

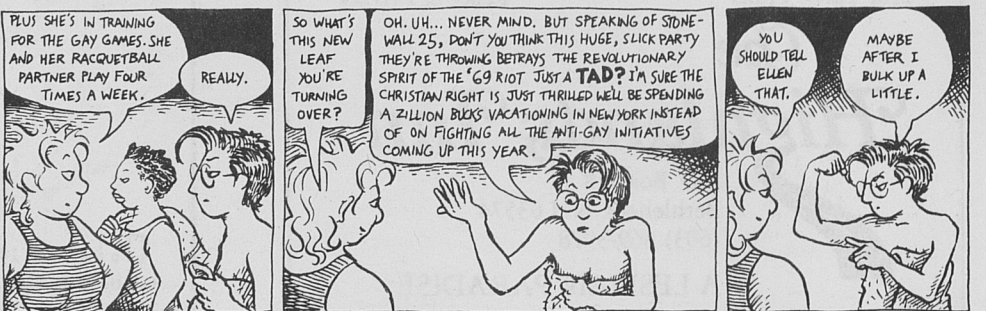
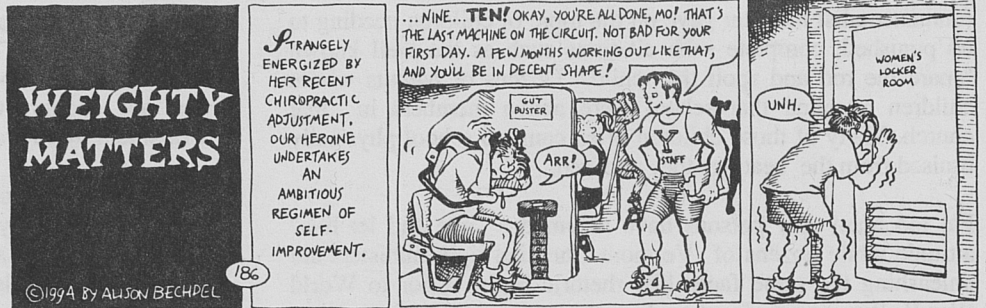
Dartmouth Reverses ROTC Stand

Dartmouth College trustees have reversed their 1991 decision to discontinue the ROTC Program if the military continued its ban on homosexuals. Without referring to its earlier decision, the Board has stated that it now has two goals: first "to preserve the opportunity for students to participate in ROTC" and, secondly, "to bring about an ROTC program that does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of sexual orientation." A year ago, the Board had extended its April, 1993 deadline for military compliance to April, 1994, hoping that the Clinton Administration would lift the ban on gays.

The decision to retain ROTC was strongly opposed by the faculty and administration of the Ivy League college, and largely supported by students and alumni. For members of the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community, the decision has been experienced as a serious weakening of support for the inclusion of sexual orientation within the College's Equal Opportunity Statement. According to John Crane, co-convenor of the faculty/staff Coalition for Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Concerns, "The trustees have taught a very damaging lesson to students -- that sexual orientation is not firmly included in Dartmouth's nondiscrimination statement and that the College is willing to permit discrimination in exchange for a few scholarships. We feel we need to teach a very different lesson." ▼

Dykes To Watch Out For

By Alison Bechdel



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