

letters

Look at the Birdie!

It always happens! As soon as the present administration in DC is put squarely in the center of something scandalous they have someone out in right field hold up a distracting topic. "Hey, don't mess with Texas!" Even if Dubya could think deeply enough to defend himself against accusations of feeding the American public lies to gain support for his Daddy's enemy, you can bet that he'll falter when interrogated by ethical investigative journalists (those who don't work for publications and stations dominated by corporate interests!). Yes, he now admits to partial culpability ... but at the same time his press team has balanced this equation with another righteous cause. "Thou shalt not lie," in other words, is being cancelled out by, "Now, y'all don't think them gay folks can git married on MY watch, dadburnit!"

So, now, off on another moral tangent goes the Republican regime. Bush saying he's going to pass legislation which will obliterate the rights of gays to unite as recognized couples. That'll bring votes and popularity back to his slightly tarnished image after the close shave concerning his rhetorical untruths about the possibility of weapons

of mass destruction in pre-war Iraq. I mean, really, isn't the American public smarter than this by now? Are we going to let another red herring distract us from the serious flaws in this government?

In between the Pope and Bush dictating the moral rights of world citizens because of their immediate, constant and easily accessible daily chats with God scares me to death. Whatever the press gives us (unless it's *OITM*, of course) should be understood for what it is these days. If a national leader can get away with starting a war justified by falsehood and, to get our minds off this fact begins a media campaign to wow the 'holier than thou' self righteous among us ... then we deserve what we have. However, I'd really like to see a straight-shooting businessman who doesn't concern himself with a citizen's private life but concentrates on the economy, environment, health care and education become our next president (elected rather than appointed!). I don't have time for the petty right-wing witch hunts, and none of us can afford them.

Heather McKeown
East Berkshire

Terror Attempt in the South

I'm writing this letter to address two groups of people. The first is that very small minority of people that includes the person who dressed in a black hood and robe and terrorized me at my home in North Westminster [Vermont] on Wednesday evening August 6. The second is the community at large which has proved so very supportive.

To the first group: If your intent was to terrify and frighten me, that you did. When I looked down into my yard and saw the person in a black hood and robe, I thought it a vision from hell. Then he called me a f - - ing faggot, and ran away like the coward that he and you all are.

If your intent was to scare me away, make me crawl into a hole and disappear, or otherwise intimidate me, then you failed miserably. I'm not going to go away. In fact, I'm doing everything in my power to make sure everyone in this part of the country knows ignorant and hateful people like this still exist. It's sad that the one state that would seem to be the most accepting of gay people would have to have this kind of sickness

festering still. Hopefully this was an isolated incident and this kind of ignorant behavior is becoming less and less evident. As all decent and caring people must hope, I have to believe it is.

Now to address the community at large: Words will never successfully express how much Gary and I appreciate your help and support. The State Police were really calming and supportive. The Windham County Sheriff's Office was extremely understanding and had very good advice to give us. We are especially pleased with how wonderful our neighbors have been. The love and support we have been given has helped us to maintain our faith in the inherent goodness of mankind.

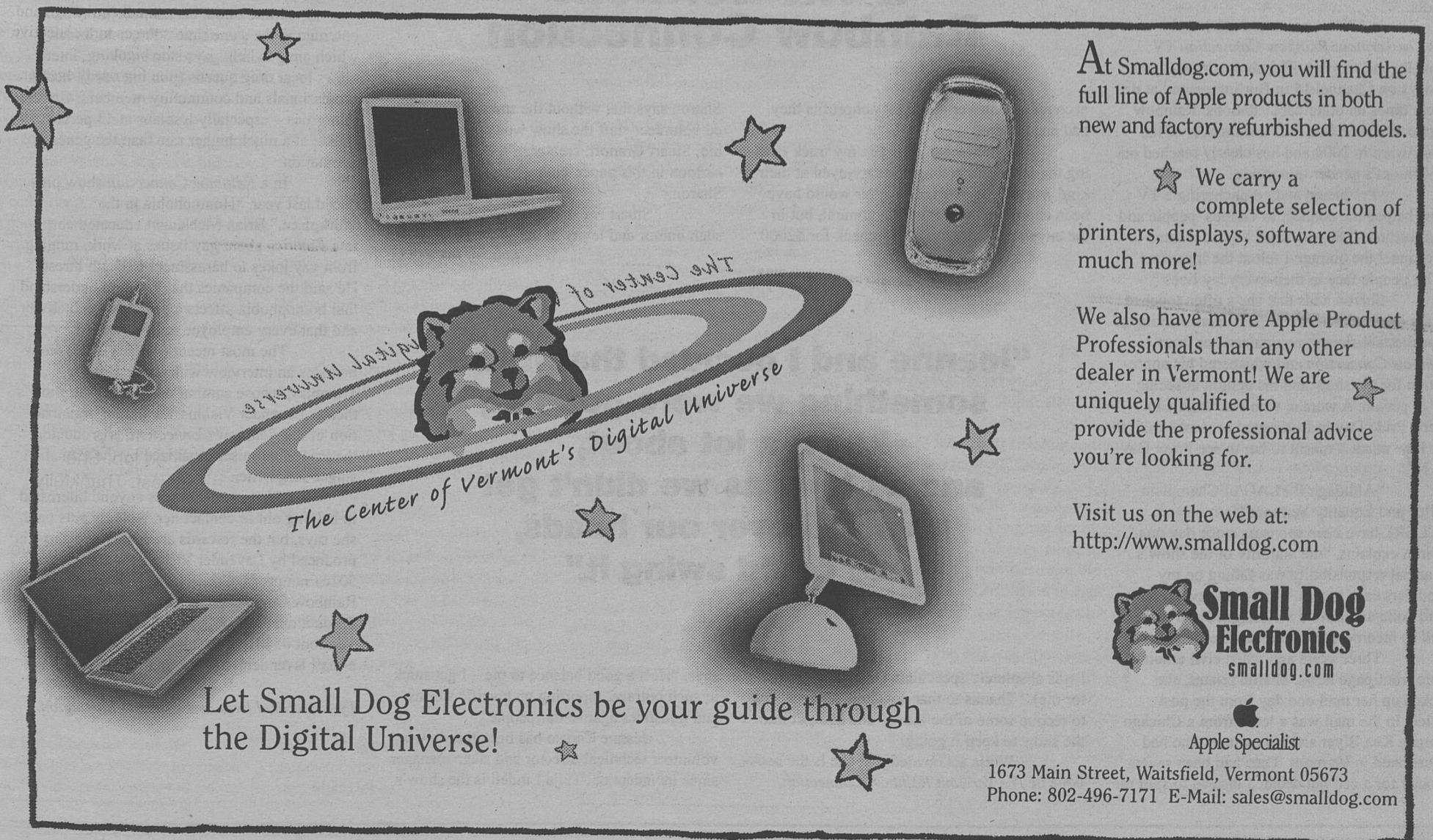
There is a saying, "That which does not kill us makes us stronger." The ignorance, cruelty and evil in this type of act only strengthens my resolve in the belief that everyone has the right to live the life they choose so long as it does not harm another. Thankfully, most of the people in our lives hold with this belief as well.

Michael W. Warren
Gary W. Momaney
North Westminster

Corrections . . .

▼ Well, there was that glaring typo on the front cover of the August issue, which should have read: Barony of All Vermont Celebrates Third Year of Serving Its Community.

▼ Even worse was the fact that Editor Euan pasted up the wrong copy of the back page, and as a result, it was hard to see that the Women's Extravaganza is a benefit for Pride Vermont, cosponsored by Mountain Pride Media and Lavender Visions. We apologize for the error and hope everyone turns out for the concert to support a good cause.



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