

# HerlandVoice

volume twenty-six number eight

august 2008

## AND THE WINNER IS...

### Kern and Rinehart locked in ferocious battle

In a serious game of one-upsmanship, County Commissioner



Brent Rinehart of Oklahoma County has really raised the ante on Sally Kern, Oklahoma State Representative. The two are currently dueling it out for title of “Most Embarrassing Oklahoman.”

Rep. Kern scored first in the contest by exposing the “gay agenda” to a group of donors and equating gays to terrorists. Luckily for her, she was secretly recorded and the resulting audio posted to YouTube. Millions have enjoyed listening to her thoughtful insights about how gays in our society are like having cancer in your toe—you just can’t ignore it and let it spread! Even Ellen (DeGeneris) tried to call her on the air and congratulate her for the well-placed opening volley.

Now Brent Rinehart has risen to the challenge and is out to show that he will not be outdone by any woman! The only County Commissioner with the guts to use a 16-page comic book for his re-election campaign, Brent takes the fight right into Kern’s territory (that is, the homophobic religious right

From Brent Rinehart’s re-election campaign comic book. Illustration by Shane Suiters.

constituency). He’s got an angel on his side and Satan against him! SCORE!!

He’s got a toga-clad Roman trying to drag a Boy Scout out into the woods! (In case you don’t remember—Rome was destroyed by homosexuality.) SCORE!! He’s got Peter Pan, another Roman, and Satan marching in the gay pride parade! SCORE!!

And did you know that good ole boy politicians in Oklahoma are now liberals? They are! And they’re against Brent just like the homosexuals! SCORE!!

Chafing at all the attention given to Rinehart, Rep. Kern tried to get back into the spotlight by packin’ heat at the Capitol this week. It’s way too early to call, but Rinehart has a big lead over Kern in this year’s title bout. (And, he’ll be hard to overtake with the angel on his side!)

# august EVENTS

Mary and Louise Friday August 1 Full Circle 7 pm

PFLAG-OKC Tuesday Aug 5 Church of the Open Arms 7 pm

Miss Brown to You Friday August 8 UCO Jazz Lab 8 pm \$7

Herland Supper Club Saturday August 9 The (new!) Iguana Lounge NW 9th & Broadway OKC 5:30 pm

OGLPC Monthly Meeting Monday August 11 Neighborhood Alliance 7 pm

PFLAG-Norman Thursday August 14 St Stephens 7 pm

Louise and Mary Friday August 15 Clear Bay Café off Highway 9 Lake Thunderbird 7 pm

Herland Scrabble Saturday August 16 2 pm

IRIS Saturday August 16 Fatboy Saloon SW 59th & Agnew

Herland Board Meeting Sunday August 17 4 pm

Louise & Mary Sunday August 17 Benefit for AIDSWalk Galileo's

## women's equality day

August 26 of each year is designated in the United States as Women's Equality Day. Instituted by Rep. Bella Abzug and first established in 1971, the date commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, the Woman Suffrage Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave U.S. women full voting rights in 1920.



For the first time—  
gayAGENDA REVEALED!

As a gay man in OKC, I would like to share the gay "agenda" with everyone. You see, it is not about being treated fairly or on par with our heterosexual counterparts as some gays would have you believe. And it is certainly not about being able to visit your gay partner in the hospital as a family member or being able to leave property to your partner upon your demise...oh no, it is not about these things.

The true gay agenda has been up until now very secret, but I am prepared to share it with everyone.

As soon as the gay agenda is enacted, all gays (and gays only!) will be able to show their "gay agenda card" and receive a discount on gas, jump to the front of the line at the grocery store, and drive 15 miles over the posted speed limit. In the unlikely event that a gay agenda member is arrested, all they need to do is simply flash their gay agenda card, and voila, they will be released. The latest Cher farewell concert sold out? Not a problem if you have a gay agenda card.

And heterosexuals, don't feel left out. When the gay agenda is official, we will outlaw heterosexual divorce (I mean, seriously...what better way to protect marriage than to outlaw divorce?), and, in the interest of protecting families, we will once and for all outlaw heterosexual adoption (come on, you can't have a kid without doing the hard work anymore), and finally, we will make it once again legal for heterosexuals to be fired from their job just for being straight.

You see people, that's it in a nutshell, that is the gay agenda.

~ Michael, Oklahoma City, posted on NewsOK.com blog, "Your Thoughts"

# lesbos loses lesbian lawsuit

from 365gay.com

A Greek court Tuesday dismissed a lawsuit accusing an LGBT rights group of demeaning the people of the Aegean island of Lesbos by purloining the word Lesbian, a term islanders have used to name themselves for centuries.

The lawsuit was brought by three islanders from Lesbos, home of the ancient poet Sappho, who praised love between women. The island is a popular holiday destination for gay women.

The suit said that the name of the LGBT group - Homosexual and Lesbian Community of Greece - "insults the identity" of the people of Lesbos. In dismissing the case, the court said that islanders did not have sole claim to the name.


Attorneys for the three islanders said they may appeal to the European Court.

Sappho lived from the late 7th to the early 6th century B.C. and is considered one of the greatest poets of antiquity. Many of her poems, written in the first person and intended to be accompanied by music, contain passionate references to love for other women.

Very little is known of her life. According to some ancient accounts, she was an aristocrat who married a rich merchant and had a daughter with him. One tradition says that she killed herself by jumping off a cliff over an unhappy love affair.

Dimitris Lambrou one of the litigants in the case said Sappho was not gay. "But even if we assume she was, how can 250,000 people of Lesbian descent - including women - be considered homosexual?"

Lambrou also denied the suit was homophobic. "The word lesbian has been associated with gay women for the past few decades but we have been Lesbians for thousands of years," he said.



**OKLAHOMA VICTORY DOLLS ROLLER DERBY**

**2008**

**OKVD** season schedule

2.23 Green Country Rollergirls (Tulsa) at home  
3.08 River Valley Rollergirls in Fort Smith, AR  
3.29 Assassination City Rollergirls in Dallas, TX  
4.26 Northwest Arkansas Rollergirls in Fayetteville, AR  
5.31 Omaha Rollergirls at home  
6.28 No Coast Derby Girls in Lincoln, NE  
7.26 Destruction Junction Derby Dames at home  
8.23 Omaha Roller Girls in Omaha, NE  
9.27 West Texas Roller Dollz at home

All home bouts 7pm at:  
**Miles' Rollaway Rink**  
5800 NW 36th OKC  
and a portion of proceeds go to:

**eliminating racism  
empowering women  
ywca**

ickets available at:  
**GUESTROOM RECORDS**  
1201 E. 12th St  
OKC 73101 in Westley and  
**HENRY HUDSONS PUB**  
6728 North Ohio, OKC  
and online at:  
[brownpaperickets.com](http://brownpaperickets.com)  
[oklahomavictorydolls.com](http://oklahomavictorydolls.com)

**OKLAHOMA  
VICTORY  
DOLLS  
ROLLER DERBY**

# End Military Gay Ban, Lawmakers Told

from 635gay.com

The first American wounded in Operation Iraqi Freedom told a House sub-committee Wednesday that many in his unit knew he was gay and it was not an issue. It was only years after he nearly died in battle, receiving a Purple Heart for courage, that he realized he needed to speak out against Don't Ask, Don't Tell, the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

"Three hours into the invasion, we had stopped to wait for orders. I went back to the Humvee to retrieve something - to this day I can't remember what - and, as I crossed that dusty patch of desert for the third time that day, I triggered a landmine," former Marine Staff Sgt. Eric F. Alva told the Military Personnel Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee. "I was thrown through the air, landing 10 or 15 feet away," said Alva, who served in the Marine Corps for 13 years. "The pain was unimaginable. My fellow marines were rushing to my aid, cutting away my uniform to assess the damage and treat my wounds. I remember wondering why they weren't removing my right boot - it wasn't until later that I realized it was because that leg was already gone." Alva said that he received the Purple Heart, along with visits from the President and First Lady. "I was told I was a hero," he recalled.

"That landmine may have put an end to my military career that day, but it didn't put an end to my secret. That would come years later, when I realized that I had fought and nearly died to secure rights for others that I myself was not free to enjoy. I had proudly served a country that was not proud of me. More importantly, my experience disproved all the arguments against open service by gays and lesbians - I knew I had to share my story," Alva said.

The committee also heard from U.S. Army Major General Vance Coleman (Ret.) and U.S. Navy Captain Joan E. Darrah (Ret.) who also called for an end to the ban. But Elaine Donnelly, president of the conservative Center for Military Readiness, expressed her concern over gay men sharing a "cramped submarine" with other officers.

The remark drew laughter from some in the packed committee room. "Equal opportunity is important, but the needs of our military must come first," Donnelly said.

The congressional hearing was the first on the impact of Don't Ask Don't Tell since it was enacted 15 years ago.

Perpetual Motion Modern Dance Oklahoma presents  
**Oklahoma Contemporary  
Dance Festival**

August 1st and 2nd, 2008 7:30pm

Stage Center  
Tolbert Theater  
400 W. Sheridan  
Oklahoma City, OK

Tickets:  
Adult \$15  
Student \$10  
Children Under 12 \$8  
\*Group Discounts Available

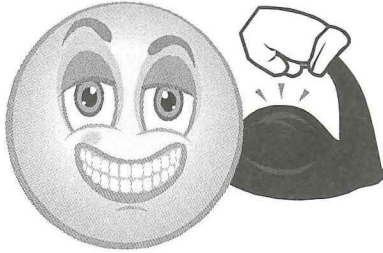
Tickets Available at the Civic Center Box Office, by phone at  
(405) 297-2264 or (800) 364-7111, online at [www.okcciviccenter.org](http://www.okcciviccenter.org),  
or at selected Homeland Outlets. Service Charges May Apply.

[www.perpetualmotiondance.org](http://www.perpetualmotiondance.org)

The Ad Astra Foundation  
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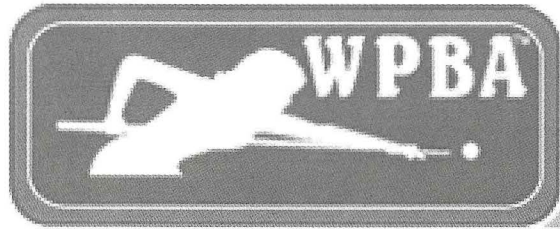
## It's Not Too Late!

Researchers at the University of Oklahoma still need more participants for a study on physical activity among adult lesbians. They want to understand how an 8-week educational program (1 hour per week) may help increase participation in regular moderate physical activity, specifically among adult lesbians. If you have ever started an exercise program but then stopped, being a part of this study will help you learn how to cope with or overcome your barriers so you will continue to participate in physical activity.



If you are a self-identified lesbian aged 21-64 years and not pregnant you may be eligible to participate. Several groups have already started but more participants are needed. Groups meet at the Myriad Gardens in Oklahoma City. The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association has provided a Lesbian Health Fund grant to conduct the study. Very minimal research is being done on adult lesbian women, so your participation is very important in understanding how to improve the health of all lesbian women.

If you would like to join the study, contact Danielle Brittain or Mary Dinger at (405) 325-9028 or Email them at [ouphyactlab@ou.edu](mailto:ouphyactlab@ou.edu).



## Women's Professional Billiards Association

### US Open 9 Ball Championships July 30 - August 3

**Riverwind Casino, Norman**  
July 30—7pm Komen fundraiser  
July 31—10-5 & 6-midnite  
Aug 1—10-5 & 6-midnite  
Aug 2—1, 3, 5, & 7 pm Quarterfinals  
Aug 3—1 & 3 pm Semis & Finals 5 pm  
Tickets \$15-\$45

website of the month  
[www.365gay.com](http://www.365gay.com)

*The Voice is published monthly by Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. The Voice is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address. Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym or anonymously. Herland reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Subscriptions to The Voice are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.*

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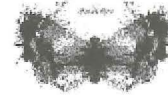
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