## **Best and Worst**

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Best place to take a same-sex date: Ask a lesbian.

Best place for a cheap date: Burlington's Ethan Allen Cinema.

Best lesbian nightspot: Club Fantasy in South Burlington.

Best movie theaters:

Century Plaza in South Burlington and the Savoy in Montpelier who both continue to showcase lesbian and gay themed films.

**Best vacation places:** Provincetown, Ogunquit, and San Francisco.

Best place to meet gay men and lesbians: Burlington's 135 Pearl during the National Governors' Association (NGA) conference.

Worst place to meet gay men: Vermont.

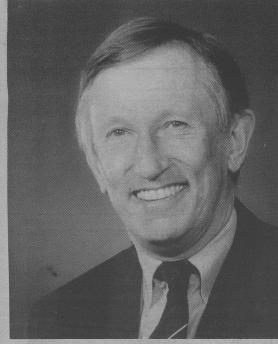
## **Political**

Best comic strip: Alison Bechdel's "Dykes to Watch Out For".

Best student association: Middlebury College's G/L/B Alliance.

Best political organization:

Vermont Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights (VCLGR) which is working hard to fight Leon Graves' anti-gay amendment to Vermont's adoption reform legislation and for support of the Human Rights Commission.



Best politician:

Senator James Jeffords. In 1995, after twenty years of refusing to support national gay rights legislation, Jeffords became the original sponsor and introduced the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA). Honorable mention: Vermont State Auditor Edward Flanagan for coming out publicly in an attempt to combat homophobia.

Worst politician:

Vermont Agricultural Commissioner Leon Graves who, as a State Senator, introduced an amendment to the adoption reform bill barring same-sex couples from adopting. Honorable mention: Cambridge State Representative Ricky Westman who, through his endorsement of Bob Dole's anti-gay presidential candidacy, is the epitome of what is wrong with politicians today. Honorable mention II: South Burlington City

Councilor David MacLaughlin who wants to define "entertainment" for Chittenden County.

**Best Gay Pride costume:** 

Radical Faerie Gabriel Q with his fabulous wings.

**Best sniping**: Best and Worst of Gay Vermont 1995.

Worst sniping: Mary Hurlie's "Voices From the Mountains" in OITM (9/95).



Outright Vermont which continues to provide critical services to g/l/b youth in Vermont in spite of a hostile political climate.

Worst fight:

Forget Mike Tyson's 89 second return to the ring, the Mary Hurlie/Susan Aranoff VCLGR bout will last for months.

Best drag queen (drag is political): Amber who looks great in her leopard skin mini. Honorable mention: Cherie Tartt, of course!

Best (and only) female illusionist: Noel

Worst decision:

Take your pick: the decision to invite and/or disinvite Lieutenant Governor Barbara Snelling to speak at Gay Pride Day. Honorable mention: 135 Pearl's decision to not have a gay Gay Pride Day celebration.

**Best decision**:

VCLGR's meeting with Barbara Snelling following the Gay Pride Day debacle.

Best political appointment:

President Clinton's appointment of Terje Anderson to his Advisory Council on AIDS/HIV.

Best political comeback:

The reelection of Burlington Mayor Peter Clavelle.

Best quote:

Governor Howard Dean when asked about Senator Leon Graves' anti-gay amendment to the adoption reform bill: "I oppose it and will not sign the bill if it is in there."

Rutland's anti-Daddy's Roommate crusader, Karol Raiche, on homosexuality: "The American Psychological Association says that homosexuality is now normal and you're probably born with it. But the APA is also trying to normalize pedophilia."

## **Spiritual**

Best spiritual leader:

Rabbi Joshua Chasen who has championed civil rights and serves on the Board of Vermont CARES.

Worst spiritual leader:

Operation Rescue's Michael McHugh.



News

Best newspaper:

The Rutland Herald for responsibly covering Rutland's Daddy's Roommate debate.

Worst newspaper: Chittenden County's Vermont Times -- have they ever covered a lesbian and gay event or issue?

Best television personality: WPTZ's John Daley (move over Blaine).

Capitalism

Best place to shop (gay men): Stowe Trading Post in Stowe and Burlington.

Best place to shop (lesbians): American Eagle in Burlington.

Best place to get condoms: Vermont CARES.

Best bakery:

The Daily Bread in Richmond.



Best Ben & Jerry's flavor: Chubby Hubby.

Best place for drag outfits: Old Gold in Burlington.

Best place for drag shoes: PayLess in St. Albans (the girls are bigger up

Best record store: Pure Pop in Burlington.

Vivaldi Flowers in South Burlington. Honorable Mention: Wildflower Designs in Stowe.

Best attorney:

Susan Murray (Langrock Sperry & Wool) because of her success in the area of same-sex adoptions and ongoing commitment to social

Best realtor:

Coldwell Banker's Jacqueline Marino.

Best shoe store:

Cole Hahn in Manchester.

Best place for gifts: Burlington's Peace & Justice Store.

Worst gift idea:

Teddy bears from the Rush Limbaugh sponsoring Vermont Teddy Bear Company.

Best t-shirt saying:

Let go of my ears, I know what I'm doing. Honorable mention: Sit on my face, I'll guess your weight.

Honorable mention II: F\*\*k you, I have enough friends. V