

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

Henry David Thoreau



GETTING OFF



You won't find anything, other than in this column, on our pages about the Gay Olympics, being completed in San Francisco as of this writing. But we can report that the games have been a triumph, probably far exceeding the expectations of the founders. The unexpected good-bad luck of having the homophobic U.S. Olympic Committee sue to prevent the use of the "Olympic" name made news coverage all over the world in papers that probably would have otherwise ignored the happening. It would seem it is alright for everyone else to use the name "Olympics" except gays. But there are four years to kick that around in the courts before the next one.

However, the pagentry we saw and photographed for *Manifest*, the athletes from all over the country and the world, the crowds of gays who came with them and to see them, are a beautiful story well worth telling and remembering.

Our gay leaders were there, representatives from the political world, celebrities, and a few for-real Olympic athletes. The weather was magnificent mostly, the San Francisco sky has been filled with flags, thousands of balloons, rocked with music and crowd noises, and the City was filled, as usual, with people from somewhere else.

Our congratulations to the many who worked hard and long to make this unusual Olympiad the success it was and will continue to be, whatever they end up calling it.

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