

Just briefs

Common Council members.

Wisconsin is one of only two U.S. states with a gay rights law.

—Rex Wockner

A celebration of leather pride

The annual migration to San Francisco is underway. Contenders from seven countries on three continents will be at the Mr. Drummer 1990 contest on September 21 and 22.

Portland group ORGASM sponsored the Mr. Northwest Drummer contest and Buddy Cobb won the title. Second runner up was Claes and first runner-up was Al Sowers.

The Mr. Drummer contest is part of a week long leather festival in San Francisco featuring the Folsom Street Fair, entertainment and much more.

Group seeks people with AIDS or HIV infection

The Research and Education Group, a community program for clinical research on AIDS, is looking for people with AIDS or HIV infection who meet certain criteria to participate in studies.

Currently they are seeking individuals suffering from diarrhea, wishing to prevent toxoplasmic encephalitis, and who are suffering from acute pneumocystis carinii pneumonia.

The Research and Education Group includes health professionals committed to making new and investigational drugs and treatments for HIV disease and related conditions available in the Portland area. The group originated as part of the Oregon AIDS Task Force and is now an independent non-profit organization.

Experimental medications and treatments are available to people who qualify by meeting specific inclusion criteria for each drug or treatment under study. The criteria are set by the pharmaceutical company or federal agency funding the study. The purpose of the studies is to determine the effectiveness versus any potential side effects of the agent being researched. The group works with the participants' physicians and provides the medication. After careful review, research drugs and treatments are then approved by the FDA.

Gay television show

NightScene begins second season

NightScene, the weekly cable television show begins its second season Tuesday, September 4 with all new hit shows and a new co-host. Confirming that NightScene is a hit, Linda Hawkins, Program Coordinator for Portland Cable Access, stated that "NightScene has one of the larger viewing audiences for cable access. Our facility receives frequent telephone calls concerning their programs, the re-play schedule and how to contact them."



Lanny Swerdlow is the producer and host of NightScene. He feels that the gay community must have its own television programming, and points out that "television is the major means of communication in America, and the almost complete lack of gay programming is a disgrace. That's one of the major reasons NightScene was started."

A major change in this year's programs will be the introduction of a new co-host, the "all-American lesbian," Shan Leslie. Shan expects her role as co-host to affect the show. Claiming that past shows have tended to be somewhat male-oriented, Shan feels that she has "a different perspective than Lanny and I intend to

complement his ideas with my own. I want to bring the community closer together with a broader understanding of who we are and what we are all about."

NightScene can be viewed by anyone in the Portland metropolitan area with cable television. It appears on Tuesday nights at 11:30 pm on channel 11 for viewers with Paragon, T.C.I. or Columbia Cable of Oregon, and on channel 38 for viewers in Vancouver, Washington and others serviced by Columbia Cable of Washington. Additional information can be obtained by calling 224-2489.

Oompahpah

It's official—Portland's gay and lesbian band now has a name, an upcoming performance and membership in the Lesbian and Gay Band Association. Recently named the Rose City Gay Freedom Band, the group will be performing at From All Walks of Life, Cascade AIDS Project's Walkathon, on September 9.

The band began last spring with four musicians—a tuba player, a trombone player and two percussionists. This combination presented the band with, as president James Griener said, "a little problem finding music for ourselves." The band members focused on not getting discouraged and on getting the word out to other musicians via *Just Out*, *The Lavender Network*, the newsletter for the Portland Gay Men's Chorus, and *Willamette Week*. They are now up to more than 20 members, and the band continues to grow and to seek new musicians. The members of the band find their performances exciting not only because they like to play for an audience, but also because they want to make the band's presence known to other musicians who might be interested in joining.

The Rose City Gay Freedom Band started with a wealth of music from the founder of the now-defunct Northwest Passage Freedom Band. The music ranges from Carmina Burana to the theme from E.T. They have not settled on a particular type within the area of band music, preferring instead to play as many styles as they can. The band is also leaving open the type of band they will eventually have, exploring

everything from brass quintets to oompahpah bands to marching bands. Director Chuck Nance also sees the Rose City Gay Freedom Band as having great potential for the community, possibly providing a clearing house for music and classes, as well as a place for people who have given up their music to get back into playing again and for people to meet and socialize in a healthy environment.

The performance at From All Walks of Life will feature a variety of music in a concert before the walk and a sendoff for the walkers. That performance will be their second, following their debut at Portland Gay Pride this summer. And, while the whole band couldn't make it to the Gay Games in Vancouver, B.C., at least two members did—Chuck Nance, the band's director, went to represent the band to the Lesbian and Gay Band Association, and French horn player Kim Mohr went to play in the mass bands concert at the Games.

Groups starting this fall

Phoenix Rising has completed its fall 1990 roster of groups and workshops. All groups and workshops are offered on a sliding scale, and have a minimum and maximum number of participants required.

Groups include Closet Cleaning for those just coming out, a gay men's support group, an Inner Child Mural Project, Exploring Dreams with Imagery, and groups for lesbians getting free of co-dependency, lesbians and gay men coming out of domestic violence, lesbians molested as children and partners of those lesbians, plus more.

For complete details contact Phoenix Rising at 223-8299.

Club 927 closes to lesbians

The Club 927 celebrated its last weekend August 10-12, leaving Portland with no lesbian alcohol bar. The non-gay owners closed the bar to lesbians and opened it to a topless dancing crowd. For 10 years the Club 927 was a gathering place for women. The next issue of *Just Out* will feature an investigative article.

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