

# just briefs

## New charismatic church opens doors

Perhaps you have seen advertisements in this newspaper for *Crown Of Praise* and wondered to whom or what the advertisement referred. Even though the ad definitely says "church," we know that "church" can mean a lot of things.

After attending even one service at Crown Of Praise the word "Pentecostal" may come to mind. Yes, like mainstream pentecostal churches (does mainstream even connect with pentecostal?), Crown Of Praise people sing a lot, shout some and love a lot. The one difference is that mainstreamers seem to be picky about whom they love, which isn't so with Crown Of Praise, and that is why Crown Of Praise uses the word "charismatic" instead of "pentecostal." Pastor Judy Allen feels that "full gospel" is a more appropriate term for the beliefs of Crown Of Praise.

The members of Crown Of Praise confess belief in the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Citing scripture in conjunction with this belief, Crown Of Praise members seek and practice the biblical gifts and gifts of the Holy Spirit, including, but not limited to, *laying on of hands* to heal the sick, *prophecy* with *interpretation*, and *speaking in tongues*.

On a more earthly level, most people find the two female pastors to be exceptionally competent in their knowledge of the Bible and willing, at the drop of a hat, to talk about what it has to say on any given subject.

Pastor Juanita Gates is always reminding others and herself that try as we might, we are all human and subject to human faults. So, the word "forgiveness" comes up a lot in her sermons and counseling sessions.

Counseling seems to demand much of the Rev. Gates's and Rev. Allen's time. More than half of the people they see are not members of their church and, many times, not gay.

"Crown Of Praise is not a 'gay' church," Rev. Gates says. "God calls people to be spiritual beings, not sexual beings."

At just a year old, Crown Of Praise has attracted enough members to move into their new building in November. An open house and dedication are planned for January.

Note: On November 8, after occupying their new location only one week, Crown Of Praise experienced a burglary in which they lost audio equipment and other unspecified articles.

— Savannah Donavon

## HUB seeks committee members

The HUB Coalition is seeking individuals interested in the formation of three committees to facilitate the establishment of a monthly calendar and newsletter. An information network directed toward, but not limited to, the sexual minority community, the HUB Coalition promises to accept and distribute information in a non-editorial

manner. All groups and individuals that are supportive of sexual minorities may take part in all aspects of the HUB and its structure.

Active and meeting regularly since last June, HUB organizers have been working on a concept of a centralized organization which would help network the diverse groups in the community. In recent months, the open organizing group has met weekly and has developed a statement of purpose, governmental structure, and a nine-month timeline for the organization. HUB members have also done outreach to other community groups by attending meetings and presenting the HUB concept to those groups.

The HUB Coalition committees seeking members and the committees' functions are:  
**Finance Committee:** Locate non-profit umbrella agency, help raise seed money for organization, begin outreach to potential member individuals and organizations.  
**Facilities Committee:** Locate consistent meeting spaces for committees, locate phone service for HUB, locate donations of services and materials.

**Newsletter Committee:** Design, lay out and produce mockup of calendar/newsletter, distribute calendar/newsletter.

"The HUB concept is designed to utilize volunteer effort in a healthy, non-burn-out manner, and is an organization dedicated to the service of this *community*, not a particular personal or political agenda," according to a HUB Coalition report to the community.

The next meeting of the HUB Coalition is scheduled for December 13 at 7 pm, in Room

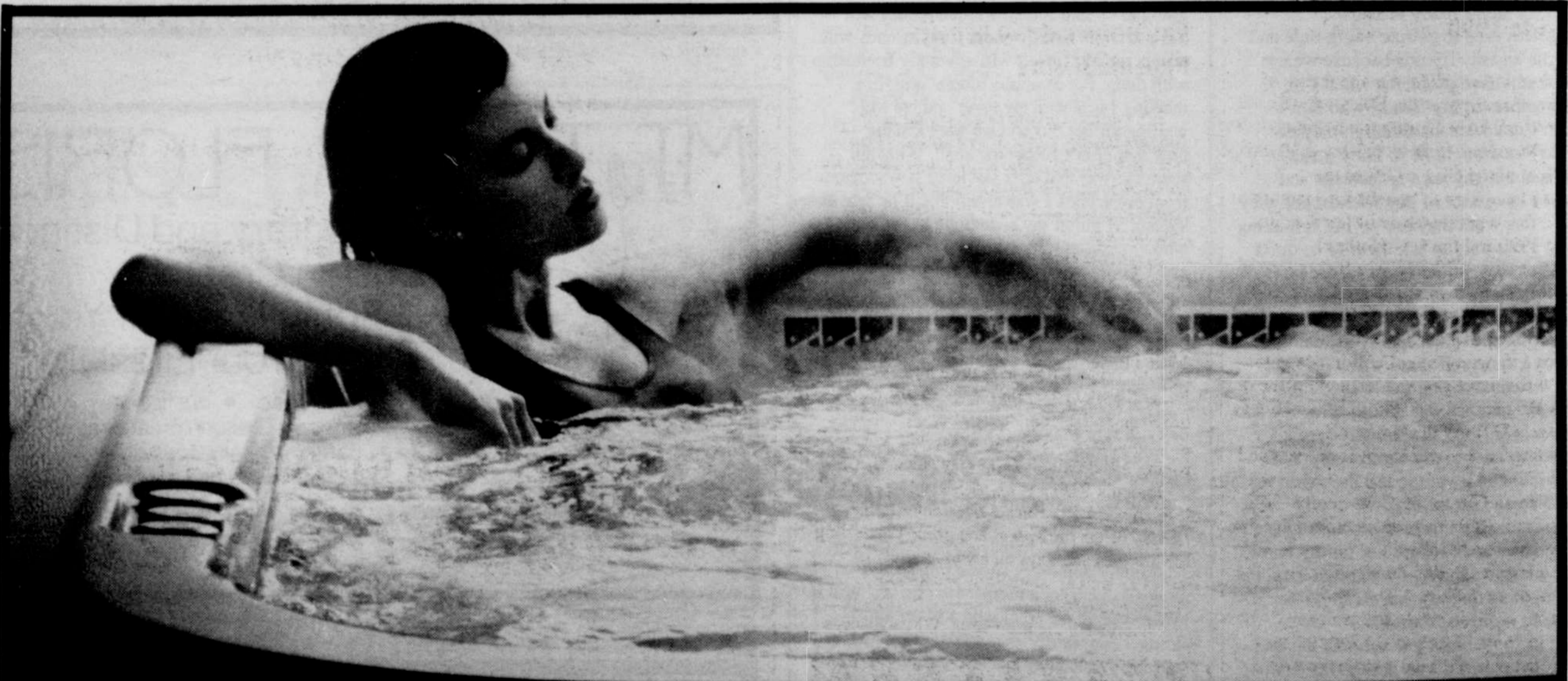
A, Multnomah County Central Library, 801 SW 10th. For more information call Carol Steinel at 235-1356.



## Gay teenage pageant slated

Gay teenagers will compete for the titles of Mr. and Ms. Gay Teenage Oregon in a pageant to be held on December 17 at the City Nightclub in Northwest Portland. The pageant will be hosted by Darcelle XV, and more than \$1,000 will be awarded to winners who will be judged by prominent members of the gay and lesbian community including Keeston Lowery and Debbie Lupold among others. Lowery is a staff assistant to City Commissioner Mike Lindberg and a founder of Right to Privacy PAC. Lupold is director of Portland Cable Access.

Contestants will be judged on formal and sports appearances, talent, and a one-minute speech declaring why they are proud to be gay. They will also answer questions put to them by the judges. Contestants must be under 21 years of age, identify themselves as gay and reside in Oregon or southwest Washington. Entry forms may be obtained from The City Nightclub, 13 NW 13th, Portland, OR 97209. The pageant will begin promptly at 10:30 pm on December 17; admission is \$5. For more information, call 224-CITY.



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