

THE QUIET CAMPAIGN

by Inga Sorensen

It's a particularly dreary late-April afternoon. It's rainier than it has been in quite some time, and colder too.

"I love it," says Mark White, a sweet-eyed, unassuming man, as he takes a seat in the Nature's cafe on Southeast Division Street.

"I love the rain and the hail and the ice and wind storms—and the sun when it comes out," continues the 38-year-old California transplant. "When you live in a place where it's sunny and between 70 and 90 degrees almost every day of the year, you forget the world goes around. Having seasons brings me closer to my spiritual side."

A spiritual side he hasn't always been attuned to.

"I was like a lot of gay people who wound up using alcohol and drugs as a way to mask their feelings," he says.

White has now been clean for more than a dozen years, and he enjoys incomparable pleasures on his regular Saturday jaunts through Forest Park in Northwest Portland, where he mixes and matches his trails, and soaks in the sounds and smells of the lushness.

"It's remarkable there," he says, sipping a pineapple-orange juice concoction dubbed the "South Pacific."

If White sounds relentlessly upbeat, it's because he basically is. That sense is further solidified after White—a relatively little-known Portland City Council candidate who has vowed to spend essentially no money promoting his campaign—speculates he'll nab enough votes to at least land in a run-off.

White is running for the Position 3 seat on the Portland City Council in the May 19 pri-

mary. That seat is currently held by Gretchen Miller Kafoury, who is retiring.

White's competition includes relative heavyweights Dan Saltzman and Tanya Collier, both of whom have served on the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners and possess far greater name recognition and connections.

In fact, it's a good bet you probably haven't even heard White's name before, though he did run for a Portland City Council post two years ago.

He touts his campaign as "Not Politics as Usual," which is definitely true. On his Web page, White writes: "Call me old-fashioned, but I feel elections are NOT about electing an individual. I believe elections are about promoting creative dialogue, including contrary opinions, about issues that concern all citizens.... Without this dialogue, there is no evolution of ideals."

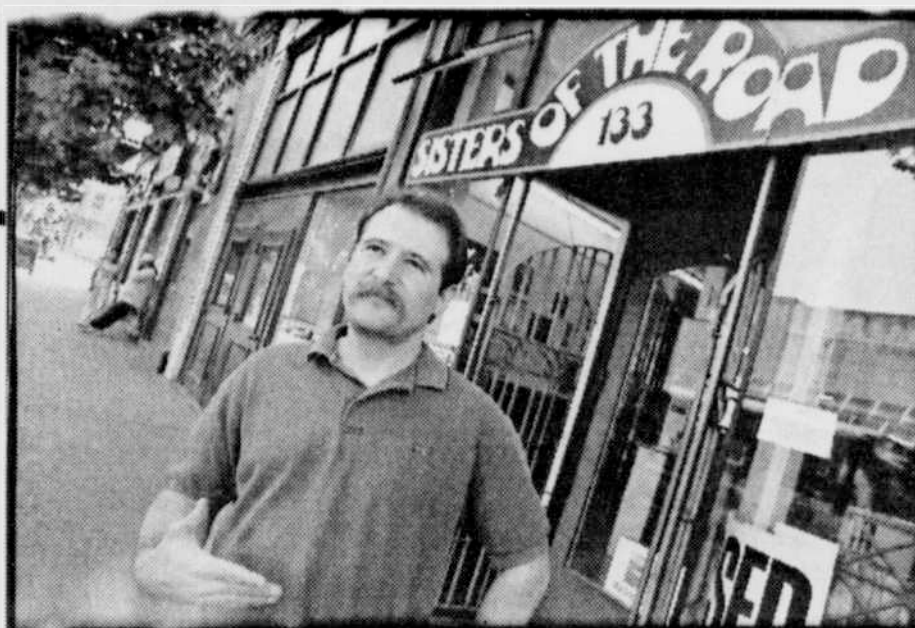
He is pro-choice, supports physician-assisted suicide—and notes that as a person who has lived with AIDS for several years, such a choice is of particular significance to him.

"Although my plans for the future do not include physician-assisted suicide, I feel it is extremely important that all citizens have the right to exercise this option at the appropriate time, if they choose to do so," he says.

In a nutshell, as commissioner White would: strive to eliminate administrative waste by streamlining city operations and initiating outcomes-based goals for city departments; design programs to work toward resolution, not perpetuation; and open up the lines of communication with citizens.

Really the only way to learn about his positions is via his extensive Web page.

White has promised not to conduct any formal fund-raising activities of any kind and has limited contributions to \$20 or less, with any



Mark White is not an everyday politician

contribution over that amount going to the Sisters of the Road Cafe.

Saltzman and Collier, meanwhile, have each pulled in more than \$100,000 for their city council campaigns.

White even "heartily discourages" folks from making contributions to his campaign, opting instead to "encourage [them] to take an active role in the election," whether that means supporting him or someone else.

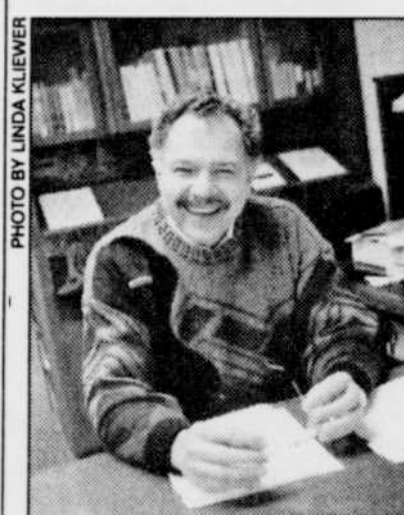
You won't see pro-White commercials or even lawn signs. Indeed, the candidate asks those who feel compelled "to put something in your house or car window" to try to "use something that is recyclable."

His involvement in the gay and lesbian community has admittedly been lean. White says after he dumped substance abuse, he for the most part faded out of the gay scene. His days are instead filled with his work as a program manager for McCarthy Medical Marketing, a medical education company, and he spends the remainder of his hours with a partner of six years, their two dogs and his atypical campaign.

"Am I an idealist?" he wonders aloud. "I guess if that means that I know another sunny day will arrive, than yes, I am an idealist."

■ To learn more about MARK WHITE's campaign, call 972-3418 or check the Web at: www.angelfire.com/or/mwhitecampaign.

OUT CANDIDATES RUNNING IN THE MAY 19 PRIMARY



GEORGE EIGHMEY

• Mark White, Portland City Council, Position No. 3, opposed.

• Rick Brissette, Lincoln County Commission, Position No. 3, opposed.

• George Eighmey, Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, 1st District, opposed.

• Barbara Willer, Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, 3rd District, opposed.

• Chuck Carpenter, Republican, Oregon House of Representatives, 7th District, opposed.



BARBARA WILLER

• Elli Work, Democrat, Oregon House of Representatives, 54th District, unopposed.

just out OREGON PRIMARY '98 ENDORSEMENTS

This is not a mail-in election. Unless you are a registered absentee voter you must go to your precinct polling place to vote by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 1998.

Where a district is not listed, no endorsement could be made or there was no candidate.

U.S. Senator
Ron Wyden, Democrat

U.S. Representatives
1st District: Linda Peters, Democrat
3rd District: Earl Blumenauer, Democrat
4th District: Peter DeFazio, Democrat
5th District: Darlene Hooley, Democrat

Governor
John Kitzhaber, Democrat

Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries
Jack Roberts

Superintendent of Public Instruction
Margaret Carter

State Senators
3rd District: Brad Avakian, Democrat
5th District: Jeanette Hamby, Republican
9th District: Frank Shields, Democrat
13th District: Ken Libbey, Democrat
14th District: Rick Metsger, Democrat
16th District: Lloyd Kumley, Democrat
17th District: Peter Courtney, Democrat
18th District: Cliff Trow, Democrat
20th District: Susan Castillo, Democrat
22nd District: Tony Corcoran, Democrat

State Representatives
1st District: Jackie Taylor, Democrat
4th District: Terry Thompson, Democrat
5th District: Jim Hill, Republican
7th District: Chuck Carpenter, Republican
8th District: Ryan Deckert, Democrat
9th District: Robin Smith, Democrat
11th District: Anitra Rasmussen, Democrat
12th District: Chris Beck, Democrat
13th District: Dan Gardner, Democrat
14th District: Diane Rosenbaum, Democrat
15th District: Randall Edwards, Democrat
17th District: Gary Hansen, Democrat
18th District: Deborah Kafoury, Democrat
19th District: Jo Ann Bowman, Democrat
20th District: Ellen Juett, Democrat

21st District: Randy Leonard, Democrat
22nd District: Chuck Partington, Democrat
23rd District: Kurt Schrader, Democrat
24th District: Richard Devlin, Democrat
25th District: Tom Civiletti, Democrat
26th District: Kathy Lowe, Democrat
27th District: Andrea Hungerford, Democrat
28th District: Stu Rasmussen, Democrat
31st District: Bryan Johnston, Democrat
32nd District: George Bell, Democrat
36th District: John Donovan, Sr., Democrat
39th District: Kitty Piercy, Democrat
40th District: Floyd Prozanski, Democrat
41st District: Vicky Walker, Democrat
44th District: Don Hampton, Democrat
49th District: Candace Bartow, Democrat

50th District: Melody Kolb, Democrat
52nd District: Judy Uherbelau, Democrat
53rd District: Dotte Schaffer, Democrat
54th District: Elli Work, Democrat
57th District: David Mitzimberg, Democrat

CITY OF PORTLAND Mayor
Vera Katz

City Councilors
Position No. 2: Erik Sten
Position No. 3: Tanya Collier

Metro Councilors
Executive: Mike Burton
Position No. 1: Ruth McFarland
Position No. 2: John Jackley
Position No. 7: David Bragdon

MULTNOMAH COUNTY Sheriff
Dan Noelle

Commissioners
Chair: Bev Stein

Position No. 1: George Eighmey
Position No. 2: Serena Cruz
Position No. 3: Barbara Willer

CITY OF EUGENE City Councilors
Position No. 1: Tim Laue
Position No. 4: David Kelly

LANE COUNTY Commissioners
Position No. 1: Peter Kilger
Position No. 2: Bill Dwyer
Position No. 5: Greg Hume

BENTON COUNTY Commissioner
Position No. 1: Annabelle Jaramillo

CLACKAMAS COUNTY Commissioner
Ronald Johnson

LINCOLN COUNTY Commissioner
Position No. 3: Rick Brissette

WASHINGTON COUNTY Commissioner at Large
Tom Brian