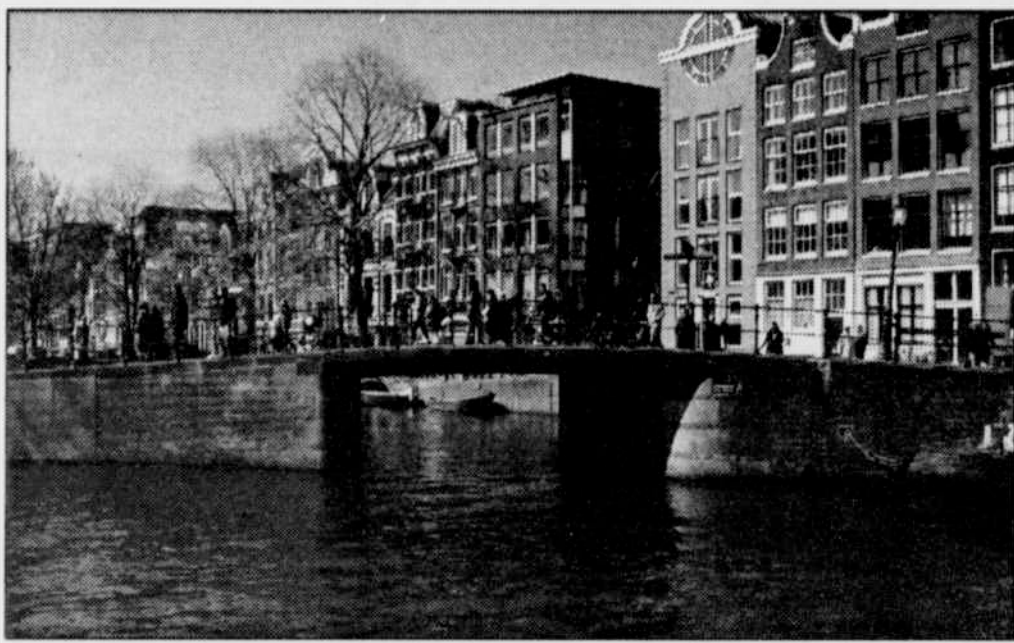


la's spaceship. Pink shag walls, disco lights and all-chrome bar," he says.

In Amsterdam, young, smartly dressed Europeans fly on old bicycles through the streets talking on cell phones. Schroeder always takes visiting friends to experience the city's winding canals and "anything goes" attitude, including legalized marijuana and prostitution.



Amsterdam names canals with one-way streets on each side, making it best to tackle on foot or bike

English speakers abound in Amsterdam, making it a great first stop. Americans are welcomed with curiosity, since the often-boorish British come here in droves. For centuries this city has been welcoming foreigners, so expect hospitality, but not friendliness.

Hotel ITC, one of many gay accommodations, gives insight to quirky Dutch architecture. With clusters of gay areas all over the city center, Amsterdam boasts more than 70 gay bars and an underwhelming monument to the homosexuals murdered in the Holocaust. One of the best clubs is Exit, with four floors and six areas with different moods.

Off the radar for Americans are two other great destinations: Brussels, Belgium, and Montpellier, France.

Brussels is one part Paris, two parts Amsterdam. The nation is split 50/50 between French

and Flemish speakers, so English is often the compromise. Money and tourism are just starting to creep into this new capital of the European Union.

Montpellier, on the other hand, is mostly a summer destination. Europe's gays besiege this ancient Roman outpost near the Mediterranean annually. Montpellier's historic Roman aqueducts contrast with the modern light rail system, which can take you on a short trip to the beach. Numerous gay venues dot the quaint city center, such as Café de la Mer, which is a great spot to relax during the day. At night, try the amazing La Ville Rouge, just outside town. Pounding, intense music on three dance floors can keep you up all night. **J**

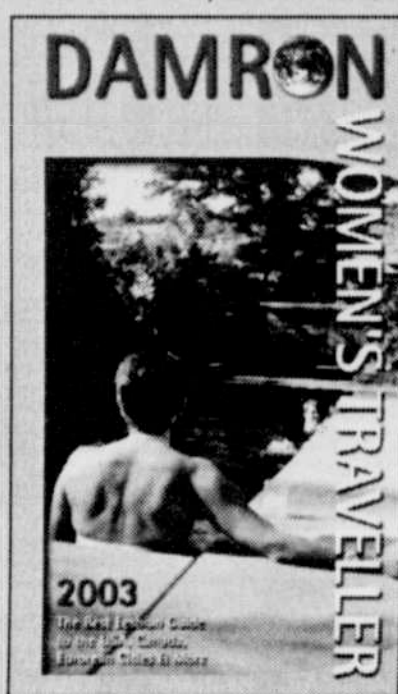
TIM JOYCE is a free-lance writer and a news anchor for KMTR-TV in Eugene.

Guiding lights

Travel resources for queers

BY FLOYD SKLAVER

Making travel plans can be overwhelming, but an abundance of resources are available to help. Start with the *Damron Guides*. Both the men's and women's editions contain the usual information on hotels, restaurants, nightclubs, gyms and shopping. Additionally, the *Men's Travel Guide* lists gay tours and tour operators, film festivals, retreats and a complete circuit party guide. The *Women's Traveller* includes women's music festivals, tours and cruise operators,



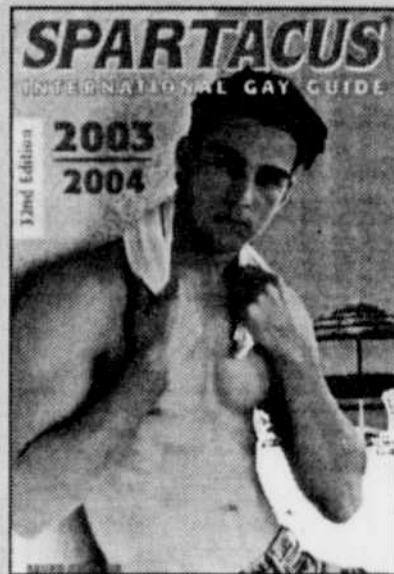
spiritual gatherings and lesbian camping spots.

For international travel, choose the *Spartacus Guide*, with more than 22,000 addresses covering all areas of gay life around the world. For 30 years, *Spartacus* has been a trusted com-

panion to international gay travelers looking to make the most of their journeys.

If you prefer the computer to the bookstore, type "gay travel" into Google and 94,700 results come up (which is 94,692 more than I can handle). Some useful ones are PurpleRoofs.com, where you can locate accommodations around the world. If you are interested in exchanging homes with someone for a vacation, check out GayHomeTrade.com. You can also arrange a hospitality exchange, where you play host to a traveler at your home during their vacation and they reciprocate during yours.

Campers should visit CampGayUSA.com for a detailed listing of gay and lesbian campsites and RV parks across the United States, while travelers to Europe will want to visit GayMap.info for general info. **J**



Palm Springs
In the Heart of Warm Sands

SUMMER SPECIAL
Book One Night
Get 2nd Night Free
Weekdays, Some Restrictions
June 15 - September 15

INNdulge
PALM SPRINGS

"to pamper, pleasure, or gratify oneself"
24 poolside rooms
Continental breakfast
24 hour pool & Jacuzzi • Gym on site
NEW Guest Internet Station
FOR ADVENTUROUS GAY MEN



CLOTHING IS FOREVER OPTIONAL
800.833.5675 • 760.327.1408
www.inndulge.com
601 Grentall Road (at Paracela)
Palm Springs, CA 92264

detours
A Travel Shoppe
Different Roads • New Views
(formerly Lloyd Travel)
Olivia Kids & Family
Sandpiper Club Med Florida
October 25-November 1, 2003
RSVP Peruvian Wonders
October 4-12, 2003
Call us for details on these and other unique adventures.
Subject to availability.
503-674-5145
1475 NE Village St. • Fairview, OR

MEMORIAL DAY UNIFORM/MILITARY BALL
MAY 23, 24 & 25, 2003
Bender Creek Wants You!
Gay & Lesbian Campground
May 23 Meet & Greet
May 24 Uniform/Military Ball
May 25 Country Western
Hoe Down
3 Day Pass
\$20 US Donation
Camping Fees Extra
for details
www.camptrc.org
Triangle Recreation Camp
Limited membership \$15 per night
Regular membership \$150 per year (unlimited camping)

Long Beach Peninsula

Anthony's Home Court

Gay owned.
Located a short walk from downtown and the beach.
Seven uniquely decorated cabins in a friendly setting.

Visit us on the Web at www.anthonyshomecourt.com **OR** Call Toll-free 1-888-787-2754

"REEL WOMEN" Fly Fishing 101 Seminars
May 16-18 • June 17-20 • July 11-13 • Sept 26-27

Lodging for 2 nights on the Metolius River in Sisters
1-1/2 Day Flyfish Seminar & Hands-On Instruction
Reduced rate for non-fishing partner (\$95)
Equipment provided
Meals **\$170pp**
Class sizes are limited we recommend early reservations

For information & reservations
Call "Cee"
toll free 1-866-752-9822
email: cee@playtimevacations.com