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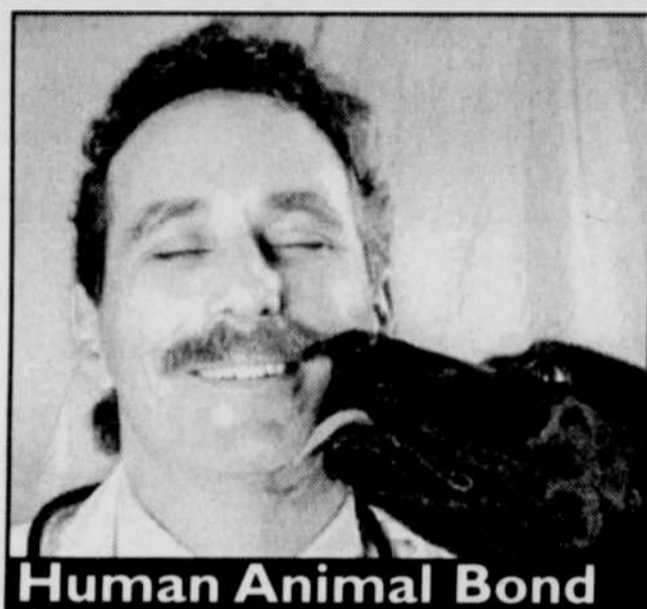
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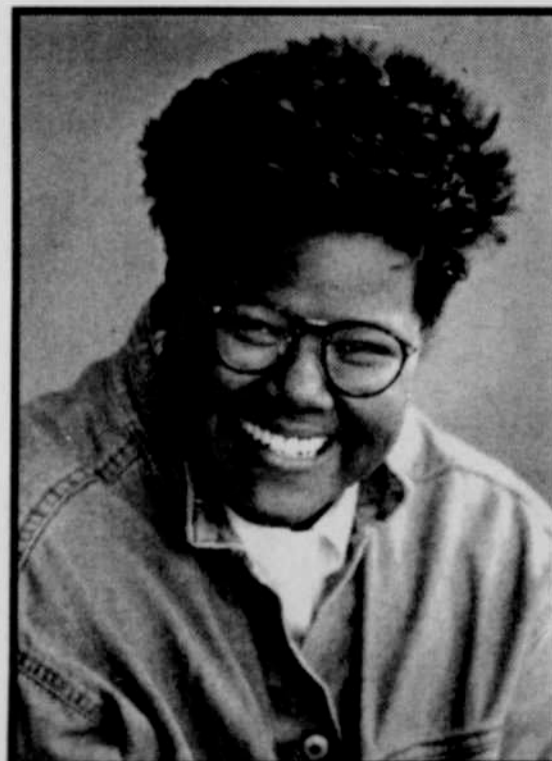
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"make sure people in our community are aware of the need and to give them some information. She says the free event will be "nonpushy."

What is urgent in Seelye's eyes is the importance of thinking about long-term care insurance at an early age. "You've got to get it before you need it," she says.

To register call 503-238-6036.

AIDS CONFERENCE UPDATE

A cable access program will present an update on the XV International AIDS Conference, which was held July 11 to 16 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The taping will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. July 21 at PCM Studios, 2766 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Food will be served from 5:30 to 6:30, the audience will be seated at 6:45, and the program will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

Maria Kosmetatos and Doug Beers will present information from the conference in Thailand and other recent conferences that may influence HIV and hepatitis C treatment. The program is free, but reservations are required.

To RSVP call 503-736-0194 by 9 a.m. July 20.

CUTTING COMMENTARY FROM 'THE EDGE'

The June 22 edition of "The Edge," a daily humor column that runs in *The Oregonian*, made light of an anti-trans hate crime in an item headlined "The Crying Game, Texas Style":

"At a club in Fort Worth, Texas, when a man found out his date was actually a man he pulled out a gun and fired a shot at him, then fired a second shot when his date returned to get his purse and leather pumps. Both shots missed."

Diana Courvant was not amused. She is the co-founder of Survivor Project, a nonprofit organization that addresses the needs of intersex and trans survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

"It is almost impossible to express how offensive this is. *The Oregonian* was promoting

shooting at trans people as funny," Courvant told *Just Out*. "The punch line was even 'Both shots missed.' How can trans people...ever be safe when the people who shoot at us are only criticized when they display bad aim?"

Courvant said she approached the daily newspaper for an apology but has gotten nowhere. "At *The Oregonian*, our murders are still a laughing matter. It begs the question, is *The Oregonian* encouraging hate crimes on purpose?"

RELIGIOUS RIGHT PICKS NEW ENEMY

Prompted by a widely read March 1 article in *Time* magazine, the right-wing Traditional Values Coalition recently issued a news alert attacking intersex activists.

Emi Koyama, director of Intersex Initiative, a Portland-based patient advocacy organization, says the coalition's criticism of a 3-year-old report she co-produced indicates it has no clue what intersex activists are working toward.

Titled "Intersex Activists Push Multiple Gender Theory," the alert states: "The gender confusion movement is now openly promoting the idea that there are more than two sexes. The Intersex Society of North America is leading this effort...ISNA has produced a curriculum for college courses that describes the objective of 'deconstructing' what it means to be male or female."

The curriculum that the coalition referred to is part of "Teaching Intersex Issues," a booklet produced by Koyama and a Portland State University biologist. Contrary to the coalition's claim, however, the main report from the booklet criticizes gender theorists for exploiting intersex existence as a theoretical device to "deconstruct" binary gender categories, arguing

that the focus should be on the real-life experiences of people born with intersex conditions and the social and medical issues they face.

Koyama says the coalition is also wrong to claim that intersex activists are advocating for more than two genders. Activists oppose cosmetic surgeries on intersex children because they are medically unnecessary and harmful to their physical, emotional and sexual functioning; however, they are not advocating that intersex children be raised without a gender.

In addition, the coalition's Web site features a document titled "Exposed: The Claim That Hermaphroditism Is a Sep-



PHOTO BY JIM RAOSTRA

Diana Courvant has accused *The Oregonian* of encouraging anti-trans murders

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