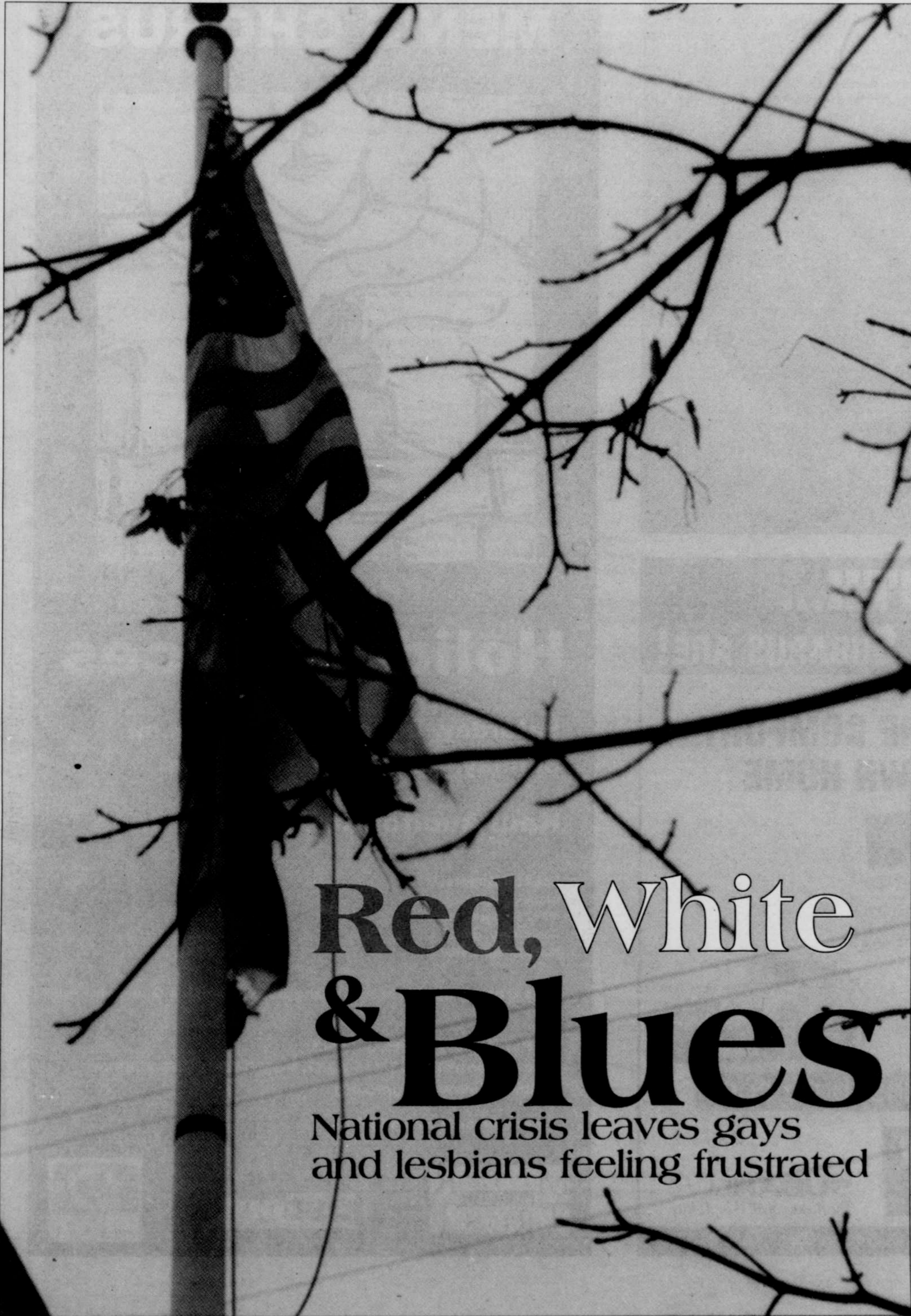




**Margaret Cho**  
The notorious gay icon  
returns to Portland  
Page 43

Portland, Oregon **FREE**



## Red, White & Blues

National crisis leaves gays  
and lesbians feeling frustrated

PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

## Meet the parents

There's a lot more to  
PFLAG than parades

BY HERON AND ORIANA GREEN

**W**e've all seen them in Pride parades and wondered who they are. Somebody's granddad holds up a homemade sign saying: "My kid's terrific! Wouldn't change a thing." A mom pushes a toddler in a stroller adorned with a placard announcing, "I love my gay uncles."

Whenever the Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays march by in a Pride parade carrying their wonderful signs, they leave behind them people in tears. People who wish their parents were as supportive.

You'll have a chance to meet members of Portland PFLAG and learn what they offer our community during a special holiday party Dec. 11. And although the group was founded by and for our allies, in the Portland chapter half the members are actually gay men and lesbians who have discovered it's a wonderful resource for dealing with their own family issues and more.

"We know how difficult the holidays can be for sexual minority people," party planner Chris Fain says. "This party is to reach out to the gay community and for them to meet members of PFLAG, instead of just getting a hug on the street at Pride."

The potluck has a winter holiday theme, and

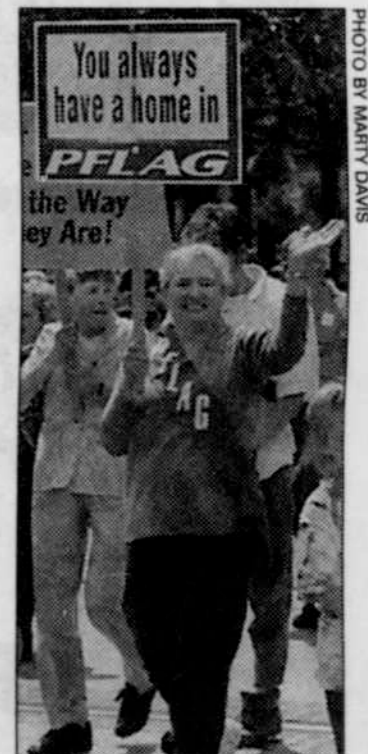


PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

This is the one  
that makes us cry

Continued on Page 36

**inside**  
Holiday Gift Guide



PULL IT OUT  
AND TAKE IT  
WITH YOU  
AS YOU ENJOY  
YOUR SHOPPING  
THIS YEAR