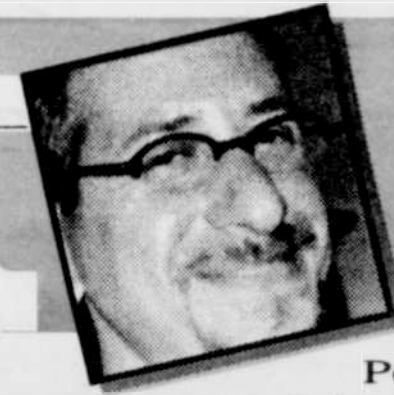




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Basic black:
It's time to celebrate
Leather Pride Week
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Portland, Oregon **FREE**

OCA returns with another Measure 9

Activists mobilize to protect students from the Student Protection Act

BY JONATHAN KIPP

The anti-gay Oregon Citizens Alliance's Student Protection Act has qualified for the fall ballot, the secretary of state's office announced July 31.

The verdict came just three days after a first sampling of signatures turned up an excess of duplicates as the gay community held its breath in hope. But after closer examination, the state determined the OCA had not only qualified, but it had a higher percentage of valid signatures than any other initiative to be verified thus far.

The measure is the third sponsored by the OCA to qualify for the ballot since 1992. Both previous campaigns were defeated.

Coincidentally, the act was the ninth to be certified for the Nov. 7 election, so it will be known as Ballot Measure 9—the same name given to the highly contentious 1992 initiative.

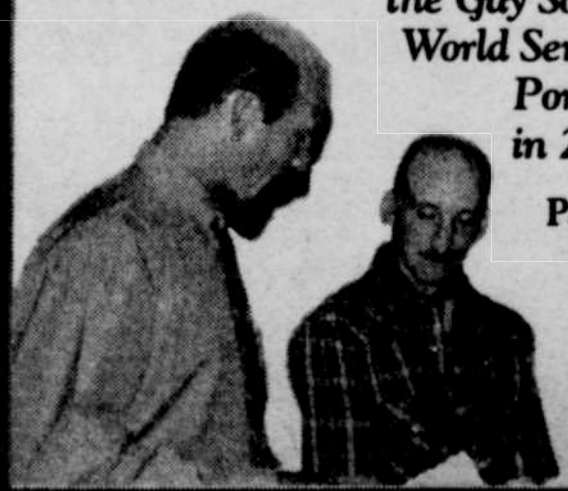
"This is a very positive sign for young people in our state who have been exposed to an extreme agenda from militant homosexual activists," a press release from the OCA's Lon Mabon said. "This measure, in spite of how it will be characterized by the well-funded homosexual lobby, simply says that public money and facilities may no longer be used to teach children that a dangerous and destructive lifestyle is merely an 'alternative' to healthy lives and families."

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Soft sell

Rose City Softball Association reps head to Toronto, hoping to bring the Gay Softball World Series to Portland in 2002.

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k.d. language of love

The big boned gal opens up to Just Out about her new life and new songs in the key of belonging

BY ORIANA GREEN

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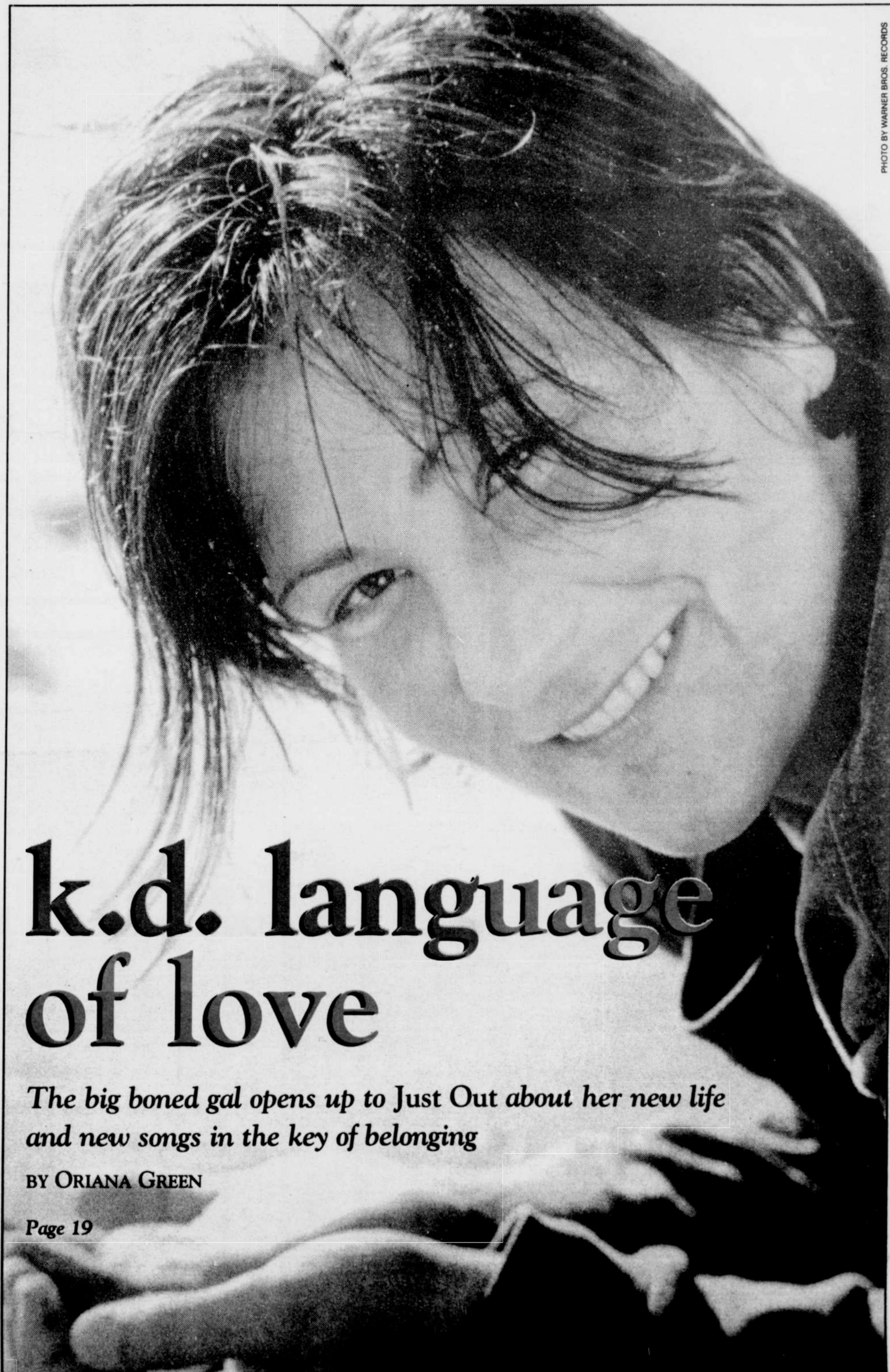


PHOTO BY WARNER BROS. RECORDS