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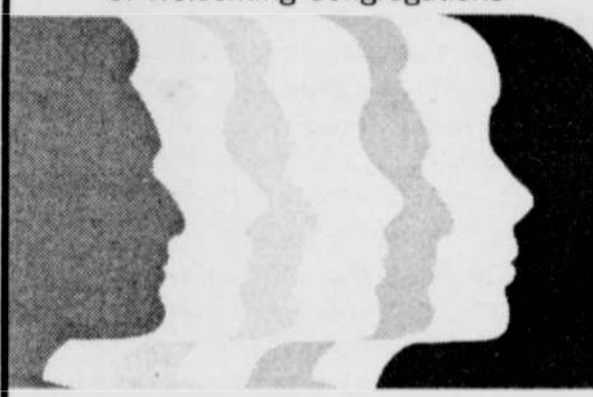
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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

WORLD news



Gay singer Boris Moiseyev allegedly was barred from performing in Dagestan

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the *Gazeta* newspaper reported April 16. The agency allegedly prevented him from renting the Russian Theater, which was to be the show's venue, after local imams objected to him being allowed to enter the Russian republic, which is predominantly Muslim.

"We have canceled the show because Dagestan's Culture Ministry refused to offer us concert space," a Moiseyev spokesman told *Gazeta*. "They said that imams had approached them with requests to keep Moiseyev from entering the country."

For its part, the Culture Ministry claimed the cancellation had nothing to do with imams but rather with "organizational problems." Deputy Culture Minister Zaripat Salakhbekova said, "If they canceled the concert, then they had their own reasons to do so."

NEW ZEALAND

A New Zealand child has three parents following resolution of a court battle between a lesbian couple and an Australian gay couple who donated sperm to them. The unnamed 2-year-old's parents now consist of his biological mother, his biological father and his mother's female partner.

The boy was conceived in Sydney by mutual agreement among the four friends, but they later had a falling-out and the women moved back to New Zealand and denied the men access to the boy. Auckland Family Court Judge Sarah Fleming determined the women's actions were wrong and gave the father joint guardianship and seven days of access to the boy each month.

AUSTRALIA

Younger Australians are much more gay-friendly than older ones, the latest Australian Survey of Social Attitudes has found.

About 65 percent of people younger than 35, and 56 percent of people between 35 and 49, say a same-sex couple with kids is a family. But only 14 percent of people older than 65 agree with that idea.

Half of people between 18 and 34 say same-sex relationships should be legally recognized, but only 19 percent of those older than 65 support the notion. The survey of more than 4,000 Australians was conducted by the Center for Social Research at Australian National University in cooperation with the universities of Queensland, Western Australia and Sydney.

"Younger people seem to recognize the presence of children as defining a family rather than a heterosexual relationship...that's legally sanctioned," investigator Shaun Wilson told *The Australian* newspaper. "The generational differences are very stark."

INTERNATIONAL

The U.N. General Assembly rebelled April 8 against Secretary-General Kofi Annan, urging him to repeal his Feb. 1

directive that extended spousal benefits to gay employees if their relationship is recognized in their home nation. Pushed to act by the Vatican and dozens of Islamic and African nations, the assembly said it is wrong for Annan alone to have redefined what constitutes a family.

The United Nations previously has recognized only marriages between one man and up to four women. Several U.N. member nations accept polygamy.

Saudi Arabia's representative called same-sex marriage a "great evil," according to *The Los Angeles Times*. The Vatican's representative said same-sex unions "subvert" the institutions of marriage and the family.

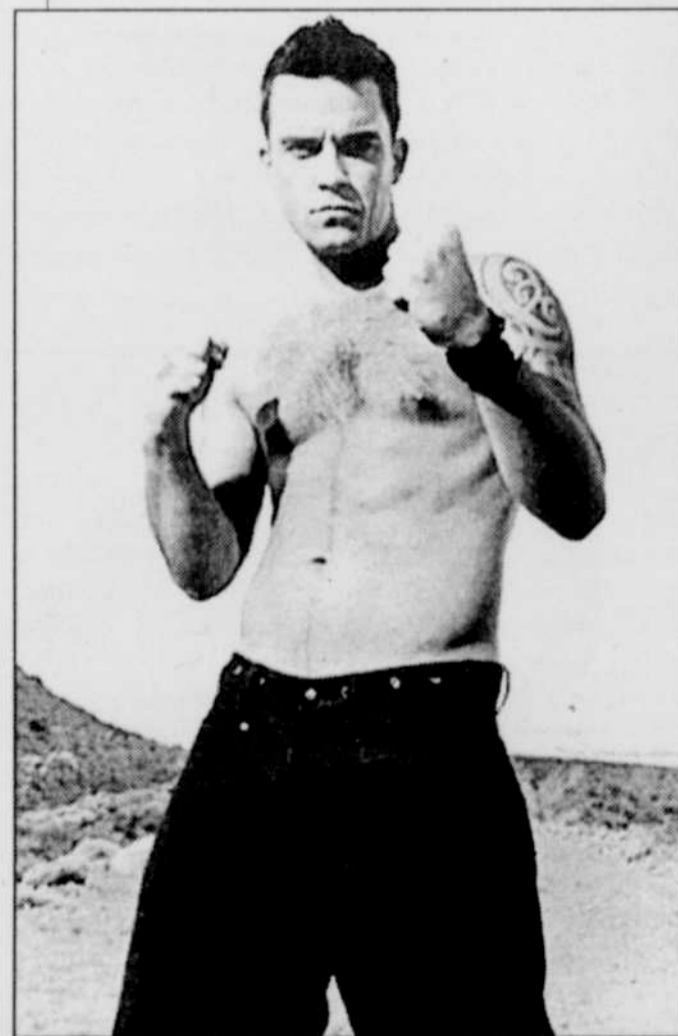
A spokeswoman for Annan said he is not going to change his mind.

UNITED KINGDOM

British pop singer Robbie Williams, 30, is gay, his former manager says.

According to the April 13 edition of *The Daily Mail*, Kevin Kinsella said: "It was clear to me that he is gay. I think Robbie has the same problems as [television entertainer] Michael Barrymore. They know they are gay, they know what they want to do. But they are controlled by parameters which say that you can't come out and say you are gay because it will affect your career and sales, and people may not love you. So what happens is that these demons inside of them come out in drink and drugs."

Kinsella made the remarks in a documentary on Williams' rise to fame with the boy band Take That. Williams' spokesman declined to comment on the reports.



An ex-manager has outed U.K. pop star Robbie Williams