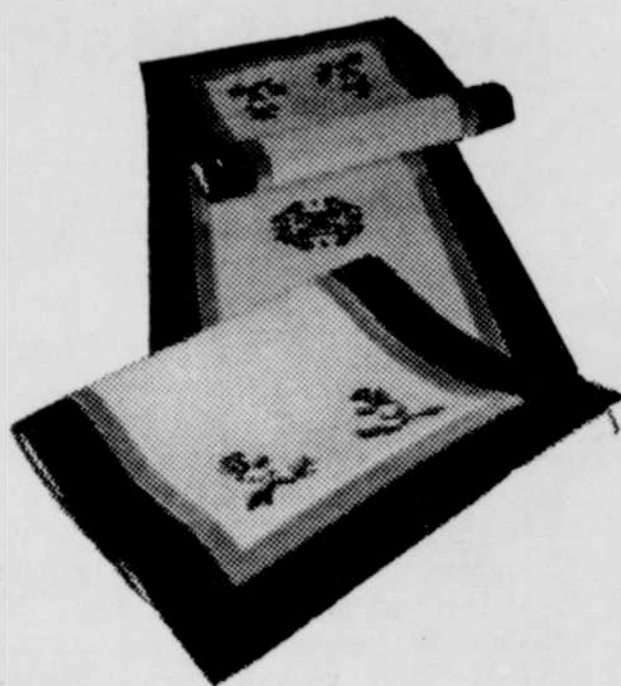




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## TWENTY-THIRD AVENUE B·O·O·K·S

invites you to an evening with  
**David Mixner**



author of  
**Stranger  
Among  
Friends**

Thursday,  
August 1,  
7:30 pm

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## local news

### First Crisis Response Team graduates

A dozen volunteers graduated July 1 from the Portland Police Bureau's Crisis Response Team training.

The team, whose members are from the sexual minorities community, is believed to be the first of its kind in the nation. The program is designed to fulfill another major component of the bureau's partnership agreement with the sexual minorities community.

Crisis Response Team members will provide emotional and practical support to sexual minority victims of crimes or traumatic accidents. CRT members are called to the scene by the police to assist victims and their families in the immediate wake of tragedy.

In addition to providing emotional support, they will also make referrals to appropriate agencies, provide information and help in notifying family, friends and clergy.

### U of O students protest Promise Keepers gathering

Student leaders at the University of Oregon met with administrative officials July 10 to present petitions expressing disappointment with the university's decision to lease Autzen Stadium to the Promise Keepers, a conservative Christian movement that sponsors "men-only" prayer meetings throughout the country.

The students questioned the administration's policy regarding nondiscrimination, and requested that profits from the event be used to fund educational efforts on campus this year "to counterbalance the Promise Keepers' message."

"The students at this university are extremely concerned about this decision," says Margaret Butler, who opposes the event. "The University of Oregon has a tradition of fostering a safe, hate-free environment for all students. Why are we compromising this tradition?"

The Eugene gathering is scheduled for Aug. 2 and 3. In addition to their petition drive, students have scheduled a vigil on Aug. 2 to be held outside the Promise Keepers' prayer meeting. The vigil begins at 5:30 pm and student leaders, local clergy, and representatives from women's groups and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbian and Gays are scheduled to speak.



Empress Sheila Dupont prepares to get dunked at "Saturday in the Park"

### SW Washingtonians celebrate pride

Gay men, lesbians and their allies enjoyed a day of pride during "Saturday in the Park," Vancouver's Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration.

The gathering, held July 13, was the final pride event in the region, and the only event of its kind in Southwest Washington.

Organizers say what began in 1994 as a rally to celebrate the failure of Washington's anti-gay initiatives 608 and 610 to get on the ballot, has transformed into a daylong queer pride festival.

As in past years, several local politicians

joined in the celebration, including openly gay Vancouver City Councilmember Jim Moeller.

"Saturday in the Park" was sponsored in part by *Vancouver Voice*, Beabcock's music, Jim Moeller, and The Imperial Sovereign Court of the Raintree Empire.

### Free booklet aims to foster lesbian health

"Lesbian Health Matters!," an informational booklet published by the Corvallis-based Community Outreach Inc., a not-for-profit human service agency, is available free to lesbians and bisexual women in Oregon.

The booklet—which includes writings about lesbians and breast cancer, selecting a mental health practitioner, drug and alcohol use, and battering in lesbian relationships—is one portion of the Lesbian Health Matters! project. Community Outreach Inc. also sponsors at least two lesbian health and wellness education clinics annually, at no cost.

Financial support for the project comes in part from the Equity Foundation, Pride Foundation and After 8, a gay, lesbian and bisexual education and advocacy group serving Benton and Linn counties.

To obtain a copy of the free booklet or to learn more about the Lesbian Health Matters! project, contact Community Outreach Inc., 128 SW Ninth St., Corvallis, OR 97333, or call (541) 758-3000.

### Interfaith coalition forms to support immigrants' rights

The Oregon Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights, which advocates for the basic rights of immigrants, refugees and undocumented individuals, is creating a speakers bureau that will provide trained volunteers to

speak to groups.

According to OICIR organizers, faith communities throughout the nation have become concerned about the rising tide of anti-immigrant sentiment that they believe contradicts the teachings of diverse faith traditions. They say when anti-immigrant legislation became a reality in California, a group of individuals formed the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights. Similar legislation is being proposed in Oregon, prompting OICIR's formation.

For more information about OICIR or to volunteer, contact Amanda Smith Byron at the Portland-based Lutheran Family Service at 233-0042.

Compiled by Inga Sorensen