

Notes from the Editor

To the Editor:

A copy of this letter from members of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance was sent to UVM President Lattie Coor, Dean of Students Keith Miser, as well as student leaders within the fraternity and sorority system.

We find ourselves with the unfortunate obligation of informing you of an incident that occurred on April 12, 1988 concerning Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity located at 371 Main Street.

As part of a UVM Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Alliance outreach project carried out in conjunction with the University of Vermont College of Education and Social Services through Professor James Barbour, we were scheduled to appear at 7:00 p.m. as guests at an ECHD 65 discussion group, to be held at Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity to discuss the issue of homosexuality. At 6:45 p.m. in the driveway of Sigma Phi Epsilon, we saw a parked car on which was spray-painted the phrase "KILL QUEERS", in addition to the Greek letters of the chapter.

In light of the fact that it was known in advance that we had been invited to come to address the group at Sigma Phi Epsilon, we felt it was an irresponsible and possibly hostile action on the part of the brothers

to allow the vehicle to remain in the Sigma Phi Epsilon parking lot, and we felt that our safety might be in jeopardy. For the time being, we have postponed our appearance.

This is a deeply felt affront, not only to the gay community but to the University community and the city of Burlington as well. Such a display of violent sentiments is intolerable, especially following the recent episode at Lambda Iota fraternity, in which the same message was displayed on their house vehicle. We would strongly encourage you to recognize this as a developing trend which deserves an immediate and strong response on the part of the Inter-Fraternity and Panhellenic Councils, as well as the University.

We understand that the Greek system functions independently of the University. However, since the University has hired a Coordinator of Greek Affairs to maintain close ties with the system, we are sure that you will want to take action to enforce the non-discrimination clause which the University adopted. You have shown concern in the past for the rights of gays and lesbians at UVM. We hope that you will recognize the gravity of this situation and follow through on your tradition for the civil rights of homosexuals.

S.C. and J.W.

A Lobbyist Reports

Patti York, an OITM reader from St. Johnsbury, recently wrote an editorial in support of S.278 to the extremely conservative family owned Caledonian Record. She was the first gay person to come out, politically (or for any reason) in the history of the paper.

In her editorial she wrote, "if we are truly a nation that respects the rights of every person, then passing this bill means the fulfillment of the most basic constitutional principles that our country was built on. Yes, a fulfillment of our existing laws,

OITM does not publish for the months of July and August (we need the break!). If you have calendar items for those months, please submit them by may 15th. Thank you.

Time/Newsweek Boycott

The Media Watch and Boycott Action groups of CRY OUT! are sponsoring a boycott of *Time* and *Newsweek*. "Your gloves don't match your shoes" was *Newsweek's* total coverage of the National March on Washington. *Time* did not cover it at all.

Silence = Death. Something we know to be true, even in America. When 600,000 people gather to do anything, it is news! When 600 people choose to be arrested, it is also news!

Our response to *Time* and *Newsweek* must not be silence. We urge you to join us in a boycott of these magazines.

For more info, contact: CRY OUT!,

S-278 Status Report

As of this printing of OITM, Senate Bill 278 was still sitting in the House Judiciary Committee waiting for action. The expected adjournment of this legislative session will probably be in the first part of May. So keep your eyes and ears tuned to the mainstream media!

Purpose

The purpose of Out in the Mountains is to serve as a voice for lesbians, gay men, and our supporters in Vermont. We wish the newspaper to be a source of information, support and affirmation for lesbians and gay men. We also see it as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian and gay community.

Editorial Policy

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and of each other. Views and opinions appearing in the paper do not necessarily represent those of the staff. This paper cannot, and will not endorse any candidates and actions of public officials on issues of importance to lesbians and gay men.

We will not publish any material which is overtly racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, ageist, classist, or homophobic.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the author should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newspaper, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. No revisions or rejections of materials will occur without dialogue with the author.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit materials for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us. This paper is here for you. The deadline for submitting material for each issue is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Materials should be sent to:
Out in the Mountains
PO Box 177
Burlington, VT 05402

**O.I.T.M.,
You're Looking
Better Than Ever!**

**Desktop Publishing
facilities donated by**

LaserImage

187 St. Paul Street, Burlington

863-1884