

just out
since 1983

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A copy of **just out** is available for \$1 and/or advertising rates are available on request.

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steppin' out



Joann Loulan brought down the house at the end of her show Feb. 12, by modeling local artist Meg Rowe's latest piece, "The Emotionally Safe Sex Ensemble." The ensemble includes a hat, coat and dress made out of dental dams and plastic, and comes with a pocketful of chocolates.

PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

editorial

Say wha...?

Is there some tricky deity fooling around with us?

by Ariel Waterwoman

When we received the fax from Support Our Communities Political Action Committee which outlined Marion County Circuit Judge Rodney W. Miller's ruling against the Oregon Citizens Alliance's proposed ballot initiative, we were shocked. Could it really be this easy?

A judge was finally addressing the constitutionality of the OCA's initiative before it got to the voters. What a concept! A tight place in my belly let go. There were tears in more than one set of eyes as the scope of that simple ruling permeated our hearts and brains.

I started thinking about Cascade AIDS Project. I wondered if this ruling would give people the security they needed to pour the money they were setting aside for the fight with the OCA into CAP. It's no secret that, nationwide, service organizations in sexual minority communities are suffering big financial shortfalls. These shortfalls have been attributed to our funds being siphoned off to fight the ultra-right's attack on our civil rights. Court battles have made deep

cuts in our service organizations, and the results are just starting to be noticed.

It seems that this was the miracle that CAP needed to meet its financial goals. CAP's current financial struggle is probably the most dramatic example of how our community is feeling the effects of financing defensive



Celebration, or not, at Pioneer Courthouse Square.

PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

political campaigns every two years—as well as fighting all the initiatives going on around the state. Great, I was thinking, all those people who usually contribute to charity organizations will be able to do that again without having to worry about a big political campaign.

More than relief about the money, I was experiencing real joy. Breathing was easier, the future looked like a place I wanted to live in and I felt good about my belief in the strength of our constitution.

Could it really be this simple? Well, I guess not—but, it was fun while it lasted. Stay tuned for the next ruling on this matter scheduled for mid-April. Maybe it will be this simple.

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