

WORLD news

BEYOND THE CLOSET WORKSHOP

"COMING OUT POWERFULLY"

This 2 day workshop is a safe, supportive and nurturing environment designed for men who are ready to begin the journey of coming out. Enhance your feelings of self worth and self esteem. Improve your relationships with family, friends & coworkers. Function powerfully as a whole and complete human being.

Choose from two weekend workshops:

MARCH 1ST & 2ND
APRIL 5TH & 6TH

for details contact:

ERIC PAUL - Life Coach
503-288-6049
ericmpaul@earthlink.net



Connecting Portland to the World since 1985
Portland's oldest locally owned ISP!

Internet access - dialup & high speed DSL
Web hosting Unix shell access
Spam filtering Static IP addresses

Affordable: \$5-15/mo dialup, \$20 DSL

Visit www.rdrop.com or dial in for details!
56K/ISDN access and signup: 503-972-0365

You can even connect to a real live human at: 503-574-4195
Gay owned and operated

WESTOVER HEIGHTS
C L I N I C

Offering general internal medicine and excelling in sexual health care

Serving the community for 17 years

2330 NW Flanders
Suite 207
503-226-6678



Michael Paduano

As a native Seattle resident, I have a full understanding of your Sunshine needs. Allow me the opportunity to reveal the beauty, warmth and value of Palm Springs and the entire Coachella Valley. View my listings at www.michaelpaduano.com. Email mpaduano@winderemere.com

850 N Palm Canyon Drive
Palm Springs CA 92262
760/831-3761
or 877/718-5600 ext 113



Winderemere
Coachella Valley

ITALY
The L'Aquila City Council voted Jan. 15 to restore the grave of pioneering gay activist Karl Heinrich Ulrichs.



Karl Heinrich Ulrichs

The proposal was put forth by Councilor Antonio Di Giandomenico, who called the grave site a "national treasure and part of the national heritage." The broken gravestone will be pieced back together, cleaned and placed atop a new granite slab.

Ulrichs was the first person known to have written publicly in defense of gays, in two tracts published in 1864—*Inclusa* and *Vindex: Social and Legal Studies on Man-Manly Love*.

On Aug. 28, 1867, Ulrichs gave what has been called the first public gay rights speech, addressing the Congress of German Jurists in Munich urging repeal of all anti-gay laws. He was shouted down.

Ulrichs later emigrated from Germany to Italy. He died in 1895 and was buried among the family plots of his close friend Niccolo Persichetti.

SOUTH AFRICA

Ten male sex workers were shot in the head during an attack on a Cape Town gay massage parlor and escort service Jan. 20. Nine have died.

Police believe the killings are connected to gangs and drugs, but investigators have been urged not to dismiss the possibility of a hate crime. "We have been very concerned about threats issued by various fringe groups in society over recent months that indicated an intention to perpetrate acts of violence against lesbian and gay people," said Evert Knoesen of the Lesbian and Gay Equality Project.

The victims were tied up and shot at close range, and their throats were slit. Six died on the spot, and three died later in hospitals.

Police want to question four white men who were driving an old white three-series BMW with Johannesburg plates.

According to the South African Press Association, one of the men has a tattoo of a curled-up snake on his upper arm and the words "fast gun" tattooed on his right wrist. He has bleached reddish hair and a goatee.

The second man is skinny and fair and sniffs frequently. The third man has a weight lifter build and a shaved head. The fourth man also was described as well-built.

The massage parlor, Sizzlers, is located in Cape Town's Sea Point neighborhood. South Africa is one of the world's most violent nations, averaging 55 murders and 137 rapes a day.

South Africa's Constitutional Court will decide Feb. 27 whether a lesbian couple who are the biological mothers of twins both will be legally recognized as their parents.

One of the women was implanted with the other woman's eggs after they were fertilized by sperm from an anonymous donor. The Department of Home Affairs refused to register both women as parents.

The women sued, and the Durban High Court ruled in their favor. Now the Constitutional Court must confirm that the High Court ruling is not unconstitutional.

MALTA

The Malta Gay Rights Movement finally has an office, activists reported Jan. 21.

It will serve as the base for educational, support and lobbying activities, including a help line and support groups. The office needs furniture, rugs, office supplies, a fax machine and a computer that can access the Internet.

Malta, population 398,000, is in the Medi-

terranean Sea south of Sicily. It gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1964, remains in the Commonwealth and is seeking membership in the European Union.

THE PHILIPPINES

Filipino gay groups denounced the Catholic Church on Jan. 23 after they were excluded from the World Meeting of Families in Manila.

They also decried comments made at the conference by Filipino Cardinal Jaime Sin. He said proponents of gay marriage are endangering family values.

"It would have been only OK if they had only excluded us," Oscar Atadero, spokesman for ProGay Philippines, told Agence France-Presse. "But the church cannot leave well enough alone and is attacking homosexuals as against the family, which is not true."



Cardinal Jaime Sin's comments caused outrage in the Philippines

COLOMBIA

The lead sponsor of Colombia's civil unions bill says she survived an assassination attempt Jan. 20 in Medellín.

"When I was stepping out of my car, four men on two motorcycles shot at us, but fortunately, we were able to survive after my driver was able to run over one of the assailants," Sen. Piedad Córdoba said. She told local media she is a target because she fights for gay, black and indigenous people and is a vocal opponent of President Álvaro Uribe Vélez.

"This is a way to silence the opposition," she said. "Those of us who are against the president are automatically accused of being guerrillas. I have even had insults shouted at me in airports."

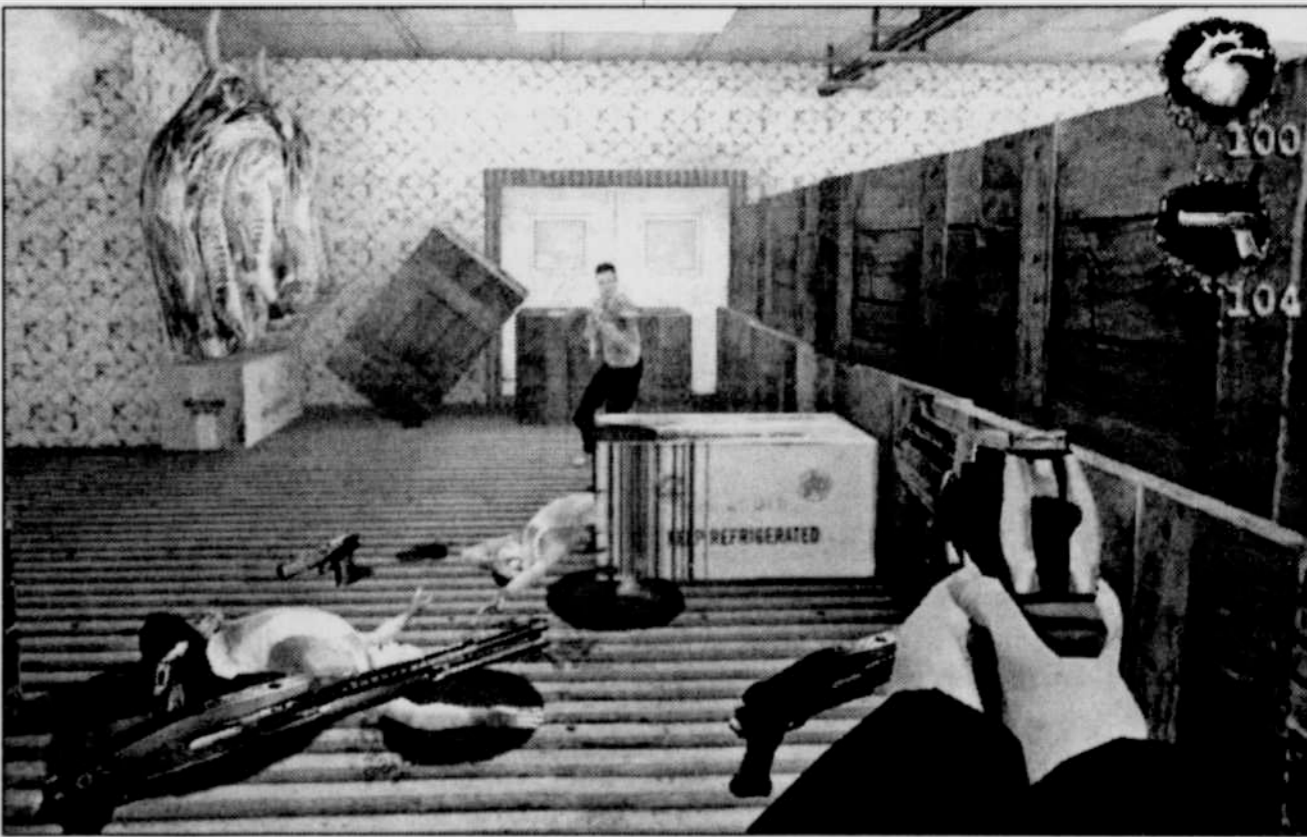
In 1999, Córdoba was held hostage for 15 days by Carlos Castaño of the right-wing United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, after which she spent time in exile in Canada.

THE NETHERLANDS

The publisher of the Dutch newspaper *De Gay Krant* is working to ban import of the video game *Postal 2* because it allows players to shoot dogs, cats, junkies and homosexuals.

"It is disgusting. In the Netherlands we have anti-discrimination laws" that protect gays, said Henk Krol, who has asked Parliament to outlaw the game.

According to Vince Desi of Running with Scissors, the U.S. company that makes *Postal 2*,



The video game *Postal 2* allows players to shoot dogs, cats, junkies and homosexuals

"It's definitely not anti-gay." He said that no points are scored for shooting people and that the game can be played without shooting anyone.

"It's a game," Desi told Reuters. "Get over it."

EGYPT

Egyptian police are entrapping gay men who place online ads or create Web sites looking for love or sex, Agence France-Presse reported Jan. 9.

In the most recent case, a 30-year-old hotel

worker who set up a Web page was lured to a meeting and arrested by undercover cops who had posed as a paramour. In December, a gay dentist was nabbed in the same manner.

On Jan. 25, the second trial resumed in the cases of 50 men who were arrested in May 2001 at a gay discotheque and elsewhere in Cairo and charged with the habitual practice of debauchery.

In an earlier trial, some of the men were convicted and others were acquitted. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak later declared that trial invalid, saying it had taken place in the wrong kind of court.

Since the 2001 arrests, gay groups, Amnesty International, the United Nations and other human rights defenders have accused Egyptian officialdom of an array of anti-gay abuses including witch hunts, entrapment, arbitrary arrest, lengthy imprisonment without trial and torture.

AUSTRALIA

The board of Sydney's Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade reversed itself Jan. 6 and inserted "Gay and Lesbian" back into the parade's name.

"Given that the change of name had provoked such a strong response from members of the community, the board decided to revisit this decision and respond to community opinion," New Mardi Gras co-chairman Michael Woodhouse told the *Sydney Star Observer*.