

northwest

National Bigot Registry Created

Locate a bigot like you would a sex offender, with an online registry courtesy of Pacific West-Business Center.

Billing itself as a directory of services in Washington and Oregon, the site is working to construct a page to "out" those who support discriminatory laws and policy.

According to the Web site, "The National Bigot Registry will take the guesswork out of who is the bigot in your area by publishing their name and address as they appear on public referendums, initiatives and in other publications."

The site was inspired by Washingtonian Tim Eyman, who will be the first to appear on the list. Eyman filed a measure to remove sexual orientation from the list of groups protected from discrimination.

Those blacklisted on the registry can be removed by offering a public apology.

For more information visit www.pacificwest467.com

John Ashcroft Speaks at WSU

The minds of Washingtonians will open as former Attorney General John Ashcroft brings his wit and wisdom to Washington

State University Vancouver's fourth annual Public Affairs Distinguished Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. April 12 at Skyview High School, 1300 N.W. 139th St.

Ashcroft is scheduled to speak on "National Security and Civil Liberties in the 21st century."

"Last year, the current chair of the Democratic National Com-

mittee and former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean spoke to a sold-out crowd, and we expect Attorney General Ashcroft to also fill the auditorium," said Carolyn Long, associate professor of political science and director of public affairs at WSU Vancouver. "This topic is tremendously important to all Americans."

Don't miss the warm-up: A panel discussion on balancing national security and civil liberties will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on the WSU Vancouver campus prior to the evening lecture.

"Bringing U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to WSU Vancouver offers our students and community a unique opportunity to hear

about issues of security and civil liberties from one of the most influential policy makers of this decade," said Casey Watters, student body president.

Tickets are available to the public beginning March 1 for \$10 plus fees through TicketsWest. For more information about the lecture series or the panel presentation, contact Long at 360-546-9737 or long@vancouver.wsu.edu.



Frist Drives Wedge with Marriage Ban

On the heels of Valentine's Day, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist announced his plans to vote in early June for a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, a move likely to fail but sure to spark fiery election-year debates, according to reports on CNN.

Frist, a Tennessee Republican, told CNN he doesn't know how many votes the ban will drive, but aides from both parties privately acknowledged the vote will probably fall far short of the 67-vote supermajority needed to advance a constitutional amendment.

When the Senate last voted on the issue in July 2004, a procedural motion to consider the ban received 48 votes—well short of the number needed to send it on to the House of Representatives and then to all 50 states for ratification. At that time, six Republicans, including Sen. John McCain of Arizona, voted against the ban.



Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist announced his plans to vote in early June for the Marriage Protection Amendment, largely seen as a ploy to wedge voters in the midterm elections.

President Bush has expressed support for a constitutional ban on gay marriage. In last month's State of the Union address, he said many Americans are "discouraged by activist courts that try to redefine marriage."

Frist has been rumored to be a potential presidential candidate in 2008, but a poll taken in December showed him trailing several other possible Republican nominees. **10**



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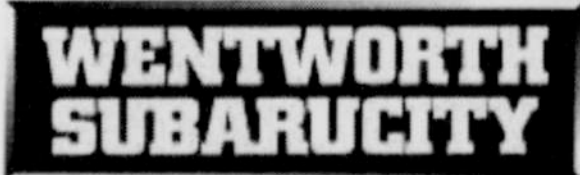
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