

# Gay march honors freedom

Path of freedom march celebrates beginning of gay rights movement

NEW YORK (AP) — Led by a mile-long rainbow banner, hundreds of thousands of gays marched Sunday along a "path of freedom" to commemorate the bar riot that ushered in the gay rights movement 25 years ago. They marched in the shadow of AIDS, arm in arm, hand in hand, out and proud under a bright, sunny sky — and with a plea for tolerance.

"It's amazing that in 25 years we've come so far, from when you couldn't get out of a gay bar to where you fill the streets proudly," said Jerry Clifford, who helped carry the giant nylon banner along what he called "a continuous path of freedom." City officials said it was the biggest gathering in a decade, bigger even than the Statue of Liberty centennial celebration in 1986. Police Chief John Timoney called it "the busiest day in the Police Department's history," with thousands of extra officers called out for crowd and traffic. Marchers ranged from the city's Republican mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, to Annaliese Mannix-Blackner, a lesbian

mother from Key West, Fla., who came with her lover and their 7-month-old son. The Stonewall Inn was a Greenwich Village gay bar whose patrons fought off a police raid in 1969. The riot became the rallying point of the gay liberation movement. Although the 25th anniversary was billed as a celebration of gay unity, it also illustrated divisions in the movement. Most of the marchers rally to protest gay-rights abuses around the world. A smaller contingent focusing on the fight against AIDS started at Stonewall and marched up Fifth Avenue. They had no city permit, but police closed off

Fifth Avenue to traffic and didn't interfere with the march. The Fifth Avenue march was led by Sylvia Rivera, a transvestite who fought police at Stonewall. Rivera had dropped out of sight in recent months and was feared dead. "I'm here to see that we still have the guts to take Fifth Avenue," said Rivera, who wore black pumps, a gold dress and red nail polish. The march up First Avenue, dubbed Stonewall 25, was as peaceful as Stonewall '69 was violent. There was little or no hazing from the sidewalks, no scrapes with police. A number wore medals from the Gay Games.

# Earthquake rocks eastern California

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — A moderate earthquake woke sleepers awake, rattled supermarket shelves and broke windows early Sunday in the east San Francisco Bay area. No injuries were reported, although the 4.2-magnitude quake was felt as far north as the Napa Valley and as far south as San Jose after it struck at 1:42 a.m., centered about three miles north of Berkeley. "It was a really solid quake, a series of jolts," said Mark Towns, a manager at a 24-hour Lucky's supermarket in El Cerrito. "It just rocked the whole building. We had damage down 50 percent of the aisles." Staff and customers temporarily evacuated the store. Storefront windows broke at a Berkeley Safeway, and San Jose police reported the shock rocked the third floor of their earthquake-reinforced headquarters. The quake struck along the Hayward Fault, according to L. Page, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park.

# Expulsion policy helps schools

San Antonio schools initiate policy to expel all offenders, regardless of past

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Weary of violence and disruptive behavior in the classroom, several school districts have adopted policies to expel all offenders, regardless of their disciplinary or academic histories. Proponents of the "zero tolerance" initiative say it has reduced the number of incidents involving disruptive behavior. Drugs, weapons and verbal or physical abuse also have decreased, they say. "All I've got to go by is what the teachers are telling me about how much better it is on the campuses," said Steve Blackmon, director of pupil services for Judson Independent School District. "The discipline problems are fewer and less severe." The Judson, San Antonio and Southside districts have implemented zero tolerance policies. In the Southside district, 15 people were expelled this year,

more than triple the number of students removed from the district's campuses during the previous four years. The Judson district supplemented its zero tolerance code with a police department. Officers issue citations for disorderly conduct. Municipal judges handling the cases often give stiff sentences, including fines and community service, Blackmon said. Proponents of the tough policies say such rigidity is necessary to ensure students know the consequences of their actions and to allow administrators to dispense discipline without fear of retaliation. "There are certain violations that are nonnegotiable, whether you're an honor student or straight-D student," said Shelly Potter, president of the San Antonio Federation of Teachers. But critics say the policies leave little room for leniency. "There will be some cases that don't quite fit," said J. Richeson, president of the San Antonio Teachers Council and a 25-year teaching veteran. "If you have no judgment built into your system, you're going to have injustice." Critics point to a case at Alamo Heights High School, where in April one of the school's top students was cited for alleged possession of drugs paraphernalia. The Alamo Heights district does not have a formal zero tolerance policy, but officials said they exercise a "get-tough attitude" that has resulted in expulsion for every drug possession case during the past seven years. "When you have a student who's worked hard to excel during his or her school career, it seems inappropriate to apply an inflexible policy that does not take into account the background," the Alamo Heights student's father told the San Antonio Express-News in Sunday's editions.

# Religious harassment guidelines redrafted

Citizens argue over definition of harassment in the workplace

WASHINGTON (AP) — They arrived by the thousands — letters, postcards, handwritten notes on looseleaf paper. Some bore biblical passages. Others featured pictures of flowers or clouds. And almost all of them — nearly 56,000 at last count — asked the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to scuttle its proposed guidelines defining religious harassment in the workplace. "Quite frankly, I think you have gone off the deep end," agreed John Alquist of Charlotte, N.C. "It is unnatural for people not to talk about politics and religion, even in the workplace," Alquist wrote. "If you can stifle religious discussion, will political dissent be next? Besides, who gave you the right to suspend the First Amendment, anyway?" The EEOC says the draft guidelines issued last October were merely an attempt to interpret and explain existing law. "The purpose of the guidelines was not to create any new legal theories or in any way abridge the exercise of free religion in the workplace," says commission spokesman Reginald Welch. Nevertheless, the proposed guidelines triggered howls of protest from citizens fearing they would create "religion-free work zones," or mandate freedom from religion instead of freedom of religion. "I am guaranteed freedom to practice my faith so long as it does not hinder the freedom of others to practice theirs. Or not to practice," wrote Don and Kathy Fredrickson of Gladstone, Ore. The controversy erupted last fall after Atlanta labor lawyer Dudley Rochelle began advising her business clients that the only way to avoid religious harassment lawsuits under the guidelines would be to eliminate all religious expression from the workplace. Church groups quickly got involved, deluging congressional offices and the EEOC with letters and telephone calls. More than 130 House members have cosponsored legislation to require the EEOC to remove religion from its harassment guidelines. The Senate voted 94-0 on June 17 to urge the EEOC to rewrite the proposed guidelines. The resolution, sponsored by Sen. Howell Heflin, D-Ala., and Sen. Hank Brown, R-Colo., also asks the commission to make clear in any new guidelines on workplace harassment that religious symbols or expressions of religious beliefs are not restricted and cannot be used to prove harassment. As originally drafted, the guidelines define unlawful harassment as any verbal or physical conduct that "denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his-her ... religion ... or that of his-her relatives, friends or associates."

# Simpson tapes end juror's probe

Release of 911 tapes force judge to decide if amount of evidence warrants a trial

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An enraged O.J. Simpson threatened to beat his ex-wife and accused her of having sex in front of their children, according to a tape of a 911 call electronically enhanced for The Associated Press on Saturday. Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole, placed the emergency call last fall after Simpson allegedly broke into her home. Much of the tape remains unintelligible or out of context, but comments that previously were inaudible can be heard in the enhancement. "No use me hitting you. You know, I don't give a s--- anymore," Simpson says. "Could you please leave? Please leave. Please leave," Ms. Simpson says. "I'm leaving with my two fists is when I'm leaving," Simpson responds. At another point in the tape, Ms. Simpson asks Simpson to be quiet because "the kids are sleeping." He replies by accusing her of committing a sexual act in the living room. Meanwhile, a member of the grand jury investigating Simpson said he and other jurors heard the 911 tapes on television. "The only way you could avoid it was not watch TV," the unidentified juror told the Los Angeles Times in a report published Saturday. The grand jurors had been told not to view, listen to or read reports about the Simpson case. But the juror said they were not told to avoid TV. "This was just news," he said. "It was a surprise to us when it came on." The release of the 911 tapes prompted Superior Court Judge Cecil Mills to end the grand jury's probe Friday. Prosecutors will now bring the case to a judge Thursday to determine if there is enough evidence for a trial.

# Mosque

Continued from Page 1

intelligence reports focused on possible violence by Muslim militants against Jewish settlers. "We do not believe that anyone can be blamed for not having foreseen the fact that a Jew would plan and carry out a massacre of Muslims in the Tomb of the Patriarchs," the report said. The commission said the mosque gunman, Baruch Goldstein, could perhaps have been stopped had the full guard detail shown up at the tomb on the morning of the massacre. Five out of 10 guards were

absent, including three who overslept. The panel left it up to the army to file disciplinary charges. Goldstein, a physician who immigrated from New York, walked into the tomb dressed in his army reserve uniform and opened fire with a Galil assault rifle on rows of worshippers. He was bludgeoned to death by worshippers. "The massacre ... was a base and murderous act in which innocent people bending in prayer to their maker were killed," said the report. "The massacre was one of the harshest expressions of the Jewish-Arab conflict."

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