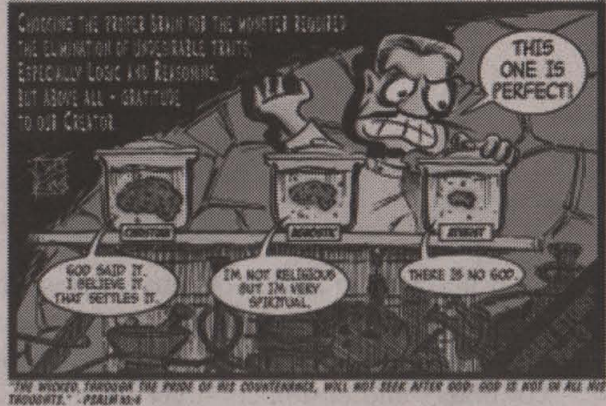


bay news community



Anno Domini: The Cure for the Common Era by Miller & King



Former Bay News editorial cartoonist Joe King has a cartoon included in the “Best Editorial Cartoons of the Year 2011” book, which the colorful King described as a really “big deal.”

The cartoon was part of King’s syndicated series, “A.D.” = Anno Domini: The Cure for the Common Era,” and this particular cartoon “was banned by a past president of The American Association of Editorial Cartoonists,” said King.

It’s a big deal because the annual publication was his inspiration. “Best Editorial Cartoons of the Year was “the editorial series that inspired me to begin,” said King, whose other claim to fame was once being nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Cartoonist Russell Hodin of SLO County New Times was also honored in the awards book. Shown here is King’s cartoon (yeah, we didn’t get it either...).

Sex Assault Exams Now Available

The Suspected Abuse Response Team (SART) of San Luis Obispo County is offering a new reporting option for victims of sexual assault, a “Restricted SART Exam” — a medical forensic exam, completed by a specially-trained forensic nurse-examiner for the purpose of collecting evidence from the body of a sexual assault victim age 12 and older. Additionally, the nurse will provide medical treatment and follow up if necessary.

In SLO County, SART exams have historically been conducted only at the request of law enforcement agencies, according to a press release. Victims were required to report to law enforcement, who would then schedule the exam, if they determined the assault occurred within the necessary time frame. In order to comply with federal requirements in the Violence Against Women Act of 2005, SLO County will now offer SART exams to victims who have not yet decided if they want to talk with law enforcement or participate in the criminal justice process.

Based on state mandated reporting laws, the assault will still be reported by the SART nurse to the law enforcement agency with presumed jurisdiction over the assault location.

AS of Dec. 1, 2010, sexual assault victims 12-older can request a SART exam without first contacting law enforcement. Call the SART office directly, or call the Sexual Assault Recovery & Prevention (SARP) Center at (805) 545-8888. Due to the SARP Center’s 24-hour crisis line, it is recommended that victims contact the SARP Center for assistance. The SART office is located at 2180 Johnson Ave., Ste. B (the old General Hospital) in SLO.

“We want them to come here, so we can provide medical and emotional support,” said SART Coordinator Elizabeth “Buffy” Ramirez, N.P. “After the exam, they can go home, sleep on it, and then hopefully they’ll want to talk with law enforcement themselves.”

For additional information on how to obtain a restricted SART exam, call (805) 781-4878. More resources on sexual assault can be found at the SARP Center’s Web site at: www.sarpcenter.org.