

Stepping Out

STAFF

Co-publishers
Jay Brown
Renee LaChance

Editor
Jay Brown

Features Editor
W.C. McRae

Production Director
Renee LaChance

Advertising Director
Roger Hall

Advertising Associates

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Jewel Murphy
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William Youngren
Eddie Hickey

Contributors

Sandra DeHelen
Christopher Kind
Lee Lynch
Billy Russo
Pat Scott
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William Youngren
Eleanor Malin

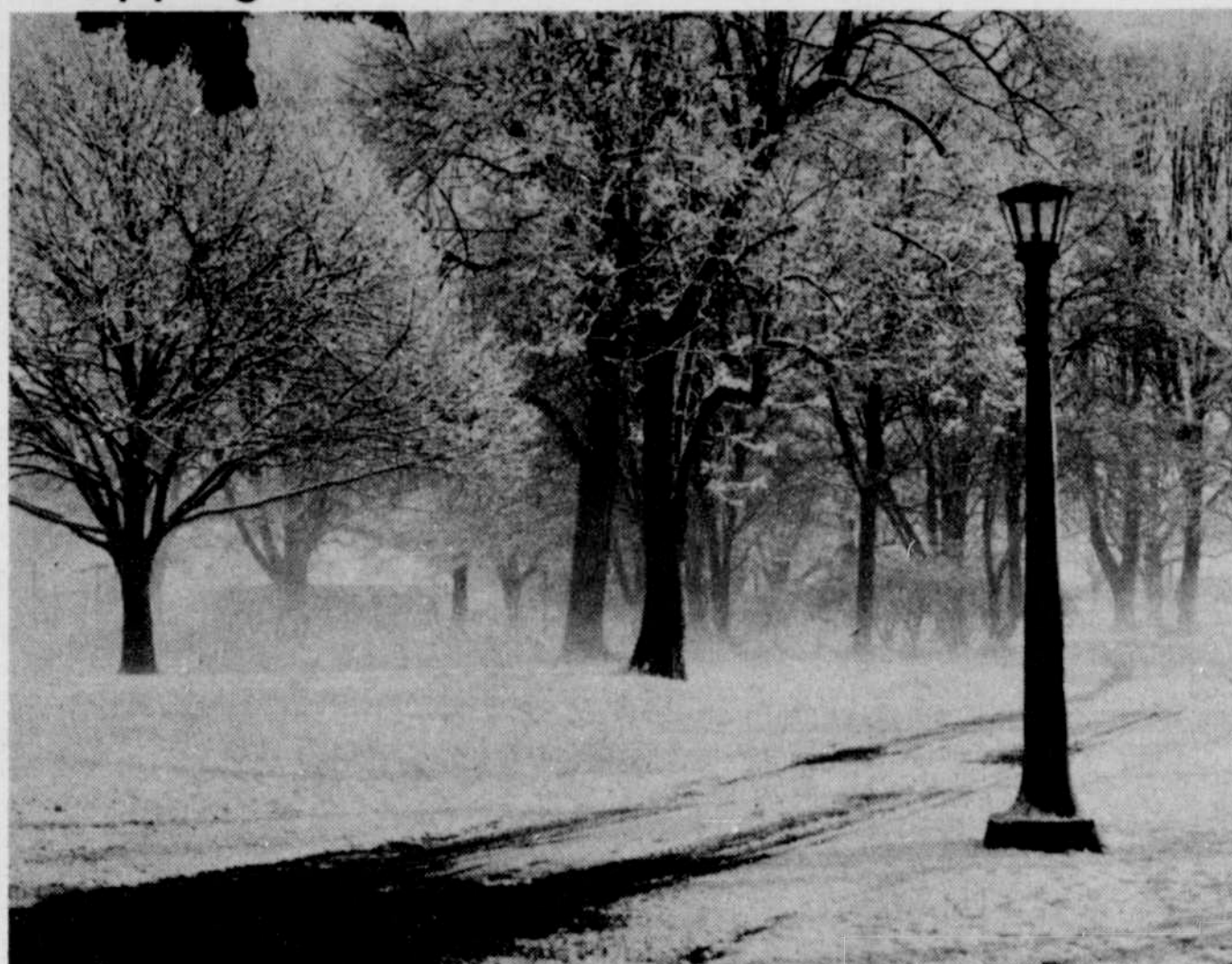


photo by Sallie Bird

Production
Bev LaBelle
E. Ann Hinds

Graphic Inspiration
Rupert Kinnard

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Written and graphic materials are welcomed for submission. All written material should be typed

and double-spaced. All graphic material should be black ink on white paper. Material will be edited for spelling and grammar, with the exception of letters to the editor.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

Out About Town is a courtesy to our readers. Performers, clubs, individuals, or groups wanting to list events in the calendar should mail notices to Just Out by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Listings will not be taken by telephone.

Display advertising will be accepted up to the 20th of each month.

Classified ads must be received at the office of Just Out by the 20th of each month, along with payment. Ads will not be taken over the telephone.

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 be those of the editorial staff of Just Out.

Subscriptions to Just Out are available for \$7.50 for 12 issues. A free copy of Just Out and/or advertising rates are available upon request.

The mailing address and telephone number for Just Out are:

P.O. Box 15117
Portland, OR 97215
236-1252

Pray TV dupes millions

by Rhia Weinhaus

Television evangelism is the *National Enquirer* of religion, circulating its myths to millions. Emotion filled preachers misquote their sources, time and again, hoping to boost their profits. Their Biblical interpretations are bold-face headlines reporting wrath and miracle: *Virgin Gives Birth to 8 pound, 7 ounce Messiah*; *Pairs Of Animals Survived Forty Day Flood In Ark*; and *Human Suffering Caused By Woman Eating An Apple*. Satellite ministers preach editorials, disguised as theology, espousing supply-side economics, network takeovers and moral amendments to the Constitution.



Their living room congregations worship from E-Z Boy recliners, entranced by glowing alters, manufactured by Sony, RCA and Zenith. They have turned their lives over to God and their wallets over to the church. They tithe their incomes to give Ethiopian children Bibles, in hope of nourishing the starvation of pagan souls, rarely realizing that their donations are being washed by the 'trickle down theory', to fund neo-conservative PACS. In trance-like unison they write letters to politicians, advocating sin-tax on birth control, Rock & Roll prohibition, and tax credits for Kruggerand investments. They are intoxicated by their sacred tube, easily molded into born-again soldiers, armed for armageddon.

There is one particular preacher, from Lynchburg, Virginia, who is the Ford Pinto of his time, highly explosive and extremely dangerous. His 'Old Time Gospel Hour' is the

angelic front for a multi-million dollar corporation and well-oiled political machine. Each one of his sixty minutes are precisely performed to conceal arsenic in a 'Sweet and Lo' packet. Lawrence Welk-type singers invoke patriotism in armchair Christians, with their opening rendition of the 'Star Spangled Banner'. The patriarch of 'pray TV', masked in a stiff hairpiece, face make-up and a black leisure suit with white stitching, raises from his throne to hurl fire and brimstone at antennae across the nation. He quotes the Good Book chapter and verse to support accusations against Bishop Tutu, Jesse Jackson, Gloria Steinem, and Boy George. Portraying himself as a shepherd of God, he leads his flock down the path of political righteousness, crusading against homosexuals, abortionists, and secular humanists. He directs his following to infil-

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CATHARTIC COMICS

Featuring
THE BROWN BOMBER & DIVA TOUCHE FLAMBE

