

WORLDnews

RUSSIA

The Russian Orthodox Church cut ties Nov. 17 with the U.S. Episcopal Church because of the Diocese of New Hampshire's recent consecration of an openly gay man, Gene Robinson, as bishop.

"We will not be able to cooperate with these people in the realm of theological dialogue or in humanitarian, religious and public spheres," said the Moscow Patriarchy's foreign church relations department. "We have no right to allow even a particle of agreement with their position, which we consider to be profoundly anti-Christian and blasphemous."

"Homosexuality is a sin, which separates man from God," the statement continued. "The church does not deny help to those unfortunate people who are possessed with this ailment.... However, the church cannot approve of the perversion of human nature created by the creator himself. The church cannot bless the distortion of the image of God."

Anglican churches in several African nations also have cut or reduced ties with the U.S. church or the New Hampshire diocese.



Greek activists demonstrate Nov. 14 in Athens against a \$117,000 fine imposed on a television station for screening a show featuring two men kissing

GREECE

Greece's Mega Channel has been fined \$117,000 by the National Radio and Television Council for showing a male-male kiss on the weekly drama *Close Your Eyes*. The council said the scene "could damage young people by making them too familiar with vulgarity."

Mega plans to challenge the fine in court. About 35 gays and transvestites staged a kiss-in Nov. 14 on the steps of the council's Athens headquarters to protest the fine.

UNITED KINGDOM

A female member of the Royal Air Force who married a woman last month in the Canadian province of Ontario, where same-sex marriage is allowed, has been denied access to married military quarters in Oxfordshire, England, because such unions are not recognized in the United Kingdom.

Senior Aircraftwoman Samantha Wyatt, 26, met her wife, massage therapist Christa McKay, 25, during a Royal Air Force posting in Canada.

"I think the [Ministry of Defense] are being totally unfair," Wyatt told the British Broadcasting Corp. "Gays are allowed to be in the military now—why can't they recognize same-sex marriages?"

A ministry spokesman explained: "Gay marriages are not recognized within the U.K.; there-

fore, those individuals are not eligible for married quarters. The [Ministry of Defense] is looking at this for the future, but at the moment that is the situation."

The United Kingdom lifted its military gay ban in early 2000.

FRANCE

The man who stabbed and seriously wounded openly gay Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoë last year probably will not face trial because psychiatrists repeatedly have deemed him mentally unstable and not responsible for his actions, *The Advocate* reported.

The charges against Azedine Berkane likely will be dismissed, and he will be committed to a mental institution. However, Delanoë still could insist that Berkane undergo a fourth round of psychiatric testing.

Berkane stabbed Delanoë during a party Oct. 6, 2002, at City Hall because he dislikes homosexuals and politicians, he said. Delanoë spent two weeks in the hospital and underwent surgery to repair internal organs.

BARBADOS

According to a phone-in poll conducted by Barbados' *Daily Nation* newspaper, 616 of 667 callers rejected the government's desire to decriminalize homosexuality to help slow HIV transmission. "Buggery" is punishable with up to life in prison.

The majority of those opposed to the change, 295 callers, said they were Pentecostal Christians. Another 123 callers identified as "Christian."

ZIMBABWE

Canaan Banana, the former leader of Zimbabwe who was outed and imprisoned for sodomy, died Nov. 10 at age 67 after a long illness. He was president from 1980 to 1987.

Banana was jailed on 11 charges of sodomy, attempted sodomy and unnatural acts with men in 1997. He was accused of sexually assaulting university students he taught, members of the State House football team, policemen, military officers, cooks, gardeners, aides, a job interviewee and a hitchhiker. He served only eight months of a 10-year sentence.

The ruling ZANU-PF party's Politburo declared Nov. 17 that Banana's body would not be interred in the nation's Heroes' Acre cemetery because he had set a "bad example to youth." Instead, he will be laid to rest at his birthplace near the provincial capital of Bulawayo after a "state-assisted funeral," said Nathan Shamuyarira, Politburo secretary for information and publicity.



Canaan Banana

GERMANY

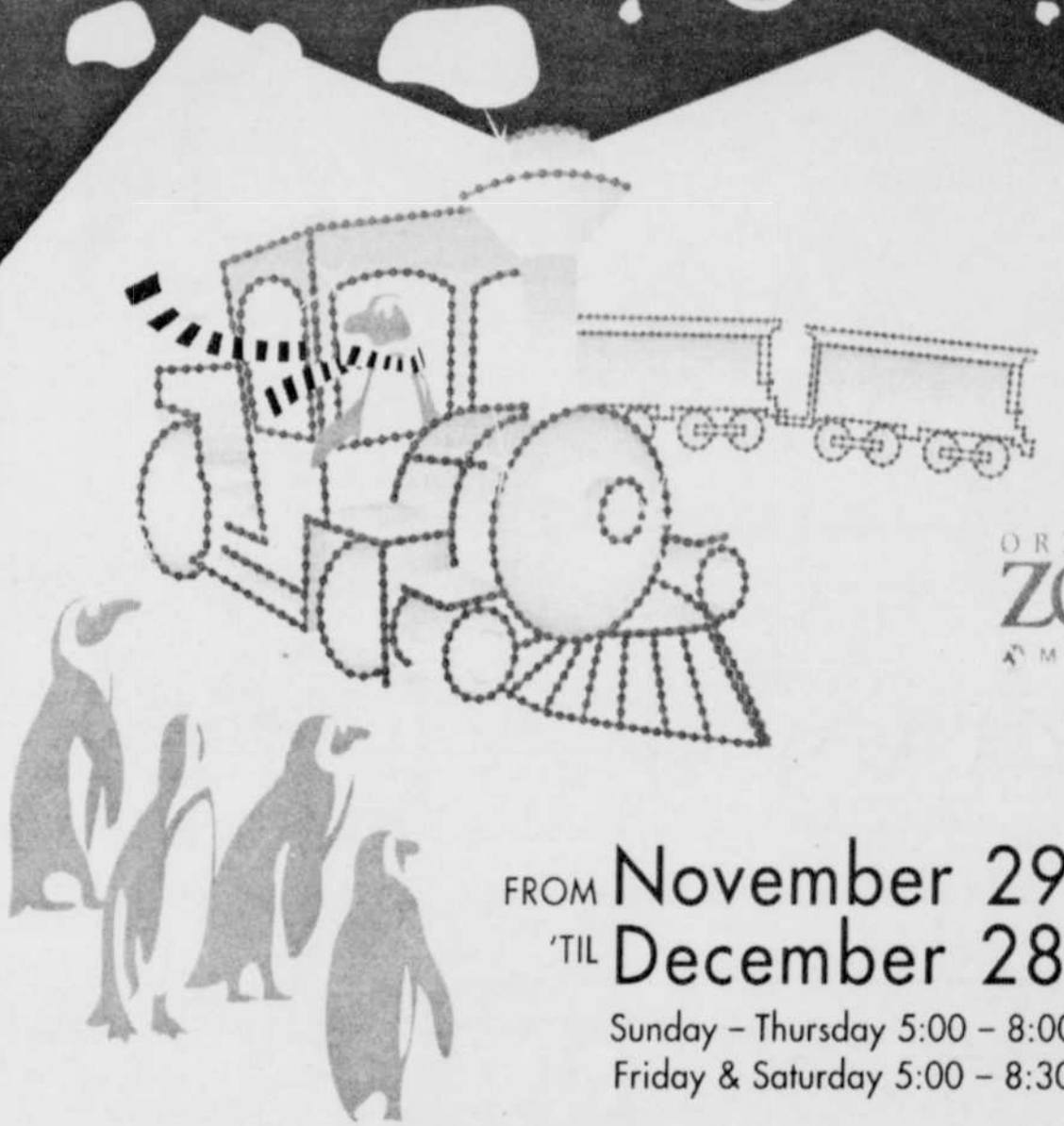
A committee of Germany's Federal Assembly approved Nov. 13 construction of a national memorial to the approximately 15,000 homosexuals sent to concentration camps by the Nazis.

The move was supported by the Social Democrats and the Greens and opposed by the Christian Democrats. It faces a final vote in the full Assembly, where the two supportive parties have a majority. [E]

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.



ZooLights



OREGON ZOO METRO

FROM November 29TH
'TIL December 28TH

Sunday - Thursday 5:00 - 8:00PM
Friday & Saturday 5:00 - 8:30PM

Come see over a half-million magical lights, ride the ZooLights Train, shop at the spectacular artist market and enjoy live performances every night! Make the evening complete with a holiday buffet at the the zoo's Cascade Grill restaurant.

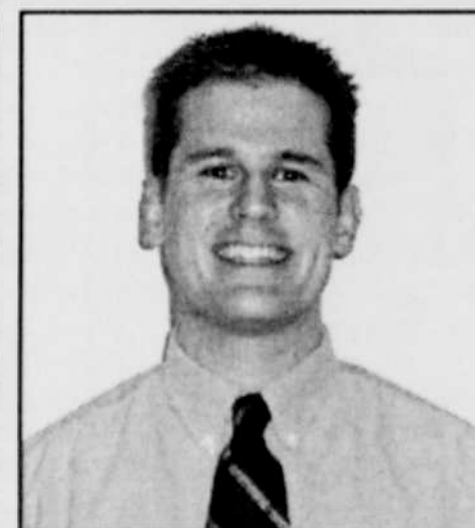
105.9 KEX 1190 KEX K103 102.1 Z101 United Rentals

www.oregonzoo.org • Take MAX to the Zoo! Call 503-238-RIDE for TriMet information.

Experience the thrill ride, running every night during ZooLights

Santa's Late!

SimEx!werks the ride



Don Valerio, MD

Internal Medicine

Fanno Creek Clinic • 2400 SW Vermont • Portland

Sports Injury	Hepatitis Immunization
HIV Testing/Care	Skin Problems
Cancer Screening	Anxiety/Depression
Smoking Cessation	STD Testing
Physical Exams	General Adult Healthcare

Appointments are now available. New patients welcome.
(503) 452-0915

Board Certified. Most insurance plans accepted.