

**NORTHWEST news**

**EUGENE FEMINISTS PROTEST PUBLICATION**

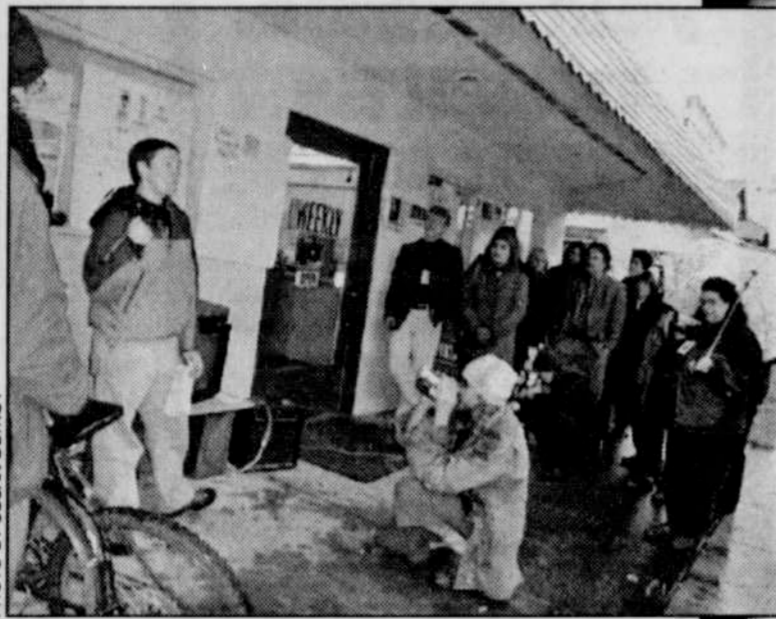
Feminists are furious about an adult store ad published by *Eugene Weekly* and an editor's recommendation that they "relax, buy a dildo, have some fun."

About 45 people staged a protest on a windy, rainy afternoon Nov. 21 under the awning in front of the newspaper's office. The gathering was initiated by a recently formed group of lesbian, bi and straight feminists.

They came together in an effort to confront and educate *Weekly* staff regarding dissatisfaction sparked by the publication of a Fantasyland advertisement featuring a scantily dressed airbrushed woman. It was printed on the inside back cover of the 2001-2002 *Annual Manual*, a supplement listing Eugene businesses.

The *Weekly* also recently ran racy ads for Annie Sprinkle, a self-defined "feminist porn activist," as well as an article about sex shops and gun shops. Since then, its letters to the editor section has been deluged with responses, and staff members have participated in an ongoing dialogue.

Demonstrators engaged with publisher Sonja Snyder and editorial editor Ted Taylor, in particular questioning his "dildo" commentary, which was written in response to the vandalism of *Weekly* newspaper boxes. Stickers with the words "smut" and "sleaze" have been popping up all across town, but nobody knows for certain whether they have anything to do with this controversy.



Protesters gather outside the *Eugene Weekly* office Nov. 21; (right) the ad that caused a commotion

Activist and businesswoman Lorraine Ironplow spoke to Taylor about his failure to issue a forthright apology. Snyder responded with an apology and an offer to consider publishing articles from a feminist viewpoint.

**RALLY WILL EXPOSE NEO-NAZIS**

Notorious skinhead leader Tom Metzger might make an appearance in Portland sometime this month, perhaps as early as Dec. 8. In response to the rumors, activists will hold a rally from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 8 at Holladay Park on Northeast Multnomah Boulevard between 11th and 13th avenues.

The event is being organized by the newly

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formed Labor-Community Anti-Racism Committee of Jobs with Justice, which includes unions, student and civil rights groups, the faith-based community and the independent media. Their goal is to raise awareness about racist activity and to build a powerful multiracial coalition to challenge and expose neo-Nazi organizing.

The same day as the rally, the Coalition Against Hate Crimes will sponsor a screening of *Hate on Trial*, which covers the death of Mulageta Seraw, a youth Ethiopian who was

killed by white supremacists in Portland during the early 1990s. The victim's parents later took Metzger and his son to civil court, charging them with inciting the violence through inflammatory racist statements.

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with Randy Blazak, a Portland State University professor, and David Yamasaki, a Portland Police Bureau detective. The event will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room 71 of PSU's Cramer Hall.

For more information about the rally contact Orion Gray at 503-736-1368 or orionisgray@yahoo.com. For more information about Hate on Trial call 503-295-6761.

**YOUTH BUDGET CRISIS AVERTED**

The Multnomah County Commission approved a budget Nov. 29 protecting services for sexual minority youth. The board was forced to make huge midyear cuts after economists projected revenue significantly below expectations.

"This crisis has gone away for the short term, but next year we're going to face this again," says Jim Clay, a member of the Advocacy Team for Sexual Minority Youth. "People who are interested ought to stay tuned."

Clay was impressed with the strong turnout from the sexual minorities community during public hearings held last month to determine where the cuts should be made.

Continued on Page 9

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**Worried About Your Rights?**

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