

shows how cutting-edge the reality is by coming out for gay divorce.

Those are three of the top 10 reasons you should attend Hoyt's upcoming fundraiser, his annual clambake at the West Side Rowing Club next month.

Our favorite reason for going? "Tickets: \$40. Toll on the 190: 50 cents. Watching politicians try to be hip: Priceless."

Small-town excitement

Small towns often shun their reputation as boring, out-of-the-way, one-stop-light communities.

In Alfred, it's an excuse to party.

Next weekend, the town is celebrating the 30th anniversary of its one and only traffic light, located — where else? — on Main Street.

Really.

Tim, don't you remember?

Somewhere between interviewing presidents and promoting his new book, Tim Russert apparently suffered a public memory lapse in last Sunday's Washington Post Magazine interview.

It happened when media reporter Howard Kurtz read the "Meet the Press" host excerpts from a September 2000 commentary written by Buffalo News staffer Mark Sommer. In that piece, Sommer criticized Russert for the tone and content of his questions.

"Pretty tough stuff," Kurtz concluded. The former Buffalonian agreed, before quickly saying that Sommer "wrote an apology or a retraction."

Well, not quite. The News issued a clarification. (Kurtz noted this difference — a significant one in newspaper parlance — in his magazine piece.)

"Did you call him?" Kurtz next asked.

"I didn't call him," Russert answered.

Again, that's not how several News staffers remember it. Russert called Sommer twice and demanded an apology or retraction, while also sharing his unhappiness with others in the newsroom.

By Phil Fairbanks, with contributions from Matt Glynn.

warrior few can match.

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The Grea theme park is no match: but the peop high marks ride.

"It's stil around," sa like her huz speed, steep — the time the air.

Park off

INSIDE: Neighborhood News