

Frank gave the keynote address at a \$250-per-plate dinner sponsored by the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF).

political scene.  
 "This is a remarkable indication of the commitment that Philadelphia's lesbian and gay community is making to advance



*Rep. Barney Frank*

our cause," said Gregory King, HRCF communication director.

Some 300 patrons and contributors attended the gala to meet Frank as well as many high ranking political people who were also on hand. Among them were Congressman Tom Foglietta (D-Penna.), Democratic mayoral nominee Ed Rendell, State Rep. Babette Josephs (D-Center City), State Senator Alyson Schwartz, City Councilpersons Angel Ortiz and Joan Specter, PGN Publisher and POPEC (Pride of Philadelphia Election Committee) founder Mark Segal and City Council nominees Happy Fernandez and Joe Vignola.

Frank praised the group, saying that HRCF supporters were "tough, smart and zealous." Apparently referring to the Robert Mapplethorpe exhibit and NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) funding controversies of last year, Frank said, "Defeat of censorship was a victory in 1990. But there are more victories to win."

Frank was upbeat but deliberately cautious when he called on those gathered to begin a new era of gay activism which he called "sensible militancy." Then invoking the names of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., he asked rhetorically if some people were demonstrating for demonstrations' sake.

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Minorities" at Temple University/Center City next semester.

Bentman, an 18th century specialist who has taught English for 32 years at Temple, is teaching the course for the second time. Last year, it was offered jointly by the women's studies and English departments on the main campus.

This year, Bentman had it moved to Center City (1619 Walnut Street), which has evening courses and a larger non-matriculating student population, so that non-students who were interested in

cause some students were anxious about the words "lesbian" or "gay" appearing on their transcripts. But that's Bentman's largest concession to being closeted; he describes himself as gay, and "completely out."

The planned texts sweep from Sappho and Pindar directly to the nineteenth century, with a possible detour at Shakespeare's sonnets. Most featured writers will be American, including the greatest U.S. poets, Emily Dickinson and

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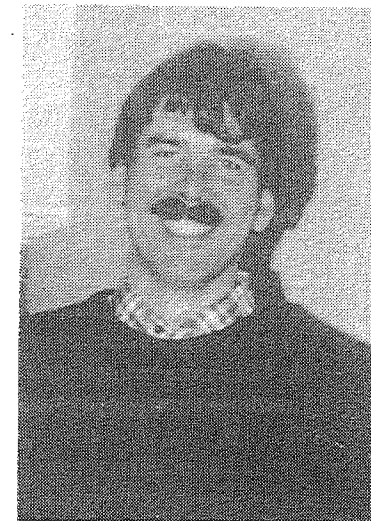
## OBITUARY

### Robert Potter

Robert (Bob) Potter died on June 19 at his residence in Philadelphia. A native of the Philadelphia area, he spent two years living in Atlantic City, New Jersey and five years in North Carolina.

An accomplished floral designer, friends remember him as a designer at Flower Designers of Philadelphia and a waiter at Elan at the Warwick, Harry's Bar and Grill and the Garden. Despite his illness for the last two years, his wonderful personality never ebbed. Even when ill, he found the strength to deliver meals to PWAs.

Bob is survived and will be dearly missed by his lover, Pat Whitley; three sisters; two brothers; many nieces, nephews and cousins; and many friends. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 29 at 11 AM at St.



Luke and the Epiphany Church, 330 S. 13th Street, in Philadelphia.

In lieu of flowers, Bob requested that donations be made in his name to MANNA, Inc. of Philadelphia at P.O. Box 30181, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

# Philly Schools To Distribute Condoms

*by Lorrie Kim*

The Philadelphia Board of Education voted 6-3 to begin a pilot program of condom distribution to grades 9-12 in some public schools.

The June 24 vote followed research and recommendations from the Task Force on Adolescent Sexuality and the Role of Schools in the Prevention of Pregnancy, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV Infection, which was convened in December 1990 after two years of ACT UP lobbying and demonstrations.

Members of ACT UP greeted the vote with guarded pleasure, commending the school board for its stance on the issue but maintaining that there will be no appreciable difference in teen sex education without further changes.

The vote instituted a comprehensive plan to revise sex education, stressing abstinence, reduction in risk behavior leading to pregnancy, STD's and HIV infection, sensitivity to ethnic and cultural diversity and mental and physical disabilities, and "a safe, equitable, and positive school ex-

perience for lesbian and gay students."

Condom distribution will take place at no additional cost to the Board of Education, which plans to apply for foundation funding. All condoms will be provided by outside health care and social service agencies, along with counseling; the pilot program will begin with schools which are already connected with such an agency. Parents may veto their child's access to condoms. However, along with expanded cooperation between schools and agencies, there will also be increased efforts to expand access to condoms outside of school.

The planned revisions include immediate expansions in sex education curriculum, from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, with an enhanced peer education program and a companion program for all school staff. There will be a program for parents, designed to increase parent-student communication on sex education.

The plan will be implemented by fall 1991 with no "foot drag-

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## AREA BRIEFS

*Life is a three-ring circus at PEFA's CHA-CHA '91*

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New Jersey. The event starts with a 3 PM tea dance, followed by hot dogs and hamburg-

trayed by Kevin McFadden.

Performance dates are 8 PM on July