

Win Some, Lose Some:

Continued from page 1



Gov. Howard Dean, a friend of our community, was reelected for another term (*OITM file photo*)

the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), all 13 Senate co-sponsors of ENDA up for reelection won. In the U.S. House of Representatives, HRCF indicated that 10 of 120 ENDA co-sponsors were defeated while 11 new co-sponsors were elected. As widely reported, the Republicans gained control of the House for the first time since 1954. The GOP also gained a slight majority in the Senate. With this shift in power, the Republicans gained control of House and Senate Committees and will yield greater influence over what will and will not get done nationally.

Compared to Washington, changes in Vermont's political landscape were less drastic. Vermont state government will be headed by Democratic Governor Howard

Dean and Republican Lieutenant Governor Barbara Snelling. Vermont Democrats maintained control of the House of Representatives (sans Speaker Ralph Wright) while the GOP increased their majority in the State Senate. Democrats and Republicans have pledged both to end the session on time and to work together to solve the problems facing Vermont.

A number of races in Vermont included openly gay, HIV+, and transgendered candidates. Although he lost the Democratic primary, openly gay and HIV+ Burlington resident Christopher Cozzy made a reasonable showing during his first run for one of Chittenden County's six Senate seats. In describing his reasons for running in a recent *OITM* article, Cozzy wrote, "I felt a need to get new blood in government and thought I could further the cause of being positive." Cozzy sees himself in two years as "openly gay, HIV+, and running for State Senate".

Transgendered Montpelier resident Karen Anne Kerin was one of four Republicans seeking the GOP nomination for Montpelier's two seats in the House of Representatives. Kerin believes her failure to win her party's nomination had more to do with the fact that she suspended her campaign to focus on her law school studies as opposed to her gender identity. Kerin stated that she's "proud of Montpelier" for the support she received in the primary and indicated that she may seek public office in the future.

According to Glover resident Brendan Hadash, running as an openly gay man did not affect his fourth race for the Vermont House of Representatives. Although he lost in the general election, Hadash indicated that neither he nor his opponents brought up his sexuality during the campaign. Hadash, a Democrat, stated that he's "in the closet with the door wide open". Hadash has not ruled out yet another run for public office.

In order to devote time to his career in education, Thomas Fleury of Burlington did not seek reelection to the Vermont House of Representatives. Fleury will not go far from Montpelier as he, along with Susan Aranoff, was recently elected Vermont Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights (VCLGR) co-liaison to Governor Dean. Fleury expressed an interest in returning to Montpelier as an elected official in the future.

Former VCLGR Co-Chair and Hinesburg resident Bill Lippert sought and won election to Vermont's House of Representatives. Lippert was appointed to the House by Governor Dean after the resignation of Representative Chuck Ross last April. Without Fleury, Lippert now serves as the only openly gay member of the Vermont General Assembly.

With the 1994 campaign season behind, the real work in Washington and Montpelier is set to begin. Like many election years, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered Vermonters won and lost some important races. For those who thrive on the dynamics of the campaign season, Burlington's race for Mayor will be held in March and 1996 is less than two years away. ▼

Susan McKenzie, M. S.

Experienced Feminist Therapist-Licensed Psychologist

Formerly Affiliated with the Women's Therapy Center, Burlington, VT

Announces the opening of a new practice in Norwich, VT

Lesbian issues: Relationships, Parenting, Childhood Trauma, Life Transitions, Anxiety and Depression

Insurance Accepted - Sliding Fees - Supervision and Consultation

(802) 296-5819



**DESIGN, TRAINING
& SUPPORT SERVICES
FOR THE MAC & PC**



187 St Paul St. Burlington

802-863-1884