

OCA to file measure in 32 cities, counties

Group says it will take anti-gay rights battle to local level

By Lisa Kneefel
Emerald Associate Editor

The Oregon Citizens Alliance said Thursday it is turning to the local level to pass revised versions of Ballot Measure 9 before placing another statewide initiative on the 1994 ballot.

The organization said it will begin filing initiatives in 32 Oregon counties and cities for special elections this June.

Introduction of the special elections measures serves a twofold purpose. Kathy Phelps, who served as the OCA's manager for the Springfield 20-08 campaign, said the communities that will vote on the initiative passed Measure 9 by considerable margins.

"We felt that the people (in these cities and counties) wanted Measure 9 and deserve a chance to vote on it," Phelps said. "We think these city and county charters reflect the community."

Phelps said the initiative will also build support for the statewide measure the OCA plans to place on the 1994 ballot.

"Politics is based on momentum," Phelps said. "These (measures) will really help and enhance a campaign for 1994."

The new initiative proposes banning passage or adoption of policy or resolution "that extends minority status, affirmative action, quotas, special class

status, or any similar concept based on homosexuality."

The revised version also includes new passages addressing public libraries, civil rights protections and employment rights.

"We were trying to address the major concerns people had with Measure 9," said Loretta Neet, OCA state membership director.

Addressing those concerns meant eliminating language characterizing homosexuality as "abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse" and including clarifications of the measure's intent.

The initiative says the amendment shall not be construed to forbid adoption of provisions prohibiting employment decisions based on factors "not directly related to employment."

Such factors include sexual orientation and speech, Neet said.

"Talking about one's homosexuality on the job is not a factor related to employment," Neet said.

Neet said this is a protection that extends "not just to homosexuals, but to everybody." She said it also clarifies the organization's position on employment rights.

"It was never our intent for homosexuals to lose their jobs," Neet said. "Everybody has the right to a job and to a place to work."

Another of the initiative's provisions prevents limiting

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Out of hand

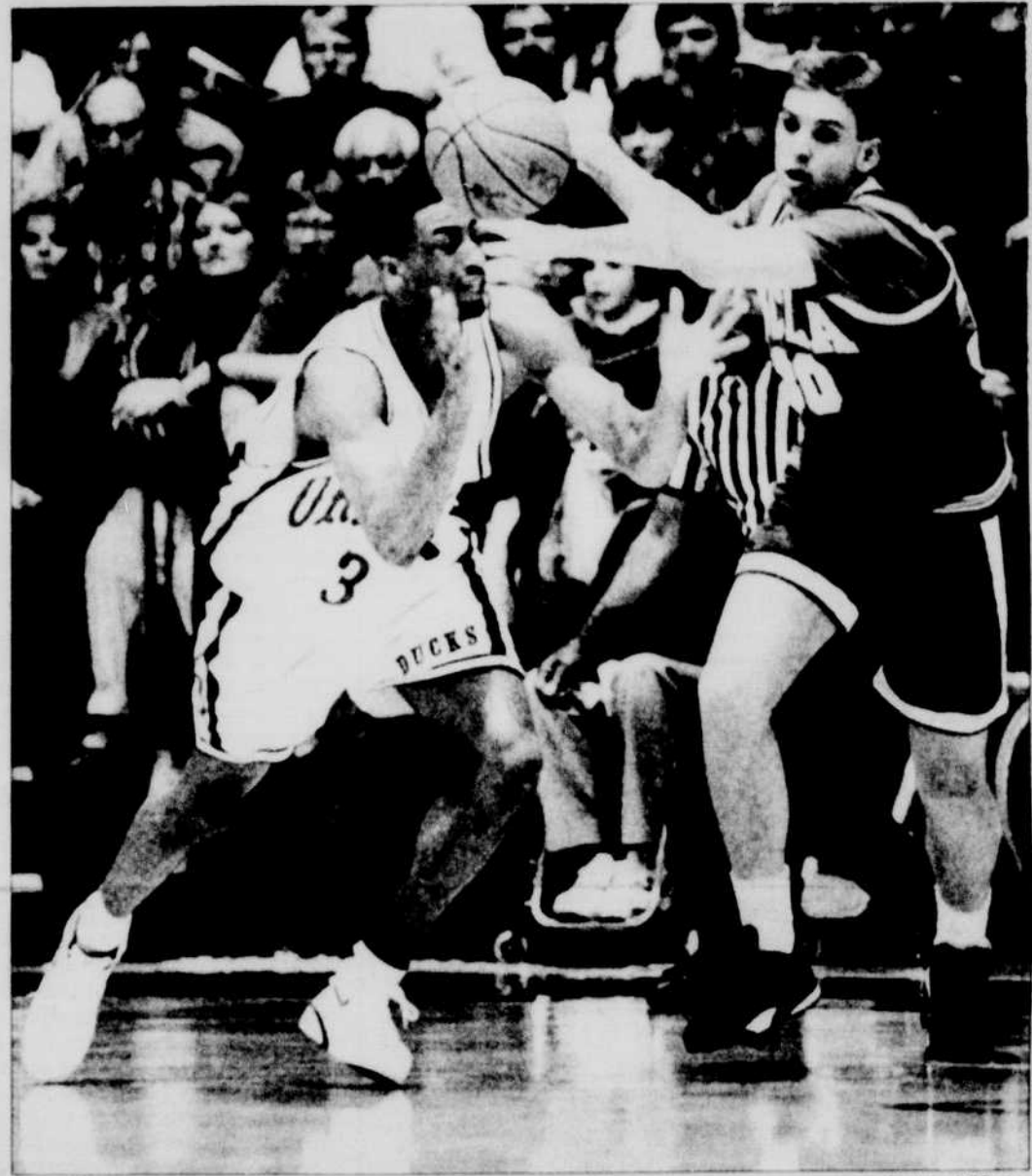


Photo by Jeff Paslay

Oregon guard Antoine Stoudamire scrambles for a loose ball along with UCLA's Kevin Dempsey during Thursday night's game at McArthur Court. Stoudamire scored 28 points, but the Ducks fell to the 15th-ranked Bruins 99-87.

'I read that comics were the poor man's film medium, and that inspired me to go ahead and try to draw my screenplay.'

— Mike Allred,
'Madman' creator



'Madman' leaps to screen

Local artist signs movie deal for comic character

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

Everyone knows Gotham City has Batman to ward off the bad guys, and Metropolis has Superman to battle Lex Luthor. And although the world may not know it yet, Springfield has a superhero of its own — Madman.

He runs around in a white bodysuit with an exclamation point that looks

like a lightning bolt emblazoned down the front. He's not exactly sure who he is or why he's wearing this outfit. But he's fighting villains like Dr. Flem and Mr. Monstadt to try and find out.

OK, Madman himself isn't actually out on the streets of Springfield. But he comes to life on the drawing board and in the imagination on Springfield-based comic book artist Mike Allred. Madman has only been published for about a year, but he's on the track to becoming as well-known as some of

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WEATHER

Patchy morning fog and partial clearing today with highs warming to the mid-30s. Chance of light snow Saturday.

Just a Reminder

Classes will be cancelled Monday for Martin Luther King Day. The Emerald will resume publication Tuesday.

No. 1 REASON: CBS

NEW YORK (AP) — David Letterman killed the suspense Thursday and gleefully announced he's got a better gig, wisecracking to his NBC Late Night audience that it came down to the flip of a coin: "Heads CBS, tails CBS."

The irascible talk-show host, whose "Stupid Pet Tricks" and Top 10 Lists are a staple of the wee hours, gave no details about the move except to say that his last NBC show would be June 25.

CBS announced later that it had signed him for an 11:30 p.m. talk show, smack against his old friend Jay Leno and NBC's *The Tonight Show*. NBC didn't say how it would fill Letterman's 12:30 a.m. time slot.

SPORTS

(AP) — Dante Lewis, a defensive back from Long Beach City College, has signed a letter-of-intent to play football at Oregon.

Lewis, who expects to battle for the starting free safety spot being vacated by senior Eric Castle, said he canceled visits to Hawaii, UNLV and Oklahoma after visiting the Oregon campus last month.

Lewis intercepted three passes last season and was an honorable mention all-American selection by JC Grid-Wire. Aaron Buckner, a lanky, 6-foot-5 prep quarterback from San Diego, has given a verbal commitment to the Ducks.