

## Best and Worst

Continued from page 1

**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).



**Best cause:**  
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."

**Worst quote:**  
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 there).

**Best record store:**  
Pure Pop in Burlington.

**Best florist:**  
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 change.

**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. ▼