

First Amendment rights when it barred him from his prom for wearing a dress.

K.K. Logan attended West Side High during his junior and senior year and expressed a deeply rooted femininity in his appearance and demeanor. Both classmates and teachers at the school supported him in his daily attendance dressed in clothes typically associated with girls his age.

However, on May 19, 2006, Principal Diane Rouse stretched her arms across the door of the senior prom, blocking Logan's entrance, according to the lawsuit. His classmates and friends rallied to his defense to no avail, even though a female student was allowed entrance dressed in a tuxedo.

Rouse has stood by a school policy that deems inappropriate any "clothing/accessories that advertise sexual orientation, sex, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, profanity, negative social or negative educational statements."

"The fact that sexual orientation is lumped in with drugs and profanity in the school's dress code is just plain offensive, but even more troublesome is that the whole policy is in violation of students' First Amendment rights," said James P. Madigan, staff attorney in Lambda Legal's Midwest regional office in Chicago. "There are ways to write policies that both create rules for student behavior and also respect their rights—but this isn't one of them."

Lambda Legal argues that Logan's First Amendment rights were violated, including the freedoms of speech, symbolic action and expressive conduct. The school district also engaged in unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex and gender.

"I dress this way because it's who I am and how I feel on the inside," said Logan.

IOWA

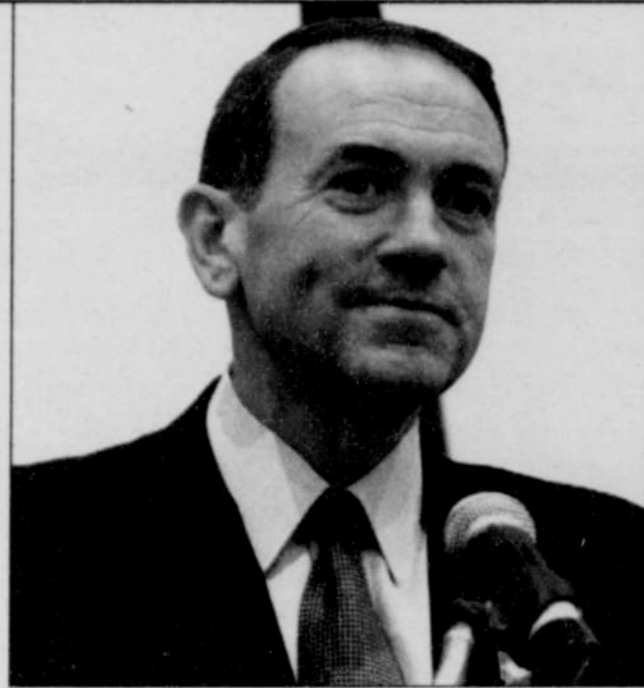
Huckabee Reiterates Anti-Gay Messages

Presidential candidate and Christian conservative darling Mike Huckabee told a gathering of supporters Dec. 12 that he possessed the toughest position against same-sex marriage of any Republican candidate.

"Unless Moses comes down with two stone tablets from *Brokeback Mountain* to tell us something different, we need to keep that understanding of marriage," Huckabee said to the gathering in Iowa.

The former Arkansas governor is becoming the object of scrutiny from queer activists. Opponents recall a comment he made in 1992 stating that gays lived "an aberrant, unnatural and sinful lifestyle" and that AIDS patients should be isolated.

On his Web site, Huckabee is leaning on this record that he got a constitutional amendment



Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee came out as the presidential candidate most strongly against gay rights.

passed in Arkansas in 2002 defining marriage as between one man and one woman.

While all Republican presidential candidates oppose same-sex marriage, not all back a constitutional amendment banning it, and their views on civil unions vary.

Huckabee also says he opposes civil unions.

"When you create a validity and actually put a sort of government approval on the behavior, I think that is a different set of rules than, say, a person makes a lifestyle decision, and that's choice," Huckabee told *The Boston Globe*.

However, the candidate apologized for any hurt his statement about AIDS might have caused to patients or their families, and he said he'd be willing to meet with Ryan White's family.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Couples Celebrate Civil Unions at Midnight

Gay and lesbians are planning a group ceremony Jan. 1, 2008, to celebrate New Hampshire's new civil unions, organizers said Dec. 12.

Rep. Gail Morrison, D-N.H., and Jen Major, former board members of the New Hampshire Freedom to Marry Coalition, said the event is scheduled for just after midnight on the Statehouse steps.

State vital records officials are estimating 3,500 to 4,000 couples will get civil unions in 2008, roughly double the 1,704 unions performed in Vermont in 2000, the first year they were offered.

The Legislature passed a civil unions bill in 2007 allowing same-sex couples to enter civil unions and have the same rights, responsibilities and obligations as married couples. Gov. John Lynch signed the bill in May. **10**

Compiled by JAYMEE R. CUTI

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