values of most Russians as well as the canons of the main religious confessions in the city."



Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov

MEXICO

The head of the government's Human Rights Commission in Mexico's Yucatan state says people with AIDS should be shot if they break out of quarantine facilities.

"AIDS patients should be quarantined, and if an infected person crosses an established security line, he should be shot dead," Omar Ancona said July 18. "It's better if they die. They should be on an island where they can't infect others."

AIDS activists called for Ancona's firing. "These are homicidal and potentially genocidal statements," said Georgina Gutierrez of the National Front of Persons Affected with AIDS.

Deborah Gass said the restriction was unconstitutional. Gay adoption also is allowed in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario, according to the Canadian Press wire service.

GERMANY

Germany's gay partnership law took effect Aug. 1 as scheduled.

The Federal Constitutional Court July 18 rejected a request for an injunction by the states of Bavaria and Saxony, which claimed the law violates constitutional protections of marriage and the family. The law grants registered gay couples marriage rights in areas such as inheritance, health

insurance, immigration, name changes and alimony.

Justice ministers from the two states responded to the ruling by threatening to delay implementation of the law or ignore the court ruling altogether. Gay activists said they will file a lawsuit if the registration mechanism becomes available in those states "even a day late."

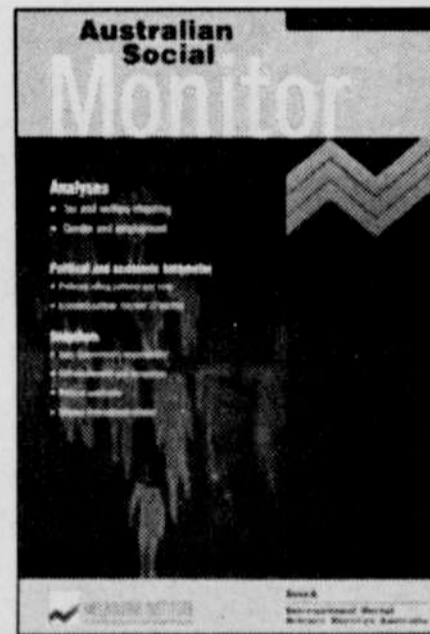
CANADA

About 76 percent of Canadians say homosexuals deserve the same rights as other people, a new Leger Marketing survey has found. But only 53 percent think they should be allowed to adopt children.

Homosexuals got the best numbers in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, where 86 percent support equality. The worst numbers were in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 67 percent.

Overall, 65 percent said gay couples should have equal tax benefits, and 75 percent approve of gay marriage. About 4.5 percent of those polled acknowledged homosexual feelings, and 2.6 percent said they'd had gay sex.

A total of 1,507 people were questioned. The poll is considered accurate within 2.6 percentage points 19 times out of 20, according to the Canadian Press wire service.



AUSTRALIA

About 48 percent of Australians think gay sex is "always wrong," a new Australian Social Monitor survey has found. The figure is down from 64 percent in 1986.

The survey found elders, religious people and men are more anti-gay than younger people, atheists and women. Only 28 percent of Australians think gay sex is "not wrong at all."

FINLAND

Finland is planning to join the list of nations where gay couples can register their partnership and receive many of the rights and obligations of matrimony.

Parliament will take up the issue this month, and a vote is expected next year. The proposed legislation will not allow homosexual couples to adopt children.

BELARUS

The Belarusian Youth Congress has rejected participation by the Belarus Lambda League for Freedom of Gays and Lesbians in its annual convention, the gay group reported July 17.

"Discussion of the question of BLL participation in the congress was like a bad scene very much," Female Secretariat Elena Guscha said. "I had the impression that all the speeches and voting were prepared previously and with a known result."

The manager of the only legal gay bar that ever existed in the Belarusian capital of Minsk reportedly was attacked by homophobic thugs in his apartment July 3 and died in a hospital the next day. Ivan Sushinsky, 30, managed the club Oscar until it was closed in February 2000 when the landlord found out it was a gay establishment.

"He had a head injury, there were knife-shape burns on his body, and his hands and legs were tied with adhesive tape," reported Edvard Tarlet-

The new Liberal government in British Columbia has dropped out as a plaintiff in a lawsuit seeking legalization of same-sex marriage. The case argues that Canada's ban on gay marriage violates the nation's bill of rights, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The former New Democratic Party government launched the suit against federal law a year ago. It later was combined with two other same-sex marriage cases, which will proceed to trial.

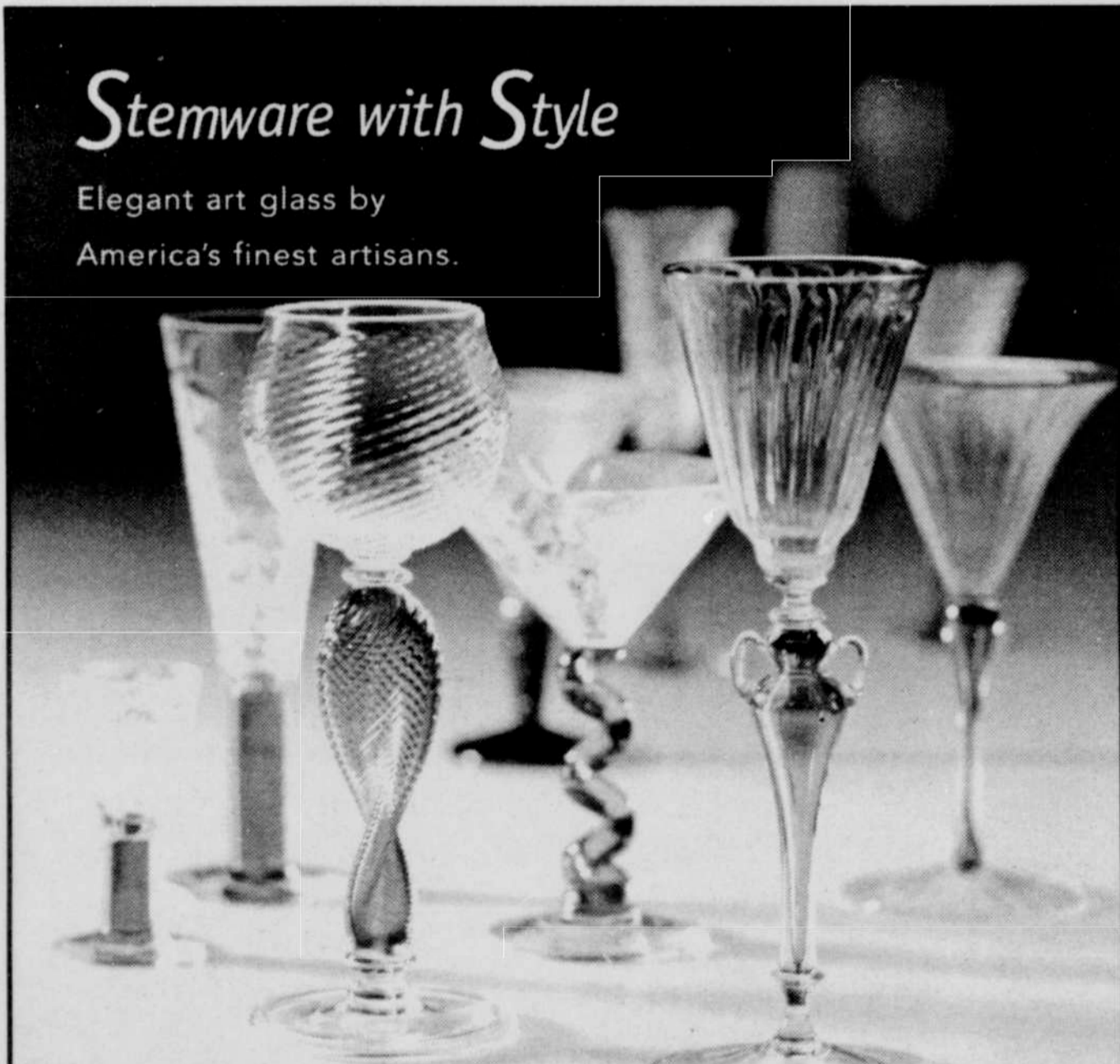
"Why pick this fight with the feds?" British Columbia Attorney General Geoff Plant told the Vancouver Sun. "It's not an urgent priority for us in federal-provincial relations. In fact, it's not even on the priority list."

A Supreme Court judge in Nova Scotia struck down the ban on gay adoption July 9.

In a case brought by a lesbian couple, Justice

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