#### CISCO: from page 6

drinkers drinking something with a high alcohol content. This could be a problem - especially if it looks like a wine cooler. They'd be more susceptible to an overdose," he said.

Those who are not used to strong drinks would get more than they intended, he said.

"It (hard alcohol) sort of hits you all at once... and all of a sudden, kaboom - they're on

another planet," he said.

Hunter said, "When it is marketed in the 12-ounce size it is easy to assume it is a wine cooler.'

Hunter said he also worries about people driving after drinking Cisco, thinking, "I only had one drink.

But the company that makes Cisco has taken steps to distinguish the potent formula from wine coolers, according to a statement from the company.

"Cisco is higher priced than low-alcohol wine coolers and is not sold in four packs. Moreover, it is clearly labeled '20 per-cent alcohol by volume',' said the Canadaigua Wine Company in New York.

In addition, the company places a disclaimer on the bottle "this is not a wine cooler" - and has asked retailers to separate the new drink from wine

Cisco is also made and bottled by the Cisco Wine Company in Edison, Calif.

## Programs scarce for homosexuals at WSU

**GAYS** and

LESBIANS

ON CAMPUS

By Carrie Hartman Staff Writer

This is the third of a four-part series. The character 'Jim,' as portrayed in previous parts of this series, should not be confused with Jim Nielson.

WSU's gay and lesbian population has two outlets for support from their peers and a university recognized student Gay and Lesbian Association, but some feel that an inadequate number of such programs exist.

GALA is recognized by the university as a committee, but does not receive funds from service and activities fees, and support groups have suffered from periods of campus inactivity, a YWCA director said.

'It's unfortunate that there's hardly anything here (in Pullman) for homosexuals in the way of support," YWCA director Wanda Jo Johnson said.

The YWCA provides an office for WSU's GALA, but Johnson said there is no support group that meets at the Common Ministry House.

Jim Nielson, director of the Common Ministry, said that while the YWCA and the Common Ministry have "worked together to provide support for homosexuals in the community over the years ... there needs to be a concrete organization that can provide that consistently," with more support groups and meeting places for gays and les-

"There's not a lot of support from the community here,' said. "This is not a comfortable place for people to come out of the closet in.'

Currently, there are two homosexual groups that meet on campus to discuss issues concerning gays and lesbians, offer peer support and provide a social outlet for students.

A Lesbian Supper Club started meeting a month and a half ago and is offered through the WSU Women's Resource and Research Center.

Nancy, the facilitator of the newborn group, said it meets "to discuss social issues, meet other lesbians and talk about the things that straight people discuss.

Nancy said the supper club is not a support group, but "there are a lot of discussions concerning isolation and loneliness.'

The majority of attendants are couples, Nancy said, but the group is trying to get more women involved in the group. "So far, the group has been pretty successful, and the attendance is pretty consistent," she

The WSU Student Counseling Services offer a gay and lesbian support group through their department, and according to 'Jim,' a gay WSU staff member who attends the meetings, the attendance is "pretty solid.

Jim said there are usually between 15 and 20 people who regularly attend the meetings. "We talk about a lot of things, and the group helps put things in perspective for me," he said.

Several campus gay and lesbian student organizations have foundered in the past, Nielson

"There was a group named the Gay People's Alliance that began in 1979 and received ASWSU funds through a gay awareness committee," he said, "but several conservative campus religious groups wanted to pull the plug on funding a homosexual group, and a referendum was passed to eliminate ASWSU funds."

After lengthy discussion, Nielson said the Common Ministry and the YWCA consented to provide an office for the GPA.

The GPA died three or four years ago, Nielson said, and in the fall of 1989 "Who We Are" was formed through the YWCA. "It was just a group of homosexual and straight students who wanted to educate themselves on the issue of gay and lesbian rights," he said.

"Who We Are" fell apart last spring, and it was only recently that a reformation of the past GPA, (now GALA) "sparked an initiation in rekindling a gay and lesbian organization," Nielson

So far, the GALA group has had "a couple of meetings, and is attempting to assess the needs and interests of the gay and lesbian students on campus, according to Shanda, a married graduate student who is supportive of the homosexual community and involved in the organi-

The future of GALA depends upon strong leadership and commitment, Nielson said.

"There's a lot of pain involved in dealing with the public's homophobia if you are a homosexual," he said.

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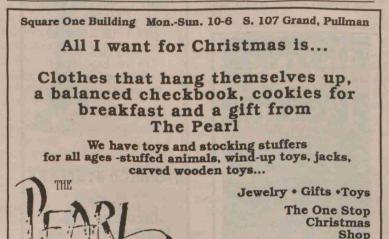
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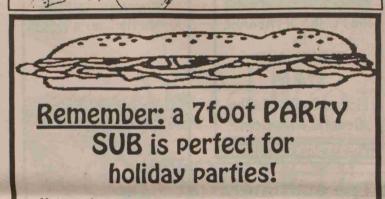
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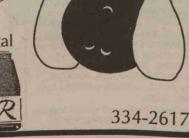
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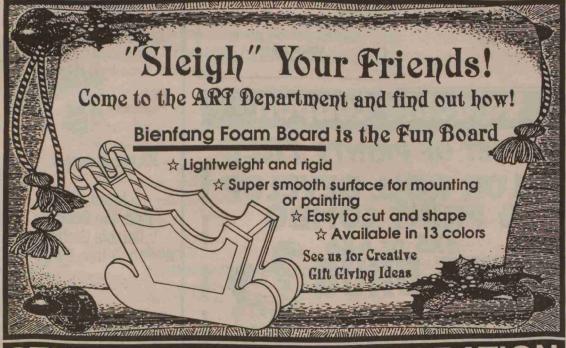


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