

sky of the Belarusian Sexual Minorities League Lambda. He did not provide any additional proof that the killing was anti-gay in nature.

INDIA

Several employees of the Lucknow AIDS organization Naz Foundation and its affiliated groups were arrested for running gay clubs under the guise of providing HIV services, the *Times of India* reported July 8.

They were charged with propagating and indulging in unnatural sex, a violation of penal code section 377. According to the *Times*, police seized objectionable literature, sex toys, lubricants, videos and membership lists from the organizations' offices, which then were sealed.

Officers made the raid after arresting an alleged call boy who said he was working for a Naz-affiliated group. Employees told the *Times* that the charges are bogus and that Naz and its affiliates are, indeed, AIDS organizations.

UNITED KINGDOM

The man widely expected to succeed George Carey as archbishop of Canterbury says it's wrong for the Anglican church to accept gay couples as parishioners while prohibiting gay priests from having a partner.

Archbishop of Wales the Most Rev. Rowan Williams said: "If the church's mind is that homosexual behavior is intrinsically sinful, then it is intrinsically sinful for everyone. It is that unwillingness to come clean that can't last. It is a contradiction."



Archbishop of Wales Rowan Williams

The police chief in North Yorkshire, England, held a press conference July 20 to showcase his two transsexual officers.

"We want to be quite open about my and the force's attitude to transsexual officers," David Kenworthy said. "We celebrate diversity. Today is about talented people who have gone through change and yet are still giving fantastic service to North Yorkshire police."

An ad for the Caribbean resort chain Sandals has been banned from British television because it does not mention the company's ban on same-sex couples.

The Independent Television Commission called the ad "misleading." Advertisers on British television are required to make clear any significant limitations on what they are offering for sale.

THE PHILIPPINES

Police in Babuio City raided the Coco Banana gay bar in late June and arrested 23 "macho dancers" for working without permits, local media reported.

They were released after management assured the authorities the documents were being processed. The bar has been open only about a month.

The establishment was raided again two days later, this time for not having a business permit. Management again said the documents were being processed, and the bar was allowed to continue operating.

Gay activists accused officers of harassment.

"Why do the police allow girlie bars when they cannot allow any gay bar to operate?" Dane Ducayag asked the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*.

SLOVENIA

About 300 people marched in Ljubljana's first Gay Pride parade July 6, passing by a downtown bar that allegedly denied two gay men entrance based on their sexual orientation recently.

They carried signs reading, "We want marriage," "Silence = Death," "Slovenia—A Vatican banana republic" and "Politics bugger us." The marchers stopped in front of City Hall and chanted the mayor's name, rallied at the downtown plaza Preseren Square and wrapped up with a party at the Metelkova culture complex.

SERBIA

About 76 percent of Serbs say homosexuals are "sick," and 48 percent would refuse to have contact with a homosexual, a Factor poll published July 9 in the *Politika* newspaper found.

A total of 1,500 people were surveyed. About 54 percent said homosexuals need medical treatment, 14.5 percent said homosexuality should be illegal, and 10 percent said homosexuals should be locked up. About 87 percent said they do not know any homosexuals.

Belgrade's first Gay Pride march was attacked by hundreds of thugs from ultra-nationalist youth organizations, skinhead groups and "soccer clubs" June 30. They kicked and beat the marchers and chanted, "Death to homosexuals." Dozens of people were injured.

Police fired pistols in the air to chase the hooligans from the city's central square. More than 30 people were arrested.

INTERNATIONAL

The International Lesbian and Gay Association will hold its Global Gay Summit from Aug. 24 to Sept. 3 in Oakland, Calif. Delegates are expected to attend from more than 50 nations.

Daylong preconferences will cover men's issues, women's issues, religion and "racism and globalization [and] its impact on the GLBT community." The summit itself offers tracks on lesbian health, interorganizational cooperation and issues in developing countries along with workshops on AIDS, aging, classism, globalization and trans issues.

The summit coincides with the East Bay Pride festivities, which culminate with a Mardi Gras celebration Sept. 2. To register call 510-663-3980, e-mail ilgaokland2001@aol.com or visit www.ebpride.org/home.html.

ILGA-Europe is staging its regional conference Oct. 24 to 28 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. "The highlight of the conference will be a one-day special session devoted to the question of the legal recognition of same-sex partnerships, in celebration of the new Dutch marriage laws," organizers said. **J**

Compiled by REX WOCKNER, who has reported for the gay press since 1985. He has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Drake University and started his career as a radio reporter.

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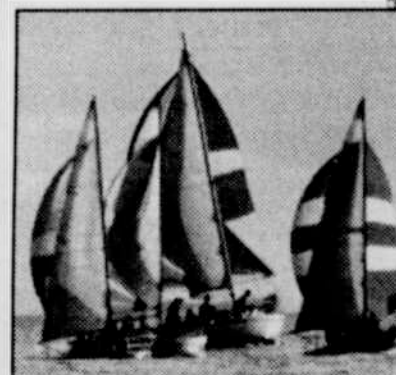
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