

2002

The year saw many small steps and consolidation of social and legal gains for the sexual minorities community across the country. While there were disappointments, there were no serious setbacks.

Wrapping up the year was an early Christmas present: The New York Legislature passed a nondiscrimination bill Dec. 17, ending a 30-year struggle and making it the 13th state to offer such basic protections to its citizens.



Joseph O'Neill

Joseph O'Neill, a physician and acknowledged master of federal AIDS programs.

Mary Matalin is perhaps the sexual minorities community's most influential ally within the White House. Unfortunately, she announced she is stepping down from her position as special assistant to Vice President Dick Cheney at the end of the year.

In June, Bush signed the Mychal Judge Act, making it easier for survivors of public safety officers killed in the line of duty to collect a \$250,000 federal death benefit. The measure was named after the gay priest killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the World

A Year of Political Normalization

The movement made little headway in 2002 but suffered no serious setbacks

by Bob Roehr

Trade Center. It is believed to be the first time the survivor of a same-sex partnership has become eligible to receive a federal benefit.

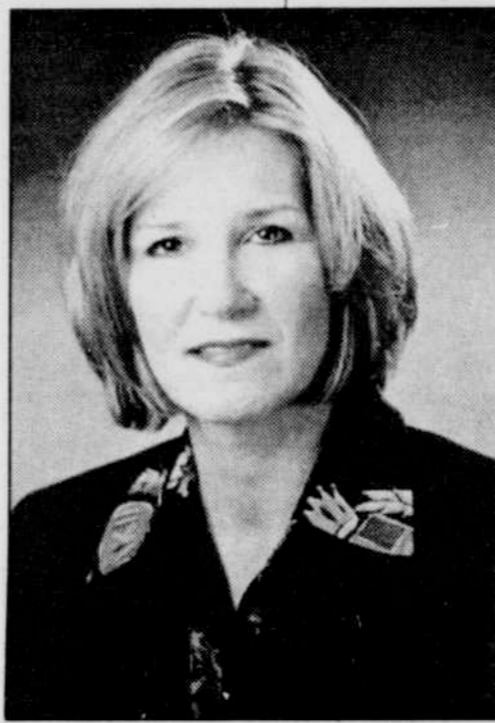
New leaders at the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Food and Drug Administration have impressed members of the community as being extremely competent and prepared to deal with their concerns in a fair manner. But administration support for "abstinence-only" sex education, the disappearance of information on condoms at the CDC Web site and audits of AIDS organizations have fueled fears that social conservatives are calling the shots on these issues.

The Pentagon's anti-gay policy known as

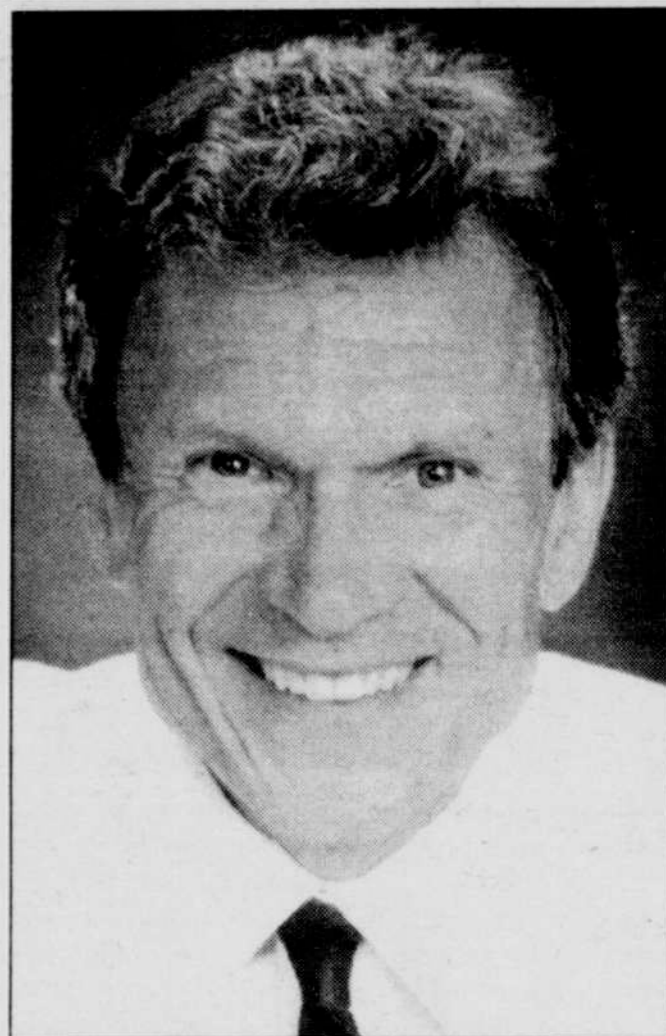
"don't ask, don't tell" remains all too much in effect. The latest round of expulsions of Arabic speakers—despite the military's anticipated war on Iraq and the fight against terrorism—has growing numbers of U.S. citizens saying the policy just does not help promote national security.

Congress passed no pro-gay legislation; it didn't even vote on hate crimes or employment nondiscrimination legislation, despite a pledge by Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., to do so. He did try a parliamentary maneuver in June to bring up the former, but his tactics so incensed Republicans that even co-sponsors said no to the procedural vote.

Gridlock on 11 of 13 appropriations bills meant no opportunity to attach the measures as amendments. The



Sadly, queer-friendly Republican Mary Matalin is leaving the White House



Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., broke his promise to hold votes on hate crimes and employment nondiscrimination legislation

good news was that it also denied social conservatives a similar opportunity with their anti-gay amendments. Perhaps that only was deferred until January, when Congress returns to wrap up the spending bills.

Gay political nemesis Jesse Helms, R-N.C., retired from the Senate, while ally Paul Well-



Refinance Now!

Lowest refinance rates in years!

First time buyers

0 and low down payment options
Call me for a free consultation

Russell Leggroan • 503-249-0843 • northstarmortgage@qwest.net
Northstar Mortgage • 4320 NE Halsey, Suite 123

WANT TO PARTY? LET US DRIVE!

MENTION JUST OUT FOR A 10% DISCOUNT

Arrive in Style



LIMOUSINE & TOWN CAR SERVICE

503-793-1775



Safe Schools for All!

Do you want to make a difference in schools?
We're looking for volunteers.
Call & find out how you can promote change.



GLSEN
Oregon
Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network

www.glsenOregon.org
503-525-1177



3630 SE Division • 503 230-2522

statuary,
decor,
art,
garden,
rugs,
candles



**EXPENSIVE...NO HASSLE...NO
HUGE...NO HOOPLA...YES**

[THERE'S NO REASON NOT TO OWN ONE.]

Oregon HotSpring Spas
Your Home Oasis

CLACKAMAS
16112 SE 82ND DR.
(503)650-8242

VANCOUVER
14415 SE MILL PLAIN BLVD.
(360)892-5905

SALEM
3966 SILVERTON RD NE
(503)363-4000

BEND
61249 SOUTH HWY. 97
(541)388-0905

BEAVERTON
10367 SW CANYON RD.
(503)643-5002