

just out

The IN publication for the OUT population

FOUNDED 1983 • JAY BROWN AND RENÉE LACHANCE
Vol. 19 No. 5 January 4, 2002

FEATURE

WHAT'S IN YOUR STARS?: Meet some wizards (and one saint) who could tell you
p 22

NEWS

NORTHWEST • Lesbian mom wants to protect students; minister and partner celebrate holy union; campus coalition formed
pp 7-17

NATIONAL • Shame on Winn-Dixie; Larry Kramer gets a new liver
pp 18-19

WORLD • Irish, British cops open their minds
pp 20-21

CULTURE

MUSIC • Singer/guitarist Ajay loves music—and Portland
p 32

BOOKS • Gay intellectual Edmund White talks about predecessors Marcel Proust and Jean Genet
p 33

MUSIC • Six strings and a dream: Richard Colombo makes beautiful music
p 34

FILM • See what you've been missing
p 37

BOOKS • Rebecca Walker, daughter of Alice, is investing in new memories and coming to Portland to chat about it
p 39

DIVERSIONS • Blackout Leather wants you; learn ASL at LCP; award nominees golden and gay
p 41

COLUMNS

MS. BEHAVIOR • She comes on too strong; he doesn't come on strong enough
p 31

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARC • He's still not famous
p 42

SPECIAL

EATING OUT • Let someone else cook tonight
pp 35-36

NIGHTSPOTS • Gay-friendly hangouts
p 42

just out is published on the first and third Friday of each month. Copyright © 2002 by Just Out. No part of Just Out may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher.

The submission of written and graphic materials is welcomed. Written material should be typed and double-spaced. Just Out reserves the right to edit for grammar, punctuation, style, liability concerns and length. We will reject or edit articles or advertisements that are offensive, demeaning or may result in legal action.

Letters to the editor should be limited to 500 words. Announcements regarding life transitions (births, deaths, unions, etc.) should be limited to 200 words; photos are welcome. **Deadline for submissions** to the editorial department and for the **Calendar** is the Thursday 15 days before the next publication date. Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns and features are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The **display advertising deadline** is the Monday 12 days before the next publication date.

Classified ads must be received at the Just Out office by 4 p.m. on the Thursday eight days before the next publication date, along with payment. Ads may be placed by telephone or via the Internet with Visa or MasterCard payment.

Ad policy: Just Out reserves the right to reject or edit any advertisement. Compensation for errors in, or cancellation of, advertising will be made with credit toward future advertising. Advertising rates are available upon request.

Distribution policy: Just Out is available free of charge, one copy per person. Just Out is delivered only to authorized distributors. No person may, without prior written permission from Just Out, take more than one copy. Any person who takes more than one copy may be held liable for theft, including but not limited to civil damages and/or criminal prosecution.

Subscriptions are \$22.50 for 12 issues. First Class (in an envelope) is \$40 for 12 issues.

Contact Just Out at P.O. Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400; 503-236-1252, advertising 503-236-1253, fax 503-236-1257; e-mail justout@justout.com. Visit our Internet site at www.justout.com.

COMMENTARY

New year's resolutions

Just Out remains committed to excellence

Welcome, 2002. For many of us, 2001 seemed to be the year that would never end. But end it did, and now we have a fresh new year with which to make new plans, set new goals and make another run at it.

At Just Out we are excited about the prospects the new year holds. We recognize that the economy is in a slump and that many of our advertisers, readers and business partners are hurting as a result. Knowing this, we are taking steps to ensure Just Out continues to provide excellent economic value for our business partners and the finest content for our readers.

On the business end, I am committed to holding our ad rates firm, with no increase in costs through at least the second quarter of 2002—and longer if possible. We value our advertisers, realize they all have choices as to where they spend their money and are intent on providing the highest value for their dollars.

On another positive note, in addition to holding costs steady we are poised to increase our distribution, especially throughout the core downtown Portland area. Because of the untimely demise of another local paper, we have acquired a supply of bright blue plastic newspaper racks. For the first time in our 19-year history, Just Out will be available at selected outdoor locations.

Unfortunately, this type of increased visibility brings with it the potential for theft, vandalism and misuse of the papers. On this note I am deputizing all of you and asking you to watch over our new outdoor racks. If you see anyone messing with our papers, please feel free to deal with them in any manner considered appropriate—at all times, of course, staying within pre-Ashcroft constitutional guidelines.

Along with price freezing and increased circulation comes a renewed commitment to maintaining and continually improving the quality of the writing in Just Out. One goal we have established is to provide more consistent and detailed coverage of sports groups and events within our community. Considering all of the people who are bowling, batting, skating, volleying, cruising, hiking, canoeing, cycling, serving and cueing up, I think we can surely find plenty to write about. If you have ideas about sports coverage, please contact Culture Editor Lisa Bradshaw at lisa@justout.com.

Finally, to keep us focused on our main product I have decided to discontinue publication of the Just Out Pocketbook. For 15 years it filled a marketing niche and was a valuable resource to the community.

The phone numbers and directory information contained within

the Pocketbook live on in the OutReach section of every issue, and virtually all of those who advertised in it can be found in the twice-monthly pages of Just Out. Business owners have higher expectations of the product in which they place their ads, and directories are becoming an increasingly passive tool in a rapidly aggressive and technologically advancing market.

Our commitment to Just Out business partners is to surround their ads with superior writing and fresh content and to provide a readership that is automatically exposed to their messages. Directories no longer keep pace with their needs, and we recognize and accept the necessity for change to remain competitive.

Energy that went into the Pocketbook will be better served by promoting Just Out and eventually establishing an increased Internet presence. So, with some sadness—and, yes, some relief—we say goodbye to the Just Out Pocketbook.

Aside from advertising and content, Just Out renews annually its pledge to be a force in the community by sponsoring activities and again forming partnerships with organizations. Understandably, we never will be all things to all people, but we are dedicated to establishing and preserving

a sense of cohesiveness for our gay, lesbian, bi and trans readers. Partnerships of all types form bonds that strength the fiber of the entire community.

One of my favorite goals is to become "matchmaker diva" for all of our single readers. The Just Friends Voice Personal Ads have shown good growth in the three years since their inception, but we always, always, always need more.

So again for 2002 I will continue to schedule singles parties. They're a great way to meet people, have fun and help Just Out all at the same time.

In our Jan. 18 issue look for details on the next party. I don't know the when and where yet, but I can tell you it will be centered around everyone's favorite February holiday, that all-American day of joy and laughter for singles everywhere.

Yup, you guessed it, we're having a President's Day Singles Party. Who needs Cupid when we've got the likes of Millard Fillmore, James K. Polk and Grover Cleveland?

Yes, Oregon is in a business recession, the nation is at war, and AIDS still has no cure. While waiting for the solutions to all of these problems, you can count on Just Out to be there for you. We have been for more than 18 years—and we will be for many more. ☐

For the first time in our 19-year history, Just Out will be available at selected outdoor locations

REFLECTIONS

10 years ago in just out...

VOL. 9 NO. 3, JANUARY 1992



- The first Russian gay biker club has formed, reports *Out* of Pittsburgh. The eight members of Cossacks MC wear studded leather jackets, tight jeans and high-top biker boots. But there's a problem: The group has only one motorcycle, a vintage World War II Harley Davidson, for which they have no battery.
- The U.S. military's ban on gays is proper because gays get AIDS and because gay and lesbian soldiers would view straight soldiers as "sexual objects," a federal judge ruled Dec. 9. The odd ruling came in the widely publicized case of Midshipman Joseph Steffan, who was forced to resign from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1987 after acknowledging he is gay.
- Republican presidential candidate David Duke, the ex-Ku Klux Klansman and failed candidate for Louisiana governor, says that "the gay lifestyle" is bad for the United States and that he's tired of seeing it promoted in the media.
- Oberlin College in Ohio has become the first college ever to sponsor a reunion of gay, lesbian and bisexual graduates. Musica Femina, a

duo from Portland, was part of the official entertainment for the event. Flutist Kristan Aspen is a 1970 graduate of Oberlin.

• The Portland chapter of the Salvation Army was bombarded with phone calls protesting its alleged support of the Oregon Citizens Alliance's anti-gay ballot initiatives. It received so much response, it issued a press release denying the charge.

• Queer Nation members held a protest Dec. 15 at Portland's Foursquare Church. Nearly 20 demonstrators wore pink gags around their mouths and donned pro-gay and anti-Oregon Citizens Alliance stickers as they sat in the front rows during Sunday morning services. They were protesting the church's connections to the OCA.

• Pomo Afro Homos (Post-Modern African American Homosexuals) will be in Portland and Eugene with their show *Fierce Love: Stories from Black Gay Life*.

• Bridges, Portland's lesbian and gay choral ensemble, will perform the musical revue *Myth America*, which honors and pokes fun at the mythical aspects of gay and lesbian culture in the United States.

PUBLISHER AND MANAGING EDITOR • Marty Davis

NEWS EDITOR • Jim Radosta

CULTURE EDITOR • Lisa Bradshaw

CONTRIBUTORS • Marc Acito, Meryl Cohn,

Oriana Green, Heather Hybarger, Andy Mangels, Christopher McQuain, Andrew Preis, Hadley Scott, Tom Stevenson, Jack Turteltaub,

Rex Wockner

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR • Meg Grace

ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES • Markie Acevedo,

Larry Lewis

NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE • Rivendell

Marketing Company Inc., 212-242-6863

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR • Kevin Moore

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT • Melissa Saylor

OFFICE MANAGER • Melissa Saylor

DISTRIBUTION • Ian Drake, Rick Geiger,

Kelly Keigwin, Bonita Mattinson,

Merid Schwartz, Becky Warner,

Melissa Weigand, Carla Wright