

Politics

Boycotts of the Month

It's getting so you just have to start making a list.

First it was Marlboro cigarettes and now it's Miller beer as the battle against Senator Jesse Helms continues. (Helms, for those of you who haven't been following the gay weeklies, monthlies, and quarterlies, is the man responsible for the recent censorship rampage in the arts world, and his notorious homophobia is well-documented in his anti-gay tirades in the Senate.) Both Marlboro and Miller are products of the Philip Morris company, which not only funds Helms' campaign, but has donated large sums of money toward building a museum for the man.

Gay bars around the country have stopped serving Miller beer, and in a few protests, patrons have taken to the streets to dump the stuff into the gutter.

Gay activists are also trying to rouse some protest over some recent television network decisions concerning the presentation (or lack thereof) of gay themes on the tube. NBC showed their slant on sensitivity toward lesbians when they had one kill her lover with her high heels on "Quantum Leap," and then this fall they premiered "The Fanelli Boys," who seem partial to using the word "queers" as an insult.

ABC, on the other hand, has decided to avoid controversy by avoiding gays altogether, at least in the popular show "thirtysomething." The classic episode which featured two gay men talking together in bed has now been banned due to pressure from the American Family Association and several advertisers.

So what about CBS? They come out the good guys this time around and will continue to air "Doctor, Doctor," whose main character maintains a strong contact with his gay brother. Rumor has it that CBS has also been in touch with Harvey Fierstein (best known for his play and film "Torch Song Trilogy") concerning a possible pilot for a new show.

Gays issues have been getting a lot of press in magazines recently as well. You might consider cancelling your subscription to *Esquire* after the recent tirade against gays by Peter Hamill ("Confessions of a Heterosexual," it was called.) For more meaningful reading, try instead the new issue of *Harper's*, which contains an article entitled "Late Victorians: San Francisco, AIDS, and the Homosexual Stereotype."

Those interested in keeping up with

the media presentation (and misrepresentation) of gays and lesbian issues should contact GLAAD, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, at 80 Varick Street, Suite 3E, New York NY 10013.

Much of the above information was culled from GLAAD's informative newsletter, which also tells you where to write and who to write to in order to make known your thoughts and feelings on these matters.

Russell Wins (from page 1)

Russell finished in first place in four towns in the district (Hinesburg, Huntington, St. George, and Westford), the only non-incumbent to do so well. In addition, he had second place finishes in Charlotte, Burlington's Ward 2, and Bolton.

Anderson noted that victory in November is within reach, citing in particular the number of progressive voters who will come out to vote for Bernie Sanders for Congress and traditional Democratic strength in Chittenden County. "We'll certainly have to work hard against a field of tough candidates," said Anderson.

The November election will pit the six Democratic nominees against six Republicans and one independent candidate. With Crowley's defeat, there are now two open Senate seats, and many political observers consider incumbent Republican Senator Hilton Wick to be vulnerable. "Three potential openings provide a great opportunity for us," said Anderson, adding "I am absolutely convinced that Howdy can win on November 6th."

Join The Fight!

Support The Vermont Coalition of Lesbians and Gay Men

in their work to pass legislation guaranteeing equal rights to Lesbians and Gay men in Vermont and insuring protection for People With AIDS and HIV+ persons. Contribute to our cause and add your name to our mailing list. We need your help.

Yes, I want to be a part of making Vermont safer for Gays and Lesbians. Add my name to your mailing list.

Accept my contribution of _____ to help with expenses and general coalition building efforts.

See Address on Resources Page

Name _____

Address _____

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THANK YOU!

Philip Roberts, M.S. Mental Health Counselor

Gay/Lesbian Affirmative Counseling

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