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Coliseum when more than 10,500 Oregonians came to show their support. It was the first of what came to be known as the "Super Rallies," which filled nine major arenas from Oakland, Calif., to Boston with crowds that dwarfed turnouts generated by George Bush and Al Gore—even though attendees were paying \$7 to \$20 to hear the candidate.

For more information call 503-223-2790 or visit the Internet site www.democracyrising.org.

SCOUTING FOR ALL PLANS RALLIES

Scouting for All, an organization formed because the Boy Scouts of America bans atheists and gay men, is planning its second annual national rally during the week of Aug. 19 to 25.

Protests will be held in every state throughout the country as well as internationally at Scout councils, United Ways, school districts, city councils, businesses and religious denominations that continue to support this exclusionary policy. Organizers are needed to help plan a rally in Oregon.

A demonstration also will be held Aug. 20 at the Boy Scouts of America national head-

quarters in Irving, Texas. In attendance will be Scouting for All co-founder Steven Cozza, a teen Eagle Scout who spearheaded the anti-discrimination effort.

This year's theme is "Support Gay Scouts



Scouting for All needs help organizing a rally next month in Oregon

and All Gay Youth." The 2000 theme was "Give Voice by Protesting the Supreme Court James Dale/BSA Decision."

For more information call Robert Raketty, Northwestern regional director, at 206-338-2727, e-mail rraketty@scoutingforall.org or visit the Internet site www.scoutingforall.org.

HRC GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Human Rights Campaign announced July 9 the release of its Equality Fund grant applications for the 2002 fiscal year. The money will help provide financial support for statewide gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans advocacy groups to help advance basic equality for all U.S. citizens.

HRC completed its first grant cycle in January 2001, contributing a total of \$114,000 to 27 state lobby groups. The grants ranged between \$2,900 and \$5,000 for work on specific projects proposed by state groups, including hiring lobbyists, conducting state polls and producing voter scorecards.

Basic Rights Oregon received \$4,000 to work toward maintaining anonymity in HIV testing. In Washington state, HRC worked with the Fairness Lobby on developing written testimony for hearings on a pending civil rights bill.

"Partnerships between national and state organizations are essential in the struggle for equality," says Seth Kilbourn, HRC national field director. "With the Equality Fund grants

and other support, we are responding in a more comprehensive way to the needs of GLBT statewide groups and working to strengthen those partnerships."

The Equality Fund assists statewide organizations in undertaking legislative and regulatory policy initiatives. Unlike other funding that often cannot be used to support a group's political work, the grants are unrestricted and can go specifically to lobbying and issue advocacy.

"The activists and organizations working at the state level are doing an amazing job advancing legislation and fighting back anti-gay legislation," Kilbourn said. "They are leading the way for the GLBT community in their states, and we are proud to support that work."

In addition to the Equality Fund grants, HRC has focused more of its field work in the past year on working with groups on state-level issues. Coordinated by deputy field director Liz Seaton, HRC's legal team, lobbyists and five field organizers have provided staff support and technical assistance, mobilized its grassroots network, developed analyses and submitted written and oral testimony in 24 states.

For more information call Liz Seaton at 202-216-1507.

TRANS POLICE OFFICER GETS NEW HEARING

A transsexual Portland police officer will receive a new hearing on his work-related stress claim, *Willamette Week* reports July 11.

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