

STEPPIN' OUT

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Out About Town is a courtesy to our readers. Items must be received 14 days prior to publication date.

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Editorial policies allow the rejection or the editing of an article or advertisement that is offensive, demeaning or may result in legal action. Just Out consults the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual on editorial decisions.

Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns, and features may not necessarily be those of the editorial staff of Just Out.

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E D I T O R I A L

Conscience or profits?

by Jay Brown

The American voter is facing an extremely difficult challenge in the elections of 1984. Does one cast a ballot in favor of conscience or greed?

If you believe you are better off than you were four years ago — that is, if you have a larger disposable income now than before, you will probably be inclined to vote for Reagan in the hope that you may have even more.

However, if you are a member of a minority, if you are Black, gay or lesbian, oriental or anything other than WASP, you are in for trouble. You will not be protected if you do not toe the

party line.

The party line is obsessed with funneling your hard-earned incomes into the war machine and is using you, the nonconformist, as a scapegoat to that end. If Reagan wins in November, you will be stripped of the right to personal choice because he will say that the "mandate" given him by the "majority" will allow his party to deny minority rights.

The Supreme Court, which Reagan will pack with conservatives, will no longer protect minority views on questions of morality. Your personal conscience will fall victim to the tyranny of the moralists.

The use of morality to nefarious ends is, of course, nothing new. Anyone over the age of forty must surely remember what happened in Nazi Germany. Do we want that to happen here?

Reagan says that morality and politics are inseparable. He is using morality for material profit and we will all pay the price.

A vote for Reagan is an act of treason.

C O M M E N T A R Y

Cawthorne: the clear choice

by Duff Bishop

Thirteen candidates have filed so far for the City Council seat to be vacated by Charles Jordan. Although several able candidates are in the race, one candidate emerges above the rest as the clear choice for the position. Herb Cawthorne, School Board member, community activist and educator, is the most progressive candidate in the race.

He supports issues dear to our hearts. He fully supports the rights of gays and lesbians to have protection against discrimination in housing, employment and public accommo-

dations.

Herb has a long record of community service including five years on the School Board. He is an historian and performer who has developed one-man shows portraying figures from Black history. For two years he delivered social commentaries on KEX radio which were thought-provoking and informative. Cawthorne is currently the Director of the Office of Special Services at Portland State.

Let me share some of his thinking on topics of concern to us:

"Historically, racism and sexism have served as the two sides of a vicious vise which has been designed to lock otherwise capable individuals out of power, position and prestige in American society. Both are deeply ingrained, and both must be eliminated if our nation is to build on its many strengths."

"Government has no right to legislate what

individuals do in the privacy of their own homes. And, it follows that government should protect the right of people to make their own choices about those with whom they would like to be intimate."

"Attitudes do not change without struggle. It takes courage to speak forthrightly on issues, to take stands that might disturb the comfort of those who benefit from the lack of competition which results from automatically eliminating large groups of people from the process of achievement in our society."

Cawthorne's vision and courage speaks for itself. The addition of Herb Cawthorne to our City Council would be another step towards making Portland a great city for all its citizens.

Cawthorne would be an accessible, attentive and energetic member of the City Council. His ideas on community economic

development would lead to more affordable housing, thriving small businesses and more energetic neighborhood associations for a healthy mixture of diverse people and income levels.

If you have not met Herb Cawthorne through one of his many speaking engagements throughout the city these past few years, do take this chance to get to know this remarkable man. Call his campaign office at 284-1715 to contribute money, offer to host a gathering in your home, or to volunteer your time. This campaign offers you the chance to truly bring the concept of unity in diversity into action. Do all you can to support Herb Cawthorne.