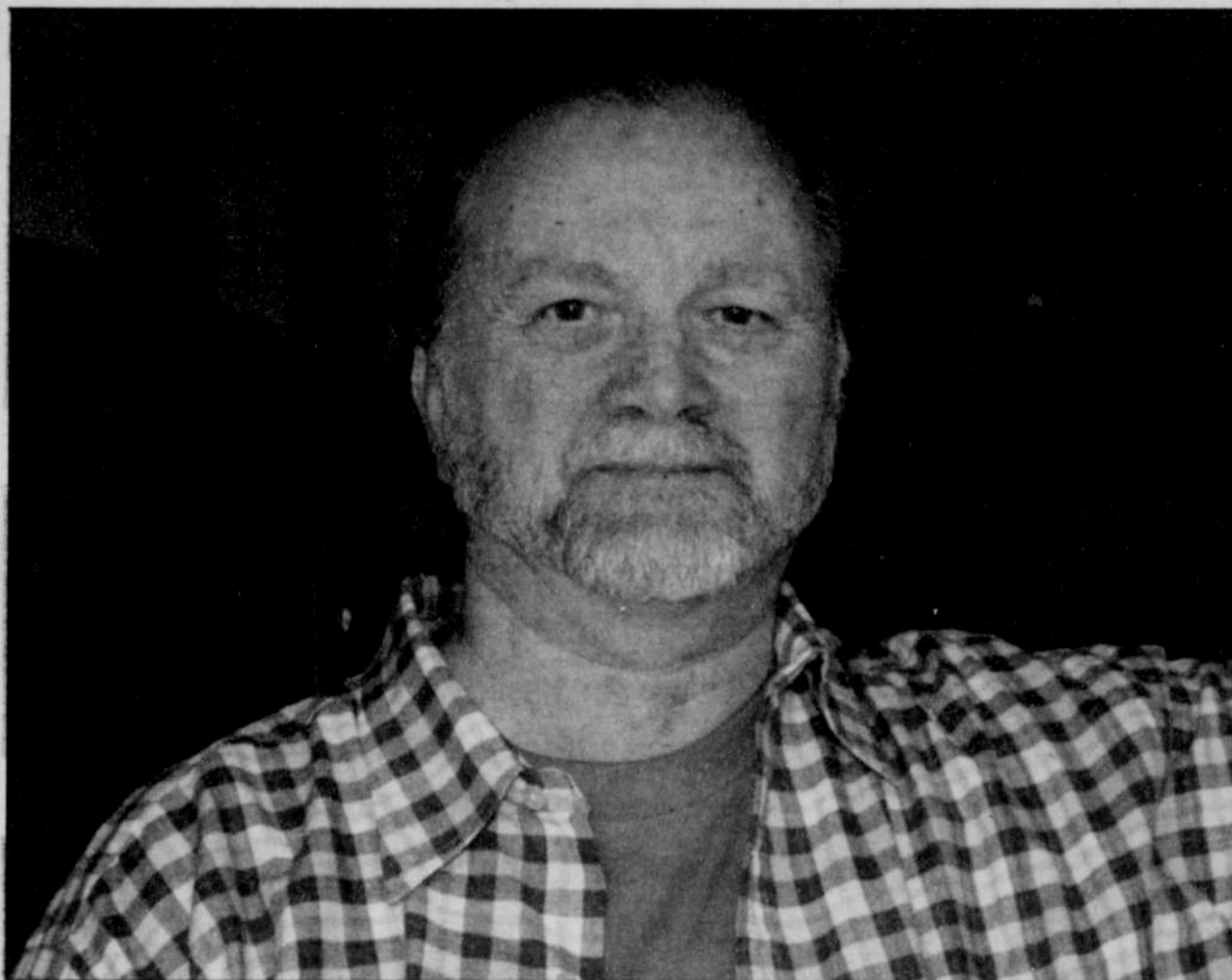




A resolute Lon Mabon will try to reinvigorate the anti-gay movement from his Salem home.

the world and we can't give up in Oregon even though we've had our setbacks.

JRC: What is responsible for the OCA's setbacks?

LM: If you recall, it was a pretty much unprecedented attack on the OCA with everybody joining in. The newspapers—*The Statesman Journal*, *The Register-Guard*, *The Oregonian*—all giving coverage opposing the OCA and passing on false accusations, such as that I hate homosexuals.

JRC: Don't you hate homosexuals?

LM: No. Ask [former state Rep.] George Eighmey, who I've known for 15 to 20 years or [former state Rep.] Gail Shibley. They know I don't hate them. [See sidebar.] I think homosexuality is a sin, just like I think adultery is a sin. If all the adulterers were trying to get protected status, I would be opposing them, too.

JRC: I notice that Scott Lively is a speaker at your conference. Does he still have credibility in your movement, after his conviction for battery against photojournalist Catherine Stauffer?

LM: Again, if anybody really cared about the facts of the situation, she was asked to leave and

she refused. I wasn't there, but from what I was told, Scott was escorting her out and she went dead weight on him. Scott simply picked her up and removed her. The policy of the OCA is you should call the police, let them deal with it. I wish that's what he had done, but did he purposely or even unintentionally hurt her? I don't think so. But the trial was held in downtown Portland. We've never fared too well there, politically. I don't think it hurt Scott's credibility at all.

JRC: Has news surrounding deposed Christian leaders Ted Haggard and Christian Coalition of Oregon chairman Lou Beres hurt your movement?

LM: Haggard, at least he was honest enough to say he has been fighting homosexual urges all his life and couldn't get a handle on it, thereby saying he thought it was wrong. He is just like anybody else who succumbs to immoral urges and fails, so I don't think it helps or hurts anything. I know Lou Beres personally, and he has denied the [child molestation] allegations. To my understanding, the allegations were false. I know he had bad press on it. When it is said out there numerous times, people have a tendency to believe it, even if it's false. 

Friends of Mabon

Lon calls out the wrong supporters

by Jaymee R. Cuti

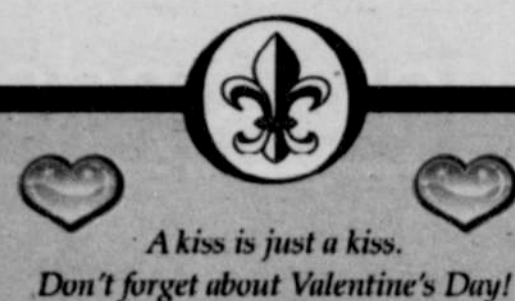
When Lon Mabon challenged *Just Out* to look up some of his gay and lesbian "friends" to back up his said respect and kindness for sexual minorities, we accepted.

Former state Rep. Gail Shibley, D-Portland, Oregon's first out sexual minority legislator, said: "I absolutely, in my core, despise every discriminatory and homophobic and irrational and narrow-minded, bigoted, prejudiced and otherwise un-American and un-Oregonian perspective that he has as a human being. This is not a personal issue. I feel sorry for him in my finer moments; otherwise, I just disregard him."

Shibley is the administrator of the Office of Environmental Public Health in the Oregon Department of Human Services.

Gay former state Rep. George Eighmey, D-Portland, had this to say about Mabon and their relationship: "I've never considered Lon a friend—a friendly adversary would be a better term. He's never respected my views."

Eighmey, who is the executive director of Compassion in Choices of Oregon, added: "I have no hatred for Lon Mabon, but what I have for him is pity. I pity that after all of these years, he has not been able to learn from his past mistakes that his crusade was misguided and harmful. It's very sad and pathetic that this man has devoted so much of his life to creating division." 



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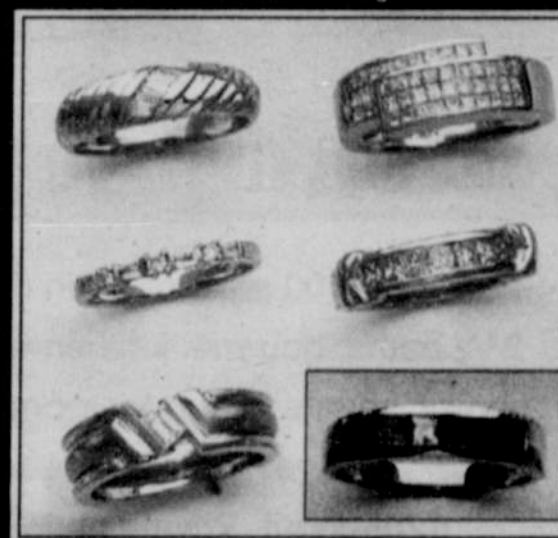
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