

hold the event on the university's campus, also arranged to have three security officers on hand, according to David Martinez, the group's advisor.

"The university didn't feel it necessary to have more," he explained, adding that the officers always have a direct line to the campus security headquarters in case problems erupt.

Gordon and his partner expected protesters when they arrived but were hoping they could have a good time without that kind of hassle.

"I'm glad there wasn't any," Gordon says.

One of Portland's best-known drag performers, Misha Rockafeller, served as hostess for the 90-minute event. She mingled through the seated crowd, a wireless microphone in hand, seeking answers to questions about sexual preferences and practices.

Audience members often seemed uncomfortable and were unwilling to provide the details she and others likely wanted to hear. Several men who did answer spoke of romance, emotions and "sensitive touch" when queried about their sex lives.

Those expecting "amazing stories of real tops and bottoms," as promised by the *Tunnel of Love* promotional poster, likely returned home disappointed.

But not everyone was displeased.

"We're really excited that the community turned out in such large numbers," Sidwell says.

"This is really unprecedented for a health care-related community forum," he adds about the 600 who attended.

Rimmo the Clown may look gay, but the man beneath the makeup definitely isn't



Sidwell feels the event really is revolutionary for Portland. Gay Life is looking forward to planning a fall event, he says, and is hoping more people will get involved.

■ To learn more about GAY LIFE HEALTH NETWORK activities or to volunteer, send an e-mail to gaylifehealth@yahoo.com.

FOCUS ON SALEM

Members of the Salem-area sexual minorities community will soon have an opportunity to be heard by the Human Rights and Relations Advisory Commission.

The commission's Education and Outreach Committee is holding a series of monthly meetings with minority communities in the Salem area. On May 23, the committee will conduct a focus group with gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans community members. The meeting will determine how the commission can be used as a resource by these groups.

The commission works to identify sources of tension in the community and then works to resolve the problems through informal mediation, according to Maggie Tuttle, acting community resources analyst.

The Education and Outreach Committee is the commission's most active subgroup. The committee previously met with representatives from the African American, Latino and Native

American communities and will continue to reach out to other minority groups in the future, Tuttle says.

Salem's human rights ordinance, which prohibits unlawful employment, housing and public accommodation practices, currently does not have any provisions relating to discrimination based on sexual orientation. Tuttle says the commission is working to redress that oversight.

The 12-member commission can help minority groups and "act as a voice to let the city council know what issues are out there," says Tuttle.

The commission is part of the Department of Community Services at the city of Salem.

■ Attend the HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION focus group at 6 p.m. May 23, at Change of Seasons Restaurant, 300 Liberty St. S.E. in Salem. For more information, call Maggie Tuttle at (503) 588-6261 or send an e-mail to CommunityServices@OPEN.org.

Reported by JONATHAN KIPP

Coventry Cycle Works



Professional Service
Comfortable Bikes
Recumbents a Specialty!

Open Tuesday-Sunday
230-7723
2025 SE Hawthorne

Really Cool Stuff

Antiques & Treasures



7872 SW Capitol Highway
Portland, OR 97219 • 503-246-6267
We are located in Multnomah Village near The Bridge. Call for directions.

CH MORTGAGE

- Fast 15 to 20 day closings
- Good or bad credit
- Apply online at www.CH-Mortgage.com

- Instant approval at your home or office
- 0% down programs

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Phone: (503) 294-0044
Fax: (503) 294-7115
Cell: (503) 577-1981
5125 S.W. MACADAM • SUITE 145
PORTLAND, OR 97219
Email: Cgraunitz@CH-Mortgage.com

Cory Graunitz
Loan Officer

BOOKS

Latest in Gay Travel, Fiction & More

VIDEOS

Happy Texas, Boys Don't Cry & More

DVDs

Gai-Pied

2544 NE Broadway Ph 331.1125 **Rental & Sales on the latest titles!**

► **Great Discounts On Our Website: www.gaipied.com** ◄

Think of the money you'll save on shaving cream.

HAIR REMOVAL • SKIN CARE
FACIALS • PRODUCTS
MEN AND WOMEN

Utilizing the most advanced laser on the market for soft, luxurious HAIR FREE skin.

N.W. Laser Specialists
909 N. Tomahawk Is. Dr. at Jantzen Beach
(Conveniently located across from Safeway)

Consumers Beware! All lasers are not created equal. Call now!

1-800-589-6414 * 503-289-8912

Over 10,000 Satisfied Customers!