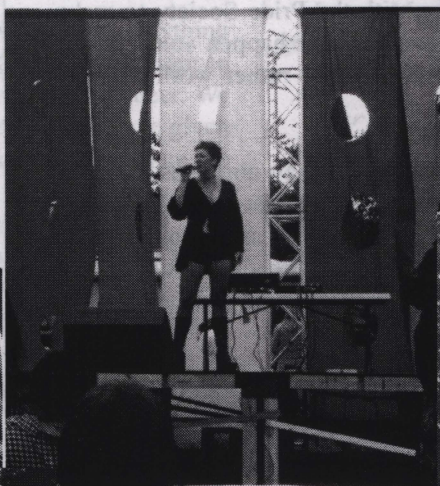
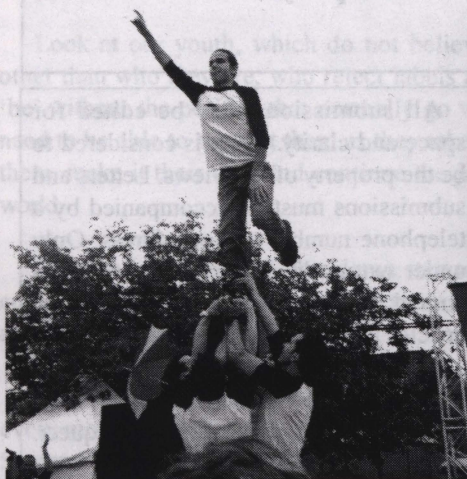


OUTVIEWS

Vancouver Island's Premiere Queer Magazine
Volume One, Number Six
August/September, 2002 \$3.00

**100%
Proud**



Pride 2002

Pride Pictures

Queen's Rant

**Homophobic Website
Shut Down**

— What's Inside —

Notes from Mosaic

**Leather Contest
a Success**

Up Front

On Pride, Community and Being Involved

What a Pride season this year! Are you as glad that it is over as I am? I bet you are. One thing is for sure; we have never seen anything like this year's Pride in Victoria before. It was bigger, louder, more fun and had more controversy than ever before, both in Victoria and in Vancouver.

Now that things are dying down and we are getting back to "normal" I have been able to take time to reflect on the celebration and all that came with it. That reflection has given me some interesting realizations and left me with various questions.

Pride is, at its core, about community. Sure it started as a political act but it wasn't something one queer did alone. And it will remain a political act as long as we continue to march to show our numbers and solidarity to the world. But after helping organize Victoria Pride, attending Vancouver Pride, publishing this magazine and doing other work in our city I wonder again whether we have solidarity or a community at all.

What does it say about our sense of community and solidarity that we could allow a simple matter of miscommunication and misunderstanding to denigrate into name-calling and mar an otherwise wonderful Pride event? Would it not have been easier to just sit down and talk?

What does it say about our sense of community and solidarity that we would make a group of fellow queers feel so marginalized that they felt they would not be heard if we did sit down and talk about the issues?

What does it say about our sense of community and solidarity that because of political agendas, issues and motives Vancouver's parade was less than stellar? Looking around and talking to others I

found that people were neither proud nor together. Apathy was the flavor of the day.

What does it say about our sense of community and solidarity that instead of working with the Pride Society to make Pride week events happen some in our community would rather work actively against it?

What does it say about us that our community is so caught up in egocentric bullshit, name-calling and who is gay the "right" way that we can't see we are burning our own bridges and structures to the ground?

Anyone can sit back and complain; about the magazine, pride, community groups or anything else. It takes true character to get involved. To take a stand. To rise above our own goals and agendas.

Where are the complainers when the Victoria Pride Society is begging for board members and volunteers? Where are they when this magazine sends out call after call for submissions? Do they support the groups and businesses that are out there daily for the community? Or would they rather just bitch that no one represents them?

(continued on next page)

Contact information:

Submissions:

bleedingrose@telus.net

Letters to Editor:

bleedingrose_april@telus.net

Q/A Columns:

bleedingrose_questions@telus.net

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OutViews Team:

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While OutViews is a queer publication it should not be assumed that all advertisers, contributors, letter writers are queer. All may be assumed to be allies.

Deadline for articles & advertising is the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Our mandate is to provide a monthly written forum that celebrates all aspects of queer lives and to promote a healthy, visible community by giving voice to diverse and common interests and to promote dialogue on such issues as sex/sexual health, culture, diversity, gender and community.

Subscription are \$30 a year. Cheques are payable to Bleeding Rose Multimedia or \$3 per copy at the following locations:

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Little Sisters in Vancouver

**"We Stand on the Shoulders of
Our Queer Ancestors"**

~ jtsears

(from previous page)

And yet, there is hope. Just when we think all is lost the community at large will come together to show that mine and others ultimate faith in them is well deserved. Yes, I do have faith. We can have a strong community. Look at the way we filled the studio for Talk TV at the New VI during pride week. How we came out in record numbers for the parade and dug into our own pockets to help raise money to support it.

How an all-ages, all-genders alcohol-free dance that many said could never succeed sold out and was one of the best Pride dances ever.

Look at our youth, which do not believe in being anything other than who they are, who reject labels and who just want to 'be' without the politics that normally go with being queer. We need to be able to support them as they take what we have given them, make it their own and continue the journey to change the world.

So, how do we do that? How do we start to mend the rifts in our community that we have created and give our youth and ourselves a great head start on the future?

Be involved. The Victoria Pride Society holds meetings almost every month that are open to the public. The AGM is coming in September where you can be sure they will be looking for some committed new board members and lots of volunteers. AVI has the Aids Walk coming up. The Women's Creative Network is putting on another great event in September and they always need volunteers as well. The coffee shop is taking volunteer applications and there are a couple of new support groups starting for men, women and the kinky in our community. If none of these appeal to you then just look around. We have many people and places in need here and it's not hard to find ways to get involved and give back.

Be informed. This magazine has gone through lots of changes in the last year. We have gained readers and lost writers (for both valid and non-valid reasons), had production delays and ruffled many feathers. We have given voice to parts of our community usually relegated to the shadows. I will not be ashamed of that. Along the way we have tried to inform, educate and open the minds of Vancouver Island's queer community. Not always an easy thing I'll tell you because most of us really don't want to know our queer brothers and sisters though we say we do. As we move forward we now have staff and hope to put production delays behind us with this issue. We have 2 new columns coming, one for youth and one for older queers but that is not enough. We need your help to make this magazine work. If we are to be represented we must represent ourselves. Submit poems and artwork; write letters, write articles. Let your voice be heard. Don't wait for someone else to do it and then complain when they don't. We will print everything we can. Take this journey with us as we renew our commitment to make this magazine what it has never been before. A proud, balanced, inclusive magazine. Our community deserves no less.

And make no mistake, we are a community. Like all communities, we are a varied lot. We have several (self-appointed) "in crowds" and we have "outcasts". We have our stars and our peasants. We have our leaders and followers. Within this community, people make friends and enemies. Within this community, people start romantic relationships and end them. Within this community, people gossip, flirt, bitch, hug, conspire, invent, backstab, celebrate and sometimes mourn. For the reasons I mentioned and many more I keep in my heart, I consider the people of this community, when taken as a whole, to be among the finest people it has ever been my privilege to know. I am proud to say I am part of this community. Are you? And if so, then let's get to work and show everyone else just what Victoria is capable of.

It was Margaret Mead who said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."

April

Business News



Victoria's Queer Coffee shop opened Pride Week



The Queen's Rant

The Rant to End All Rants

I sit here in quiet contemplation, wondering what the morning might bring. The alarm clock is too early to be so bright. It pains me to sit, to think, but I do. It doesn't stop the constant stream of thought that flows from tired brain to nimble fingers. The Bitch is in the closet, so it's my turn to talk.

I hear the words from unspoken mouths, the echo of those demon lies. Words unspoken till now. You gossip. I gossip. The stomach turns in pain from acid to mal formed throat that was given to me from a difficult birth almost twenty years ago have past, have run like so many screaming students, peers, mockers. I tell myself now what I should have back then. "You are different, you are crazed and yell loud. You speak half truths like a nymph to amuse, to abuse to refuse access."

Who am I to say anything, everything constantly asking: "Are you happy? Are YOU happy? Can I make you smile? Can I get you rolling on the floor laughing?" Nothing yet? Fuck you! I don't need your approval! I need, I need, I need to rest my head into my Daddy's lap and get spanked. Cuz I've been a very Bad Boy! That's right...BOY! You think this is too heavy you should have read this yesterday. It was messy.

You were hilarious last night Geena. Well thanx, I think... Who are you? You know I'm really bad with names. It's all about me? No Fucker! It's all about you. Don't you know that by now? Stop concerning people with this bullshit and just be.

Be what? You be! Jesus loves you, but the rest of us think you're an asshole. You assumed it was racism and yet you didn't see the bone tired man being saved by a Drag Queen. Are you insensitive or am I? Issue free?...well we tried didn't we. Remember the story of the kid that cried wolf? Do I further your cause?

I love and hate, but for all the right reasons. I try to better those who are bettering themselves. You're small, mingling, angry group trying to make a name for yourselves. You could be great. If we say it together, it'll be huge! If say it separated, you'll have four people at a dry potluck that secretly despises everybody.

You want a rant? I'll give you a rant! Be...just be for Christ sake! I'll tone this down by saying I love you. I hate you. This Drag Queen may be in shoved back in the closet but I have a fabulous wardrobe and my material will never stop growing.

"I'm comin' up, so you'd better get this party started. Don't ever let me get me for you know I'm my worst enemy in this sexual revolution...OOPS! Did I say too much? Because you still don't know the half of it, oh well it's already gone to print.

Thanx for listening,
Scott Michael Clarke
Entertainment Commander- 100% Proud

P.S.
I'm sorry,
That you're still so angry and misinformed

P.S.S.
Beds are replaceable...I am not.

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Anti-Gay Website Ordered Shut Down

by Rich Peters

A website that calls gays "sexual predators" and "pedophiles" has been ordered to cease operations by a Canadian Human Rights Tribunal. The Tribunal ruled that the site violates federal anti-hate laws, citing a Supreme Court of Canada ruling in a separate case that limits the use of telephone wires for the purposes of disseminating hate.

In delivering his written ruling chairman Grant Sinclair said: "If the telephone is ideally suited to spread prejudicial ideas, the Internet is even better positioned. "It is a very public form of communication, inexpensive, easily accessed, and can communicate many messages simultaneously and instantaneously to a worldwide audience. The reasons of the court apply with even greater force to the Internet."

Among other assertions, the site claims gays have an agenda to legalize pedophilia in Canada. "The Web site is not so much anti-pedophile as it is anti-homosexual," Sinclair wrote. "The homosexual lifestyle is persistently equated with sexual predation. Sinclair's ruling names the web site's creator, John Micka, Machiavelli and Associates Emprize Inc., and its owner Joanne Vesvik, all of Burnaby, British Columbia, and the web master, Ken Fast of Abbotsford, B.C. If the server were moved to another country it is believed the site could not be shut down by Canadian authorities, but the people behind it could still be charged with criminal offences under hate laws

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Wedded Bliss: Marrying the Man of my Dreams

By Gordon de Frane

It's a done deal as far as the courts are concerned. A recent court ruling has told the government of the day that its laws, the very definition of marriage between male and female, contravene the constitution. In essence, it's against the law to prevent same-sex couples from entering into legally binding marriages of the till death do us part kind. You'd think that would be it. You'd think that the various provincial governments and especially the federal government would start changing the laws to conform to the court ruling. You'd think the Feds would spend the next two years rewriting the laws and welcoming same-couples into the hallowed halls of matrimony. You'd think that's the way it would be.

Instead the Federal Liberals are preparing to appeal the court ruling. They are preparing to launch a nationwide consultation process with Canadians to get a clearer idea of what direction they should take. Strange, this sudden desire to consult with Canadians about minority rights and freedoms sounds suspiciously like the recent referendum on Aboriginal rights and freedoms in BC. Governments are not stupid in spite of how they may appear to us, the lowly electorate. The BC Liberals got away with subjecting Aboriginal rights and freedoms to public opinion so it stands to reason that the Feds would do the same in the question of same-sex marriage.

The moral high ground is to act to end the discrimination in Canada's laws at both the Federal levels as well as in provincial jurisdiction. Canada's reputation as a haven for human beings seeking refuge from oppression and human rights abuses in country of origin is well known. Canada is a leader when it comes to our human rights. It isn't to say that we're perfect just that given a choice between where to live, I'd pick Canada in a cold sober moment.

Women got the vote in the 20's. Emily Murphy along with several other women won the designation that women were indeed persons under the law. Aboriginal people got the vote in 1960. Aboriginal women won their case when courts decided in their favour that the laws discriminated against them. This pivotal human rights crusade thus allowed repatriation of aboriginal women after losing aboriginal status when they married non-natives. Aboriginal men could marry non-native women and even confer aboriginal status on these women, prior to 1985.

Gay people in the Canadian Armed Forces do not serve under a directive that says don't ask; don't tell. Several provinces prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. The list of Canada leading the way in human rights and freedoms goes on. However, one of the outstanding rights and freedom not yet accorded to gay people is the right to legally marry. Yes, Canada has a good if not a perfect track record of taking the moral high ground when it comes to human rights and freedoms.

I dream about marrying the man of my dreams. I envision something that blends both traditional Salish wedding customs with a legally binding record. I like the idea of same-sex marriage. I know that there are gay iconoclasts out there who poo, poo the idea and say that there are so many men and so little time. But I'm

not a same-sex icon. I'm far from it. I value institutions like marriage and family because that's the model I grew-up with. And for a time marriage worked for my parents. They met. They fell in love. They married for better or for worse. Their love gave birth to three living children and one that chose not to finish the journey. Of course, the till death do us part of their marriage didn't have much success. After 30 years of trying to make it work, they resumed, to some degree, the lives they had before marriage. Again, it's not a perfect model.

Marriage is not perfect. Marriage solemnizes the actions and feelings of two people into a state of legal, moral and ethical union. Just as it takes an entire village to raise a child, it takes an entire community to help make a marriage successful. The failure of marriage is not just the couple's inability to live as two people united in one identity. The community must assume some responsibility if and when a marriage fails. Is the community healthy? Are the prospective couples marrying into a supportive and caring society? Is there an extended family dynamic to support a newly married couple? Will that extended family be there throughout the duration of the marriage? Are there sufficient community resources to support the newlyweds? Is the extended family healthy? Was a long-term courtship in place before the couple married?

In traditional Salish marriages, the two prospective families would start talking when both prospective partners were still children. Both families would observe and note how the other child was raised. Are both children raised with teachings? How close are the two related? Salish incest laws prohibit unions between cousins closer than fifth or sixth in terms of blood relation. Both families in making sure the two prospective candidates were marrying the right person invested a lot of care and attention. The success of the marriage was not only the newlywed's but shared by both families as well as the community.

For some, marriage will mean having children and raising a family. For others, marriage is the glue that verifies and sanctifies a relationship. Marriage can hold together the couple when it gets a little rocky. It's not a guarantee though. Marriage possesses an indefinable quality that transforms two individuals into a mystical union of one yet retaining separate identity. Marriage can add a dimension of enduring quality that other less binding relationship models seem to offer.

Canada's reputation is on the line. Will Canada lead in the matter of recognizing same-sex rights and freedoms in the question of marriage? Will it become the second country in the world and join Holland in affirming and celebrating same-sex marriage?

For me same-sex marriage means growing old with my partner until death do us part.

Next month in OutViews:
Part 2 of Thea Gill
Queerscopes
Personals

Wanting to hold the single most important issue in mind – that the real pride parade and the real equal rights activism boils down to Love — I'd like to share a playful poem I wrote for Diana for her late-September birthday a decade or so ago. I wrote it on the inside of a card with a photo I took during a trip we made to Valdes Island, of two silhouetted arbutus trees at twilight. They embraced two pink breasts of clouds in the distant pale blue-grey sky, which in turn reflected pink pathways across the purple waters of the Straights of Georgia to the treed bluff's edge..

Diana — A Fall Baby

Diana: a fall baby,
Wow!
Did I ever fall for you, baby!

As the sun turned your leaves from
Heterosexual green to
Homosexual red, yellow, orange, brown,
I, in the guise of a shawl of wind,
Whirled myself around your trunk,
Twirled along the curves of your branches,
Snatched the glow of your rainbow
And pranced part of you into the sky about.

Clouds winked,
People blinked.
We, pretending oblivion,
Careened in our dance
Until every leaf was torn away,
Every assumption
Crunched under the feet
Of marching autumnal predators.

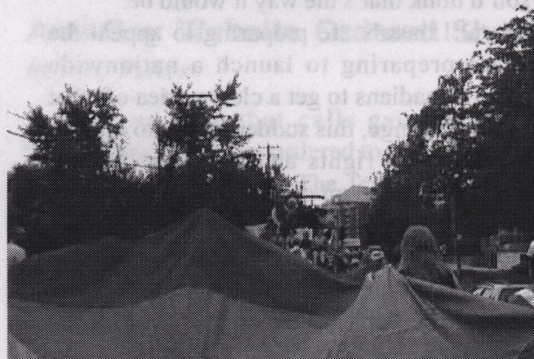
We stood naked,
Our arms black in silhouette,
Curling towards the overcast,
Our fingernails poking towards
The stars that flung thimblesfull of light.

The winter was long
Snow that tried to freeze our arms
Instead melted as we felt the
Honesty of our love
Heating our branches,
Tingling our roots,
Shaking our heads
Until our hair was full of leaves again.

Thank you, my Autumn Baby,
For springing with me!
Happy Birthday!

Lovingly,
Robin

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Pride in the Word II



pictured from left to right: Karen X. Tulchinsky, Billeh Nickerson, Lyn Davis, Ivan E. Coyote, Ignacio Rodriguez and (sitting) Captain.

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David Hartman & Lynn Green

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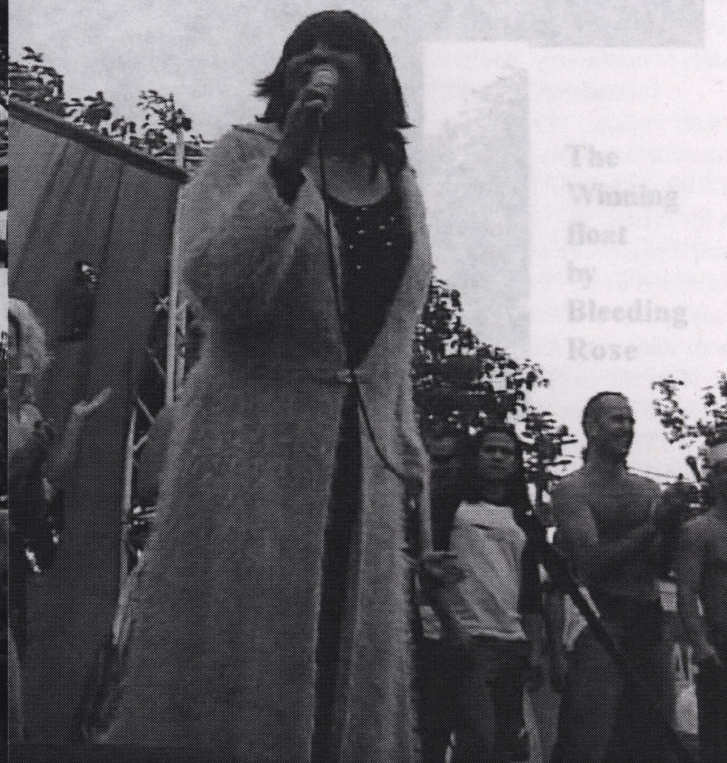
Pride in the Word II was the second annual queer literary event put on by The Bleeding Rose and done in cooperation this year with Arsenal Pulp Press. Last year held at Open Space, the event was so well attended that it had to be moved and was held this year at The Belfry Arts Centre Theatre. Joining returning author Billeh Nickerson were Ivan E. Coyote, Karen X. Tulchinsky, Guy Babineau and locals Ignacio Rodriguez, Captain and Lyn Davis. The evening was an amazing mix of laughter, tears and fun. While money was made for Pride we were all taken on a bit of a journey beyond our normal everyday comfort zones. Here's to next year's event being even better and with Billeh and Ivan already slated to return how could it not be?

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Pepper Mashay at Victoria Pride 2002



Drag Ball



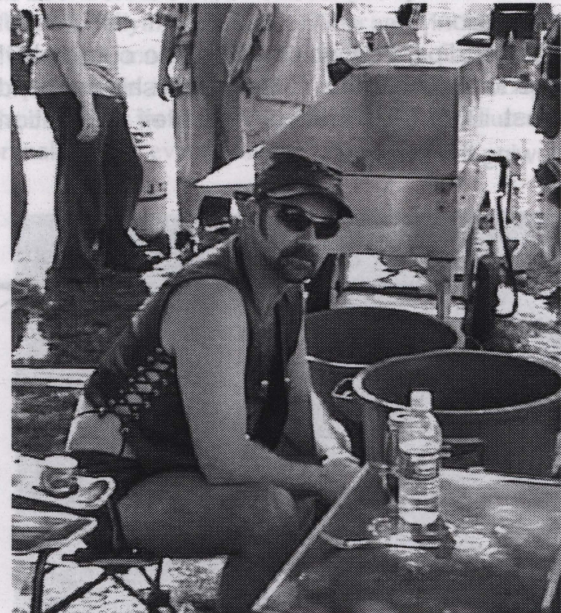
After the game, the two teams were all smiles



Geena signs an autograph for some of her tiniest fans



David Hardwick, April Grant and the infamous Irma



A hard day slaving over a hot grill makes Sunni very tired!



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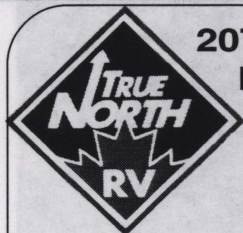
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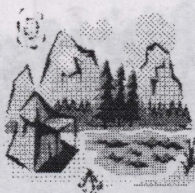
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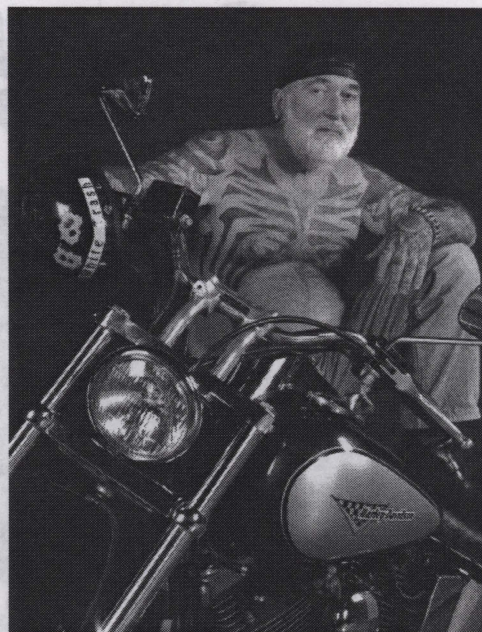
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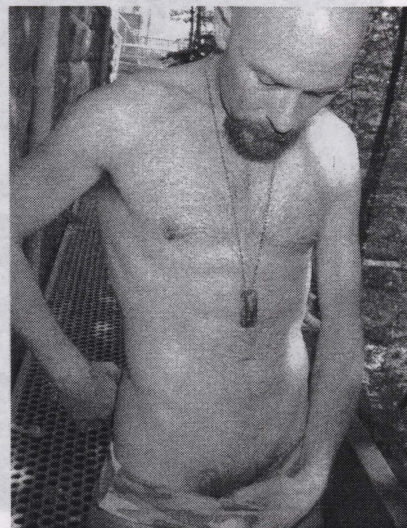


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Victoria's First Leather Contest: What a Night!

By April Grant

Leather. Whether fashion statement, part-time fetish or lifestyle choice leather brings many images and thoughts to mind. For some, leather is something to be hidden or pushed to the fringes of our community; for others, like those who attended the British Columbia Leather SIR/BOY contest in Victoria on July 13, leather is something to be celebrated.

This was the first contest of its kind ever held on Vancouver Island and by all accounts was a success. After a week of workshops and book readings on topics such as flogging and SM, over 100 people watched locals Jim Kirk and David Macmillan compete for LeatherSIR while Kevin Barnard ran for BOY against Vancouverite Todd Bricker. We all knew we were in for a hot night with categories like formal leather, jock strap/skin show and fantasy performance. The contestants did not disappoint.

The fantasies were the most interesting part of the show and one of the judges was even heard to remark that these were some of the most creative she had ever seen. From a drag queen's transformation into proud leatherboy to a military takeover to finally a kidnapping turned SIR creation, the fantasies were fun, sexy and very well done. Each contestant let their personality and true nature shine through in ways that intrigued and turned on the crowd.

After all was said and done the judges, Allena Gabosch (Executive Director of the Wet Spot, Seattle's sex-positive community centre), Jim Duvall (Wet Spot board member and

creator of Janesguide.com), Gene Romaine (NW Mr. Drummer 2001), Mark Nunley (NW Drummer Boy 2001), Lillia Walsh (Washington state Ms. Leather 2002), Pat Tucker (Ms. Vancouver Leather) and Brent Covey (Mr. Vancouver Leather 2002), had completed a very tough job. In a close competition we had our winners, Jim Kirk for Sir and Todd Bricker for BOY. I am sure they will represent BC well in the Northwest Regional contest on August 17th in Seattle. Good luck, guys, we'll see you in Seattle!

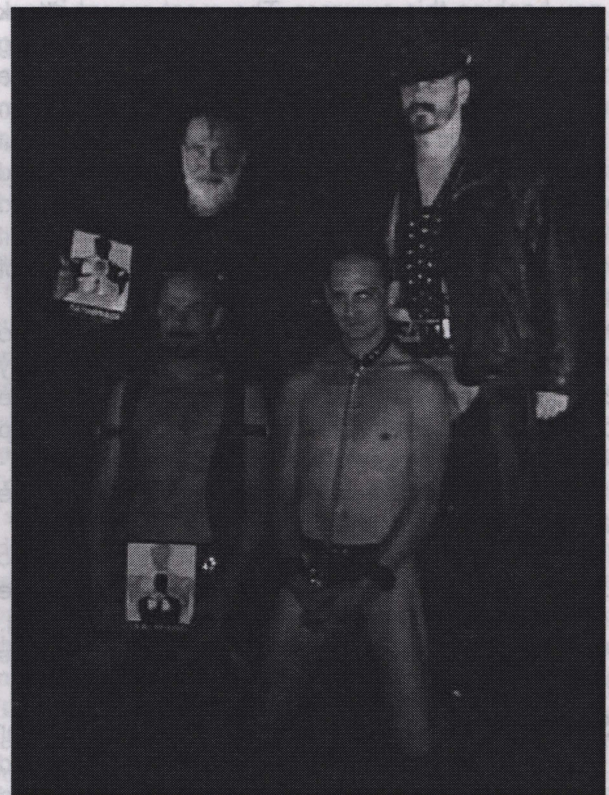
A pansexual, pangender play party followed the contest. The party had varied play stations, a good atmosphere, great dungeon monitors and interesting play by a very diverse group of people who share a common interest in the bdsm lifestyle.

It was a great week of events that culminated in bonds being formed and community being built. Let's hope next year's contest is bigger and better and that Vancouver Island sees more great events like this in the future. It is time all parts of our community felt safe to come out and play.

As contest producer I would like to send a great big cheer and heartfelt thank-you to contest sponsor Bleeding Rose Afterdark, Tallymistress Elaine Miller and MC Rob Pont (President of Western Canada Leather Pride and Mr. Canadian Drummer), our performers Hannah and the fabulous Miss Gay Vancouver Island Lexis as well as NW Regional contest producer Mark Colter for making this event possible.



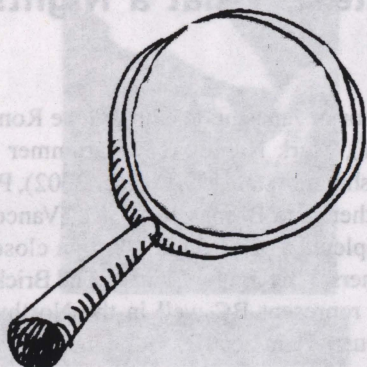
from left contestant attendees: Sam, Hannah, contest producer April Grant, Christina and Miss Gay Vancouver Island, Lexis.



clockwise from left: SIRs Jim Kirk and David MacMillan & BOYs Kevin Barnard and Todd Bricker

Through a Queer Lens

*Queer News that
never makes it to the
front page*



(Manchester, UK) Tens of thousands of gays and lesbians are expected to bring Manchester to a halt on August 24. The day was to have been a massive Pride celebration with a street fair and concerts but a disagreement with police over the licensing of outdoor liquor sales forced organizers to cancel the event at the last minute. Last year this celebration attracted nearly 400,000 people. This year a protest will replace it. Manchester lawyer and one of the original founders of Mardi Gras Robin Meaton said: "Mardi Gras is a party with a purpose. We must stand up and say 'no'. I refuse to kowtow to the homophobic police."

(Vancouver, BC) Police are investigating the third case of gay bashing this summer. The most recent attack occurred near the city's gay village. Police say a man walking with a male friend was attacked by three men. While police do not know if the victim was gay, his attackers believed him to be as was evidenced by derogatory comments made about his sexual orientation as they beat him. The man was punched and kicked repeatedly. The victim's friend was not attacked and called 911 on his cell phone to report the incident as it occurred. The victim was treated at the scene and did not need hospitalization.

On July 21, a car deliberately tried to run down two young men as they crossed Davie Street. Investigators say four people in the car were yelling anti-gay epithets as the vehicle careened towards the pair. The men managed to jump out of the way of the speeding car, but it ran a red light and T-boned another vehicle. The Jaws Of Life were needed to free the female driver of the smashed car.

A week earlier, a man was beaten by two men on Pacific Avenue. With the help of a passerby he was able to chase down his attackers and hold them until police arrived. Meanwhile, there has still been no arrest in last November's murder of Aaron Webster.

(Sydney) Archbishop George Pell, the most senior Roman Catholic clergyman in Australia, has been accused of molesting a 12 year old boy. The alleged attack occurred about 40 years ago in Melbourne, when Pell was training to become a priest. Authorities have withheld the exact year and the identity of the victim to protect the complainant. Pell

announced he would step aside as leader of the country's Catholics while the investigation is carried out, and said the allegations are untrue.

In July, at a World Youth Day forum in Toronto, Pell declared that child sex abuse by priests was less of a crime than abortion. He later claimed the comments were taken out of context. At the same forum he told teenage pilgrims from around the world that there is no place in the church for gays. Pell has a long history of anti-gay behaviour.

(Toronto) Trials of several new AIDS drugs show promising results say Belgian and American researchers. The discoveries include compounds that appear able to block all known drug-resistant strains of the HIV virus, they announced. Two of the new drugs, Dapivirine and R165335, have gone through two phases of clinical trials. A third compound, the researchers say is even more active against common HIV strains and mutations, is expected to start trials soon.

(Hanoi) A gay mystery novel has won a literary contest organised by the Vietnamese government. Few gays or lesbian are 'out' in Vietnam, and the subject is seldom discussed in the tightly controlled communist country. "A World Without Women" written by Bui Anh Tan, is a murder mystery written as a crime report. Tan is a former reporter for the official police newspaper in Ho Chi Minh City. He now works in the police department's propaganda unit.

(Vancouver, BC) An Anglican diocese in British Columbia will go ahead with blessing same-sex unions despite a letter from the new Archbishop of Canterbury saying the ceremonies threaten the "sacramental unity" of the 70-million-member church.

The letter, to Anglican leaders worldwide was seen by many in the faith as a warning from Rowan Williams to the Vancouver diocese not to bless same-sex unions because he wants to avert a split in the worldwide Anglican Church. But, in Vancouver, the Bishop of Westminster, Michael Ingham said he didn't see Williams' letter as a warning. In June, the diocese which covers Vancouver and most of the lower mainland, voted to allow its churches to perform commitment ceremonies. Several weeks ago, moves were made in both the Toronto and Ottawa dioceses also to consider allowing priests to perform the ceremonies. Ingham says Williams was simply making "a statement of fact" by recognizing there will be problems when any Anglican diocese goes against the vast majority of Anglican bishops who voted at the 1998 Lambeth conference against blessing gay and lesbian relationships. Ingham says: "He does not say a diocese cannot and should not bless same-sex unions."

Williams has a history of supporting gays and lesbians in the church and voted against the Lambeth resolution. Ingham says conservatives are "spin-doctoring a massive distortion" by suggesting the new Archbishop of Canterbury was repudiating his earlier stands in support of gays.

(New York City) The New York Times will become the first major newspaper in the United States to publish announcements of gay and lesbian unions. The newspaper

says that beginning next month the pages that are currently headed "Weddings," will be changed to "Weddings/Celebrations".

In a statement, The articles and pictures will be identical to those it has used for heterosexual weddings. As with weddings, the editors of the Styles Section, where the announcements are printed, will decide which unions will be covered. The criteria is the newsworthiness and accomplishments of the couples and their families, the same as those that have traditionally applied. GLAAD executive director Joan M. Garry called the announcement "nothing less than a watershed moment in the pursuit of equality for the lesbian and gay community."

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Hanne Blank Comes to Victoria



Raised in Cleveland, Ohio, and trained as a classical musician and cultural historian, Hanne Blank is a writer, editor, public speaker, activist, and educator whose books include *Shameless: Women's Intimate Erotica* (Seal Press) and the forthcoming short fiction collection *Unruly Appetites* (Avalon Publishing Group, Spring 2003), as well as, *Best Transgender Erotica* (with

Raven Kaldera, Circlet Press), *Zaftig: Well Rounded Erotica* (Cleis Press), and the groundbreaking *Big Big Love: A Sourcebook on Sex for People of Size and Those Who Love Them* (Greenery Press). Her socially progressive, intellectually- and emotionally-engaged approach to sexuality has been characterized as "sophisticated . . . does for sex what feminism does for women: it gives us context." Proud proprietrix of one hell of a variegated resume, Hanne is co-editor (with Heather Corinna) of the long-lived online sex-positive literary and artistic standard-bearer *Scarlet Letters* (scarletletters.com), the former associate editor of the feminist newsmagazine *Sojourner: The Women's Forum*, and has been an educator at institutions including Whitworth College, Tufts University, and Brandeis University. Her fiction, essays, reviews, and other writings are published in a wide range of venues, ranging from erotica anthologies, travel magazines, indie newspapers, 'zines, feminist and Jewish journals, books on music and culture, and beyond. Hanne and her work have been featured on radio and television in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, and she is a frequent public speaker and workshop leader on topics literary, sexual, and otherwise. A collection of her short fiction, *Unruly Appetites*, is to be published by Avalon Publishing Group in Spring 2003.

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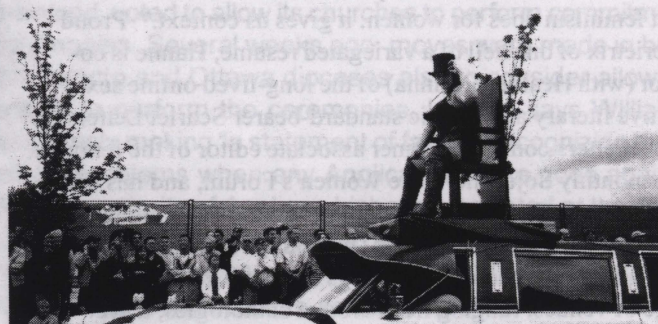
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If you've been looking for a way to add variety and interest to your sex life that's creative, flexible, and allows for a broad range of tastes and preferences, you need look no further than the skin you're in! Sensation play is the fine art and sexy science of stimulating the body's biggest sexual organ – the skin – in ways that range from tender to tingly, barely-there to no-holds-barred. Because skin knows no gender or sexual orientation, neither does sensation play, and best of all, sensation play can run the gamut of moods and contexts from the most innocuous of public displays of affection to the kinkiest and down-and-dirty scene. Taught by writer, editor, and sexuality educator Hanne Blank, this intensive, hands-on evening will explain principles, techniques, anatomy, troubleshooting, and a vast variety of implements you can use to enhance and vary your sensation play. We'll also discuss using sensation play in combination with genital sex, sensation play in a BDSM context, and customizing sensation play for your specific needs and abilities. Participants should bring along one everyday item that they'd like to learn how to "co-opt" for sensation play (examples: a bunch of keys, a roll of aluminum foil, a scarf, an eyedropper, a hairbrush, etc.). Come prepared for consensual, non- genital touch!

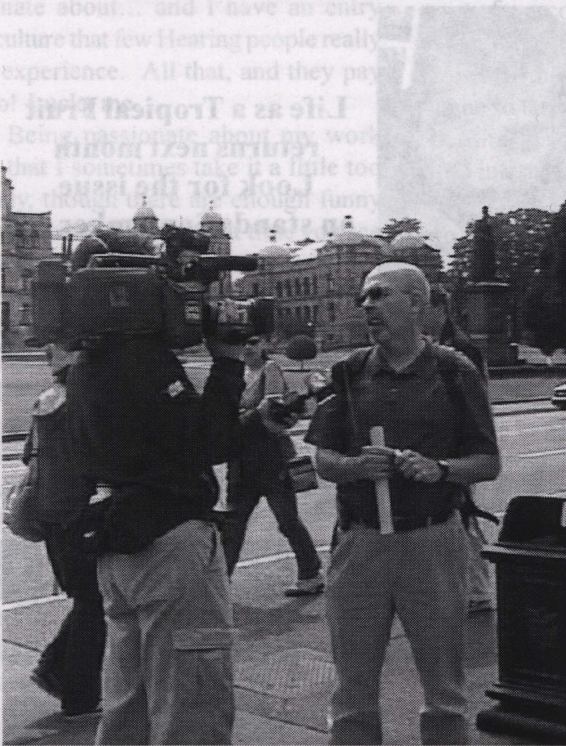
Vancouver Pride: Extravagayza



clockwise from top left: Ultra Nate on the Labatt's float, Sister Chastity Boner from the Sister's of Perpetual Indulgence, Hedy Fry's big entry, Elaine Miller atop the Pumpjack Pub's award-winning float, more of Pumpjack's winning entry and finally Mr. BC Leather Gordon Alexander riding with Russ Cosgrove, International Ms. Leather from Calgary.

Under a Rainbow Sky

City worker Alan Mallett saw to it that this year's Pride happened under a rainbow sky. Thanks to Alan we got a rainbow flag raised on the city pole at Government and Belleville. It was an historic moment. As we all watched that flag go up not a dry eye could be seen. Thanks Alan.



"Most of the time we stand with our backs to our own Light, looking into the shadows."

Swami Radha

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Arts & Entertainment

A sneak-peek of 'Notorious C. H. O.'

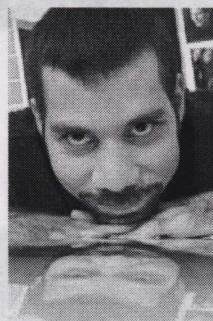
Heralded as a "brilliant, taboo-busting comedian," Margaret Cho has wooed audiences across the country with her "straight-up, dead-on and unembellished" style. Ms Cho's latest film, "Notorious C. H. O.," "is the most hilarious movie - the most hilarious thing - on planet Earth," says The Bergen Record and will have audiences cheering and wanting more C. H. O.

Hot off a wildly successful and critically acclaimed 37-city tour, Notorious C. H. O., was filmed live in Seattle. Directed by Lorene Machado, the movie captures Ms Cho's boisterously entertaining one-woman show live, raw and says Ed Gonzalez from Slant Magazine "incredibly hysterical..."

Taking inspiration from the "wonderfully lustful and bawdy expressions of strength and sexuality" presented by today's ladies of rap, like Li'l Kim and Eve, Ms Cho tackles everything from straight men on periods, to body image, to sexual freedom. Says Stephen Holden; "Notorious C. H. O. carries candid sexual humor into previously uncharted territory." Growing up in San Francisco's Tenderloin and learning everything she knows about sex from gay men and drag queens, Ms Cho's trip down memory lane is really a story of personal sexual liberation and perhaps a "cosmic joke."

Notorious C. H. O., even with its tour-de-force of comedic balustrades, is not all fun and games. Ms Cho brings to Notorious C. H. O. the hard-hitting, in-your-face, hysterically funny way of talking about issues such as gay marriage, self esteem and body image that has earned her the Gay and Lesbian Association Against Defamation's (GLAAD) first-ever Golden Gate Award. Presented to an entertainment pioneer who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, Ms Cho shares the award with Elizabeth Taylor and Elton John. "She succeeds so resoundingly because her humor is so liberating and so inclusive, inviting us to see the absurd humor in our hang-ups and about who we are," says the Los Angeles Times. When talking about self-esteem, Ms Cho offers the audience an empowering, if not "serious," sentiment, "having self esteem is truly an act of revolution and our revolution is long overdue."

Ms Cho, however, is not above adding humor to political dogma. Notorious C. H. O., like its predecessor I Am the One That I Want, is a shining example of Ms Cho's continuing commitment to unity and acceptance between cultures and lifestyles. Not shying away from the controversial topic of gay marriage, Ms Cho offers her own position, "gay marriage is not about romance, and it's about equality-having our relationships regarded in the same way, with the same kind of reverence as straight relationships. It's about being equal in every way. It's such an important political issue-we need to recognize that a government that would deny a gay man the right to a bridal registry is a fascist state."



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Queer Spirit

By Jenny Laing

I must be the luckiest person alive – I LOVE my job. I'm a sign language interpreter by profession, and that means that I get to talk for a living... and I get to process and work in a language that I'm passionate about... and I have an entry into a culture that few Hearing people really get to experience. All that, and they pay me, too! Lucky me.

Being passionate about my work means that I sometimes take it a little too seriously, though there are enough funny stories to last a lifetime (next time you see me, ask me about the lemon tree incident!) So I occasionally have to take a step back and ask myself if I'm jumping the gun, or if the situation really is as serious as I think it is. Will anyone care if there's no interpreter for a lesbian sex workshop? How important is it that a few songs by a drag queen get "heard" by Deaf audience members? Who's hurt if no one calls an interpreter for Queerly Incorrect?

The answer is both micro and macro, personal and global. On the small front, there are Deaf Queer folk in our community who are hurt every time an event is advertised as being for the Queer community, but then excludes them on the grounds that it's too damn much trouble to call for an interpreter. Deaf Queer people have to struggle for basic communication, and are five times as likely to be isolated as either their just-Deaf or just-Queer counterparts. So, yes, people are hurt if we decide not to grant them the opportunity to know what everybody's talking about. Deaf people who are members of our community have a right and a need to be involved in what's happening in that community.

On the macro side of things, well, not to put too fine a point on it – how DARE we make a choice that intentionally

excludes any member of our Queer family? How can we begin to ask for respect from the broader community when we aren't ready to respect our own community? This question goes much farther than the issue of interpreters for the Deaf; this is a question of how we interact as the sum of a whole bunch of parts.

Do middle-aged lesbians respect and accept young gay men? Are the washrooms safe for trannies yet? Can a bi man feel respected by his gay counterparts? And what are we telling our youth when we make information available only through the "old girls network"? When we make a point to exclude ANY part of our community because we devalue their contribution, we are completing the work of the Religious Wrong. We have come so far since Stonewall and the Toronto Bathhouses, yet we keep sliding backward into internecine warfare.

The "women-born-women only" policy at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival is a prime example of the inability of the Queer Community to understand that we have no right to make decisions about the worth of another human being. By stating in policy form that only women who had the luck to be born to their bodies are real enough for the organizers in Michigan, the Festival organizers announced publicly that there is a class system in the Queer World, and they've decided who sits where in that system. By excluding their transgendered sisters, Michigan has created a closed door while screaming for the right to open doors in the broader community.

Years ago, while at an organizing meeting for a protest in Cincinnati, Ohio, I was part of a heated discussion about our next move when one of the other women in the room said to me, "Oh Jenny, could you try not to be so Jewish? You know that just puts people off." There was stunned silence in the room, and then the conversation quickly started up, glossing over the offensive words. It's been years since that kind of anti-Semitic remark would be spoken in loud enough tones to be heard, but there are still people in the Queer Community who hate Jews or Christians or Wiccans or women of colour or boys in leather or anyone who isn't just like them.

For example, wasn't there a group that you thought "well, yeah, but they deserve to be hated" in that list I just rattled off? Have we really come so far?

I am fortunate enough to be the interpreter for Mosaic. For the last two years, they have allowed me to share the stage as well as the joys and frustrations of rehearsals with them, and I have felt very proud to be a part of this wonderful group of musically talented Queers and Allies. While I get enough complements on how pretty the sign language is, I'm up there for two hours using every bit of energy I can muster from the singers because there are Deaf audience members who need to have the words interpreted so they can enjoy the same concert that all of you enjoy. And Mosaic has fully supported my providing that service, understanding that being a member of the Queer community means that ALL the community should be open to you.

That attitude reflects the position that all humans, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, race, creed, disability or religion are worthy of our attention and respect. That position must hold true for ALL members of our Queer Family, not just the ones that are just like us. And until it does, we have so much farther to go in our quest for equality.

I'm sad to write that this is my last column for OutViews. It's been a marvelous year, and I have learned so much from being able to share with all of you. April tells me there are plenty of folk waiting in the wings to take over "Queer Spirit," so I know I leave you in good hands. Thank you for all the views and opinions you've expressed to me over the past year, and for the opportunity to express my own.

b'shalom,

Jenny

Anyone interested in being considered for this column, please contact April at bleedingrose_april@telus.net no later than September 28, 2002.

Of Course

By Lyn Merryfeather

It was very warm, that September, as she drove through the dry grassy slopes along the edges of the Okanagan valley. She was nervous, telling herself to take deep breaths. When she did, she became aware of the sharp, sandy smell of the land. It brought her back into herself and reminded her that she was alive and making her own choices now. Her choice and her work had brought her to this moment. "It's OK, he wants to meet you too," she kept telling herself.

Almost thirty years ago, she heard her son's first cry, and that was all the memory she had of him. They were separated immediately: the wisdom of the day. He stayed in the maternity ward until his adoptive parents came for him, and she went on, trying to "put it all behind her": another choice bit of '60s wisdom.

Who can ignore the longing for your child, or the constant awareness of something missing? There were the physical mementos of giving birth: the stretch marks, the swollen breasts, the slashed vagina. These would all fade, eventually. The dissonance of being a mother without the recognition, without the right to the name, without the right to the feelings: these were lasting wounds.

She thought about her son through the years: what he looked like, who his friends were, how his childhood went, but when she registered with the agency that would find him for her, she began to fantasize about him. The agency sent her "non-identifying" information, as they called it, and she learned that he was still in BC. Every young male adoptee she met now held a new interest for her. She met a surprising number during that year of waiting. She felt she was being readied. Most of them were friendly enough, but there was an emotional reticence in all of them that she later came to recognize as part of the psyche of the adopted child.

Her first shock, when the agency called to say they had located him, was his name. It wasn't the name she had given him.

She had thought of him by that name for all those years. Of course it wasn't the same name—all adoptees get new names, new birth certificates. She knew that, but it was still a shock. Reality slamming up against fantasy, and fantasy falling back on its little, unreal behind.

Then they had their first telephone conversation. He was telling her not to be nervous, in a soothing, parental voice. He sounded nice, and old. He was an adult. Of course—she knew that. She just didn't know it. For thirty years, he had been a baby to her.

She felt the tip of an iceberg of grief beginning to nudge against her. What they had missed! What they both had missed. He would know that his new mother was not the one whose body had held him for nine months. He would know by the smell. At least she had understood what she had done, even though she had as little choice as he.

She arrived at a friend's house, and called him. He was soothing and calm; she was a wreck. They made plans for the next morning. It had been a long drive and she needed some rest and space before this ordeal. There seemed a million agonizing "what ifs." She hardly slept. And along with the anxiety and excitement, there was a growing mass of sorrow welling up from her chest, lodging behind her eyes. She had been well trained in denial, so she hardly knew it was there.

As she got out of her car at his house, she could feel them watching her from the window. She walked in a daze up the stairs behind him to the living room, where he introduced her to his partner. She sat on the couch and he asked if he should sit beside her. She wanted him to sit opposite her so she could see him. His adoptive mother had prepared an album, sort of a "this is his life", and she went through the motions of looking at the pictures when all she wanted to do was to look at him: to let her eyes soak up all the looking she had missed. He was beautiful. Recognition came like the releasing of a long-held sigh. "Of course! Of course this is what you look like. Yes, of course!" All the fantasies disappeared the instant she recognized him. She didn't touch him that first time, and realized later that what she had wanted was to hold him against her, to do what should have been done at the time of his birth.

The iceberg started melting on the drive home. She couldn't stop crying. She cried the whole eight hours to the throaty sounds of Bonnie Raitt belting out love songs, or the raunchy twang of the Indigo Girls bemoaning the wrongs of the world. The healing had begun. Rarely had she felt so alive. She had made her choice, met her son, and as confusing and painful as it was, it was also the first crack in the shell she had built around her feelings. Her life would change quickly after this: the founding of a support group, the ending of a relationship, the beginning of a lifestyle. But for now, the smell of the earth as she sped toward home was rich and sweet.



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Karen Holton v. The Corporation of the City of Victoria and Victoria Police

On August 16th, 2002, Lawyer Robert Moore-Stewart filed and served a Notice of Claim against The Corporation of the City of Victoria and certain members of the Victoria Police Force; named as John Does 1, 2, & 3, and Jane Does 1, 2, & 3; on behalf of activist Karen Holton, who was assaulted by members of the Victoria Police Department's Crowd Management Unit on April 25th, 2002.

On April 25, 2002, the Claimant, Karen Holton with 9 other women called the Kimberly Rogers Womyn's Brigade, occupied the Victoria Constituency Office of Victoria MLA, Jeff Bray, in an attempt to negotiate for a healthier standard of living for those who suffer from poverty in B.C. Neither Karen Holton, nor any of the other womyn had weapons, used force, or caused damage to property throughout this peaceful demonstration, as was verified in court by Judge Higginbotham on July 17th, 2002.

When the Crowd Management Unit entered the office to arrest the Kimberly Rogers Womyn's Brigade, the group surrendered. During the arrest, Karen Holton was assaulted several times, and subjected to police brutality and unnecessary force, causing injuries and damages to her.

Karen Holton's glasses and hearing aid were damaged, and she suffered numerous bruises and abrasions on her body and head from the assaultive behaviour of the police, including cruel compliance holds, and from their negligence or deliberation in dropping her onto the cement during the arrest. The identities of the police officers who did these actions, are unknown to the Claimant at this time, but these identities are ascertainable.

When Ms. Holton was asked why she was pursuing this legal course of action, she stated, "Now more than ever the rights of marginalized groups are being ignored both locally and globally. If we, one by one, do not stand up to the forces used to silence us, there will be no justice."

Chretien Government Stalls on Marriage Again

Canada's federal government has rejected fast-tracking the issue of gay and lesbian marriage directly to the Supreme Court of Canada. The government has the legal ability to ask the high court for an immediate ruling, bypassing the provincial appeals process, and saving millions of taxpayer dollars. "It's not what I want to do. I've been very clear on that," said federal justice minister Martin Cauchon, in Toronto.

The Chretien government is currently appealing an Ontario Superior Court ruling that said denying gays the right to marry was unconstitutional. That case will be heard by the province's Court of Appeals, possibly later this year, but more likely in 2003. A ruling on a similar appeal is awaited in British Columbia, and a lower court judge in Quebec is expected to issue a ruling in a third challenge to the federal definition of marriage as a "union between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others" this fall.

Ultimately, all three cases are expected to wind up at the Supreme Court, but not before the federal government exhausts all appeals at the provincial level in the three provinces. It is a process that could take up to six years. Also delaying a decision, the federal cabinet last week sent the political aspect of gay marriage to a parliamentary committee for public hearings, a process likely to take months.

However, the government has at its disposal two methods whereby it could send the whole issue to the Supreme Court immediately, say lawyers familiar with the three constitutional challenges. The first method would be to ask the court for a constitutional ruling on the definition of marriage under existing federal law. Referring a legal question to the high court was used in the Quebec secession case. Or, it could, under the Supreme Court Act, file a "per saltum" appeal, allowing it to "leapfrog" over the Ontario Court of Appeals if all parties in the proceeding agree. Cauchon said he would not use either method.

"It is just good common sense to keep being in court in order to clarify the situation with section 15," said Cauchon. But, while Ottawa drags out the legal process, legal bills — already estimated at several million dollars — continue to mount up. If the case does reach the Supreme Court, taxpayers could be on the hook for as much as \$10 million.

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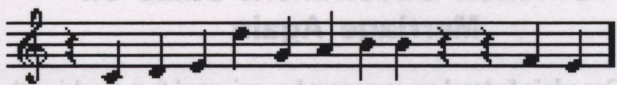
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Notes from musaic

Victoria's GLBT Choir



'Pride' is now over and Musaïc has finished its ninth season. The June 15th concert with the fabulous 'BETTY' from Vancouver was, well, fabulous. BETTY lived up to their reputation and are a 'must see', if you have a chance again. The choir was augmented by Ellen Himmer's beautiful cello and was joined by Navaro Franco's exciting percussion rhythms.

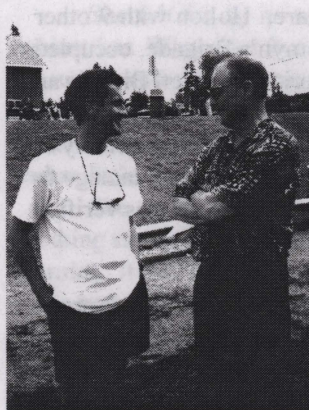
Sandra Radford, Pearl Newfeld and Marilyn Neudorf created a new banner for Musaïc, which had its debut at the concert.

The next day, Musaïc performed for the First Church Unitarian Universalist congregation during their service. There wasn't time to sing our concert for them and, probably, some of the songs were not appropriate for that event, although they probably would have loved 'Coast Salish Medley'. As we were a large part of the service and the congregation was interested in the issues of Gay Pride, several of the members of Musaïc gave brief (ok, ok, one of us was not brief enough), accounts of our thoughts about coming out had been like, what Musaïc meant to us, what pride means and what it cost.

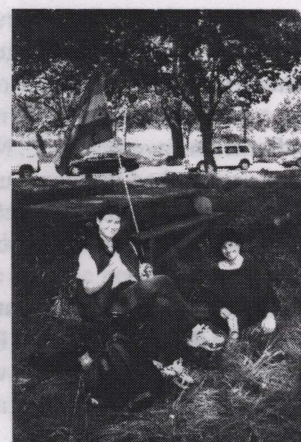
The congregation was a warm, responsive and welcoming audience and that experience in a religious context was a surprise to some of us, an affirmation and a meaningful experience for all of us. We don't usually sing that early in the morning and despite some confusing moments organizing our entry (honest Melaney, we aren't organizationally challenged - we just weren't awake yet!).

On June 29, a contingent of us went to Nanaimo to support their Pride celebrations. Their event was quite different than the Victoria festivities. They had a market in a small hall, with entertainment that included the Comox PFLAG choir (we joined in on 'We're Gonna Keep On Moving Forward' - how could we help it?). This choir formed after the concert they organized last year with the Vancouver Lesbian and Gay Chorus was disrupted by a pepper spray 'bomb'.

Then the event moved outside, with addresses by the Acting Mayor, Ron Cantalon, who was the only council member who supported the declaration of Pride Day in Nanaimo, and Svend Robinson, who attended with his partner. Svend purported to read a declaration from the Governor General that, in recognition of the publicity the Mayor had given to the Pride day, he was being declared 'Gay for a Day'.



Acting Mayor, Ron Cantalon
and Svend Robinson



Suzanne Thibodeau relaxes after her
win with Susan Dew Jones

After the speeches, there was music and a variety of games, including balloon toss and a dog agility contest (no, I'm not kidding - it was quite impressive, with poles and gates and other obstacles). After the games, there was a gathering at the bar, Neighbours, and then a dance, at which there was a significant and enthusiastic Victoria presence.

Musaïc hosted its first (annual?) picnic in the park on June 30th. Surprising athletic ability was demonstrated in the 'Fill the Bucket Relay', nerves of steel for the 'Fake Egg and Spoon' race, and terminal fashion sense for the 'Drag Race'. Robin, who knew?



picture of Jenny Lang demonstrating
the preferred run for home form



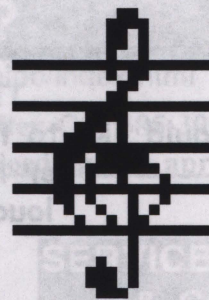
the hot dog crew - Elna MacCleod, Pear, Elaine Lewis, Lin and Tony



Musaïc's Marching Kazoo Band marched again in the parade, its third, augmented by some impressive new recruits. Some quick shirt swapping had to take place to keep everyone in their proper colour of the rainbow! The Musaïc table at the festival was personed by Elaine Lewis and Pat Ford and generated quite a bit of interest. Like the Lesbian Avengers, we recruit!

Musaïc takes a break now until the fall season - if you would like to sing with us (or help out in any other way), come and try us out. Our 10th season begins Wednesday, September 4th at 7 PM at the Church of Truth on

Superior St. - just across from the park where the festival was held.



Dysfunctional Family? Yes. Community? Maybe...

By Kevin Begg

I am sitting here at this computer wondering what I have to say. This year pride was special to me for many reasons. For one, it was a return. Last year I didn't really take part. I was there for most of it. We are growing and with growth comes pain. Not everyone can be happy with what was offered and not everyone was. The realization that I did not have a good pride last year had nothing to do with anyone else but myself. I think people need to start realizing this. If you do not feel represented at pride, then do something about it. The media focuses on what makes a story and what is going to catch people's attention. For the most part that's the half naked men the motorbikes and the Drag Queens. But there are others like my mother who saw pflag, and asked questions. Everyone is noticed and whether you are on TV on the stage, have a table or March in the parade you are all important in your own way. We strive for diversity and equality and the right to live are lives, yet there are people out there with in are own community that make it harder. I don't think we have a community; if we did we would be working together for the greater good. Instead we have a collection of people that would rather push there own agenda. I don't think Pride should be a political platform. It's a time for us all to come together reconnect have some fun, and enjoy what we have realize what we still need to work for. I don't think we can call what we are a community there is just to much petty whining, there are people that need to grow up before we can call are selves a community. Dysfunction family YES.

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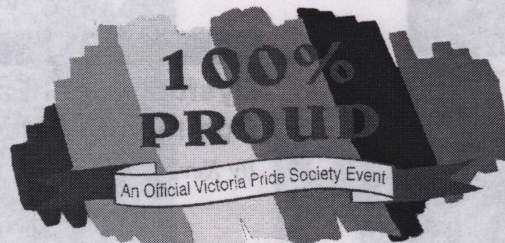
Helen Walter PhD
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The Victoria Pride Society
would like to thank the LGBT community of Victoria
for making this year's Pride the
loudest, proudest and biggest
pride ever!



We could not have done it without you!!

Come to the AGM and get involved,
let's make it even better next year!

AGM, Bleeding Rose, 6pm, September 27



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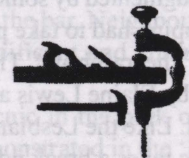
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What's Going On?

Rhino's Web Page <http://members.home.net/lavrhino/index.html>

ALL notices are \$15 first 25 words and .50/word thereafter. Call 385-3099.

Deadline the first of the month prior to publication. Email April bleedingrose_april@telus.net

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT: Male couple seeks other gay/lesbian couples, caregivers and survivors in greater Victoria for support for Alzheimer's and other dementias. For info, call Ken at (250) 744-3850 or e-mail bassobear@shaw.ca

HAPPY HIKES: Guided day hikes on southern Vancouver Island. Gourmet picnic lunches provided. Hikes customized for clients. Call 652-3818. www.happyhikes.com

TAROT AND RUNE: readings, spiritual guidance on how to face challenges in life. 10 yrs experience. \$40-50/hr sliding scale. Joy (a.k.a. Aurora) 361-4680.

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH: 5575 West Saanich Road, welcomes all to worship together in an atmosphere of inclusiveness, acceptance, and respect on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Services of Union and other services supporting LGBT life in community are part of our Unitarian tradition. Phone 744-2665 for further information.

INTERESTED?: in forming a support group for lesbians who have a brain injury or have had to deal with a brain tumor. Partners welcome! For more information please call Brenda Vallillee: 479-9602, mornings or leave a message if no answer. Or email brenster@sprint.ca.

GETAWAY TO PORT RENFREW: Explore Botanical Beach, mile long Crescent Beach, hike the West Coast/Juan de Fuca Trails, swim in Fairy Lake, or lay by the woodstove and pursue our little library from this quaint, ocean view paradise. Equipped, three bedroom bungalow rented by the night - low rates: 388-0754

BDSM SUPPORT GROUP: New group forming for queer people interested in bdsm. Whether you are new to the scene or a long time player this group could be for you. Come and meet others for friendship and support in a friendly atmosphere. Call 883-3099 for more info.

FOR SALE: 2 hair stylist sinks with all plumbing, good condition. \$300 obo for the pair. Will separate if need be. 385-3099

ON SALT SPRING ISLAND Gays/Lesbians/Allies: meet on the third Sunday of the month, from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. at the Seniors for Seniors Building, 379 Lower Ganges Road (across from GVM). Plan social events; get involved in education, exploration & visibility projects. For more info call (250) 537-7773 or e-mail caffyn@saltspring.com.

DREAMING THE NEW SACRED PLACE®: Dream Analysis, Consulting, Study Programs, Apprenticeships, Shamanic Dreamwork, with a Jungian framework. Dreamwork offers opportunities for spiritual growth, healing, release of old patterns, birthing new ones. Accesses personal Sacred Images and Allies for wisdom and life direction. Claire Turcotte, Keeper of the Dream, Reiki Master, Shamanic Practitioner, Crone. 595-0088.

SPIKES VOLLEYBALL: meets Wednesdays, Lansdowne Jr. Secondary Sch 8:30pm

HAVE YOUR YOGA INSTRUCTOR? Certified Hatha Yoga instructor (chakra system) Available for individuals and small groups. 29yrs. experience. Sliding scale. Eva 384-7701

DINNER CLUB: Monthly potluck dinners to meet new women and get to meet old friends. Call 383-2131

COTTAGE NEAR THE SEA FOR SALE IN PORT RENFREW - \$114,500: Well maintained three bedroom home, with water and mountain views, on large lot, one house from the beach. Collectively owned and casually operated for 5 years as a nightly rental/getaway business. Annual 50% revenue increase. Can also facilitate group purchase. Duncan: 748-1579 Victoria: 385-3064

BODY ELECTRIC: Man to Man massage. Relax. Come to your senses. Integrative bodywork by certified masseur. 595-2098

SERVICES, ACTIVITIES & CONTACTS

AVI: 384-2366, 1601 Blanchard St.

BJ'S Gay/Les etc. Bar: Broad Street at Johnson 388-0505

Bleeding Rose Books & Afterdark: 101/102-764 Yates St. 385-3099. Mon-Sat 10 to 7, Sun 12-5 <http://www.bleedingrose.com>

Blue Star Consignment: 3416 Quadra St., 477-0055

Dyke Dimensions Radio: CFUV Mondays, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. FM 104.3 Cable FM 101.9

Camosun College Lesbian Collective. Alternate weeks. 370-3484

FTM (etc) Peer-run drop-in is the First Saturday of every month at AVI, 304-733 Johnson St. Transgender Resource Line at 413-3220.

Lesbian Seniors Care Society Victoria: Reva @ 250 388-4161 Mail P. O. Box 39022 James Bay Postal Outlet V8V 4X8

Musaic: Lesbian & Gay Choir. Box 8533 Victoria, BC V8W 3S1, 360-1966

Pink Pages: Community Resource Directory Box 5231 St. B, Victoria V8R 6N4 Email pinkpage@gayvictoria.com

P-Flag: Information, 385-9462

Prime Timers Victoria: email victoria@lasvegasnv.net

Restaurants Gay/Les Owned:

Rosie's Diner 615 Johnson St.

Steam Works: Health Club for Men 582 Johnson St. 383-6623

This Way Out: CFUV 10:00 to 1:30 p.m. Mondays 101.9 or Cable 104.3

Victoria Pride Society: 385-3099 www.victoriapride.com

VYPS: Victoria Youth Pride Society (14-25) 413-3177 vyyps@writeme.com

Women's Creative Network: www.victoria.tc.ca/community/wcn

Women's Outdoors Club: 474-8159 email Kanaice_sls@telus.net Sherry Norie s.norie@shaw.ca

What's Up at the Bleeding Rose

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250-385-3099 <http://www.bleedingrose.com>

Queer Parent's Support Group

Support group for parents and parents-to-be of all types. Meetings to resume in September at various locations. We are also looking for volunteers to help facilitate these meetings. To help, call 385-3099

Where are the best schools? What Govt. services are available? Which day care is the most inclusive? What resources are there for adoptive and foster parents? Where can I find a known donor? What about surrogacy?

Open to **Queer** parents of all ages, single, gay, lesbian, straight, trans, intersexed etc. Speakers, info, support. Child Care provided.

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QUEER AS FOLK/ MOVIE NIGHT

Every Monday night!
8:30 gather & mingle
9:00 previous week's episode
10:00 new episode
Bring a snack to share soda
and popcorn provided by
donation

Sunday Coffee Social

September 29

Come and join us!
Lots of fun and good conversation. Dessert provided, coffee and drinks available for sale 12pm

We buy used GLBT and adult books and videos. Better yet, set up a trade account!

NEW ON THE SHELVES!

Lesbian Epiphanies - Karol L. Jensen, PhD
(women coming out later in life)

in a queer country - Terry Goldie, ed
(queer studies in a Canadian context)

Tough Guys - Bill Brent, ed
(down & dirty gay fiction, forward by Pat Califia)

Bad Boys - Dan Tusitala
(book of erotic bedtime stories)

Bad Girls - Lori Selke, ed.
(down & dirty dyke erotica)

Best Bisexual Erotica 2 - Carol Queen, ed

AFTERDARK NOW OPEN

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Custom leather/fetish work available. Lowest prices in Victoria. Watch for our education and workshop series this summer and fall.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bleeding Rose is expanding again. We are opening a coffee bar and expanding the bookstore. Volunteers will be needed to help get the space ready by Pride. Keep in mind that the space will be available for community groups and others as the need arises at no cost (donations gladly accepted).

Also, we are now taking volunteer applications for the adult shop, Afterdark, full training will be provided. There will also be volunteer opportunities in the main store as well as for workshops and sex-positive parties.

We have a volunteer open house coming up. For more information please call the store or e-mail bleedingrose@telus.net

NEW VIDEOS!

The Deep End - based on a true story
Mulholland Drive (dvd & vhs) - lesbian romance by David Lynch

Monkey's Mask - lesbian mystery/romance

Come Undone - beautiful gay coming of age story

Rock Star - starring Mark Wahlberg

Rated X - true story of legendary porn kings

Preaching to the Perverted

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back

The Others