

Fun and frivolity will be had 3 p.m. Feb. 3 during the **Jocks in Dresses Super Bowl Party** at Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway. The club's resident divas will help RCSA athletes transform into jocks in frocks, and contestants will compete against each other to get the most donations for their acts. You can root for your favorite football team and your favorite softball player all at once. And every dime goes to the World Series fund.

To volunteer, sponsor or join a team, call 503-450-9999. Volunteers can e-mail [volunteers@series2002.org](mailto:volunteers@series2002.org); players can e-mail [membership@portlandgaysoftball.com](mailto:membership@portlandgaysoftball.com). For further info on the World Series, visit [www.portlandgaysoftball.com](http://www.portlandgaysoftball.com). To contact Team Quest, call Brice at 503-287-2248.

**Now you can own them**

The entire first season of Showtime's *Queer as Folk* is now available on DVD and VHS for a mere suggested retail price of \$119.98. (Hint: You can rent them for a lot less.) The collective shows clock in at 990 minutes, but the DVD version includes not one, not two, but *three* hours of bonus feature footage! What is all that never-before-seen stuff? If we told



you, it wouldn't be a surprise.

Speaking of QAF, did you know **Michelle Clunie**, aka hot power lawyer **Melanie**, was raised up right here in the Rose City? She took off at 17 for the brighter lights of Los Angeles, noting on an Internet chat that for an actress "there wasn't a lot of opportunity in Portland." Oh well, at least we know how to birth women who grow up to play ballsy dykes on TV.



QAF's Melanie is Portland grown

**I want my gay TV**

Remember when all television fought not to introduce queer characters and themes to their lineups and how people boycotted sponsors of *Roseanne* even though it didn't even actually *show* the kiss between her and Mariel Hemingway? Doesn't it seem like that wasn't long ago?

Now there's a gay cable channel war. MTV and Showtime, both Viacom companies, are embarking on a joint venture to launch the first U.S. cable channel "devoted to gay and lesbian programming." Announced

targeted to gay and lesbian viewers."

MDC has the two Viacom companies beat with, optimistically, a name for their channel already—Alt1-TV. But it doesn't have the deep pockets of an MTV/Showtime hybrid. And the Viacom's are hitting the ground running, with former MTV executive Matt Farber returning to the music channel to head up the project and Showtime senior vice president Gene Falk already in the development and planning stage. No investors needed, thank you very much.

The current popular media question is: Can the queer community support one all-gay-all-the-time channel, let alone two? Considering the other 10 billion cable stations are straight, it doesn't seem impossible.

**Hey, let's put on a show!**

The talented folks of the Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center invite you to *A New Beginning*, an all-ages **variety show** Jan. 20. (See Page 26 for details). The program will feature performances by Thorn XXV Chance DeValmont, Rosebud XXV Anastasia, Leather XV Tobias Pink and a special appearance by Rose Court members.

A program of Vanguard Youth Services, SMYRC is a drop-in center for queer and questioning kids 23 and younger. "It's a safe place," program manager Kathy Belge says, "for queer youth to be themselves and to support each other." She encourages all age groups to go to the show, calling SMYRC's past productions "amazing. This is totally being put on by the youth. It's going to be good entertainment."



Drag yourself to SMYRC for its new variety show Jan. 20

simultaneously (fancy that) is startup MDC Entertainment Group's intention to launch the country's first "cable television channel

**But will he sing with Eminem?**

The Grammy Awards are scheduled for Feb. 27, and gay pop star **Elton John** has been nominated for two: Best Male Pop Vocal Performance ("I Want Love") and Best Pop Vocal Album (*Songs from the West Coast*). **Melissa Etheridge** garnered a Best Female Rock Vocal Performance nomination for "I Want to Be in Love" from the sad and moody, my-girlfriend-left-me *Skin*.

Queer R.E.M. frontman **Michael Stipe** will contend for Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal for "Imitation of Life." He also is nominated separately for Best Recording Package for the art direction on the album *Reveal*. Here's hoping his package comes out on top. **J**

Compiled by LISA BRADSHAW

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LOOK IN THE NEXT ISSUE FOR INFO. ON OUR PRESIDENT'S DAY SINGLES PARTY

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