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# Out in the Mountains

VERMONT'S NEWSPAPER FOR LESBIANS, GAY MEN, AND BISEXUALS

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## Ups-N-Downs: 1994 in review

Kip M. Roberson

**WINOOSKI** -- As unpredictable and varied as winter weather, so was the news and events involving Vermont's gay/lesbian/bisexual community. Ranging from the uplifting experiences of Gay Pride Day and the Vermont Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights Conference to the disheartening, if not deplorable, arson fire at Vermont CARES to the surprising turn of events surrounding sex education at Harwood High and the flip-flop stance on gay rights by James Jeffords, 1994 has proven to be quite a memorable year.

Vermont may indeed be the most rural state in the nation, but rural does not mean uneventful. Narrowing the past year's events down to a Letterman-esque Top 10 List was not an easy task. The list contains funny, angering, surprising, and history-making stories, even events that will probably not be remembered next year but were significant to 1994. Instead of trying to predict what 1995 will hold for our community (we'll leave that to Jeanne Dixon and the National Enquirer), let us reminisce over 1994 one final time. Let the countdown begin!

*Continued on page 16.*

### In This Special Year End Issue:

- Opinions In The Mountains, page 03.
- A Queer Christmas List, page 08.
- Candid Candidate Chris Cozzy, page 14.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**

## Cherie, You're So Very...



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Cherie Tartt (aka Steven West) and friends raised \$240 for C.O.T.S. (Committee on Temporary Shelter) in a benefit entitled "Cherie's Jubilee" held October 23 at 135 Pearl in Burlington. Cherie will be hosting the "Merry Cherie Christmas Show" on December 15, also at 135 Pearl. (Photo by Staci Visco)

## U.S. Congress' Queer Year: What they did right (not Right) in 1994

WASHINGTON, D.C. --

- \*\*The House voted 227 to 192 (a margin of 35 votes) against legislation which would have automatically discharged all People With AIDS or HIV infection serving in the Armed Forces.
- \*\*More members of Congress cosponsored the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) in 1994 than in the previous 15 years of the Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill.
- \*\*Idaho's congressional delegation agreed to publicly oppose the anti-gay initiative on November's ballot in that state.
- \*\*The Senate held hearings on ENDA, its first on behalf of lesbian and gay civil rights.
- \*\*The Senate confirmed the nation's first openly lesbian (or gay) federal judge.
- \*\*Four congressional committees voted to prohibit anti-gay/HIV discrimination in health care.
- \*\*Congress gave final approval to the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act, the first ever federal protection on the basis of sexual orientation.
- \*\*Majorities in the House and Senate pledged not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in their hiring decisions.
- \*\*The House voted 224 to 194 (a margin of 30 votes) to limit federal interference in local school programs serving lesbian and gay youth. (FANews) ▼