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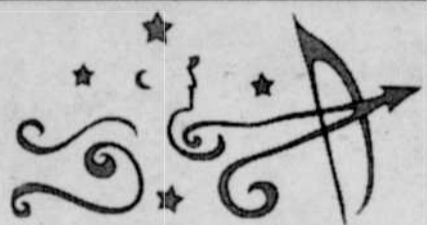
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## NORTHWEST news

Continued from Page 7

also ruled the 1905 law limiting ballot access to be unconstitutional; however, Secretary of State Bill Bradbury appealed that decision.

The Freedom Socialists argued that protecting the two-party system was the underlying reason he decided to fight this case. In court, though, the state maintained that the law prevented "voter confusion."

The appeals court disagreed. A three-judge panel concluded that withholding crucial information from voters, such as a party name, might compound confusion, not prevent it.

Judge Robert Wolheim cited the association and voting rights guarantees of the U.S. Constitution. "The burden placed on those First Amendment rights is severe because voters are deprived of an important voting cue when candidates are unable to run for office using their party affiliation," he wrote.

Sardo hopes to represent District 45, which is roughly bordered by Northeast 22nd and 122nd avenues between North Lombard Street and Interstate 84. But because the court ruling came so late in the election year, she doubts a campaign could be launched by the Aug. 27 deadline and predicts she'll have to wait until 2004.

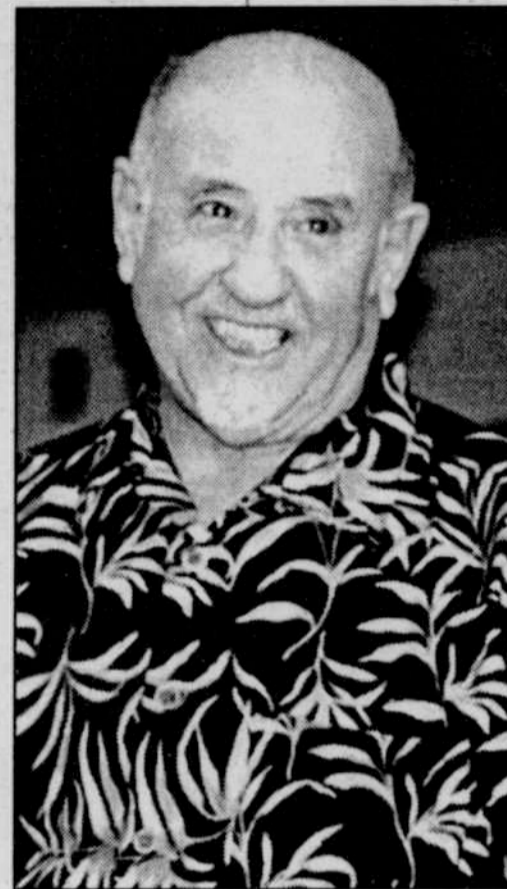
In the meantime, the Freedom Socialists plan to work on a number of hot-button issues: fighting ballot measures proposed by the Oregon Citizens Alliance and Bill Sizemore; defending the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System; and opposing education budget cuts. The party also wants to address taxation disparities, which could provide the solution to the state's weak economy.

"The disparity between what big corporations get taxed and what working-class people get taxed and the small businesses get taxed—it's like the Grand Canyon," Sardo told Just Out. "So we think that that is an answer to alleviating a lot of the economic struggles that we're facing right now. And it's something that, unfortunately, we don't have legislators in the House or Senate right now who are really interested in rocking that boat—and it's a boat that needs to be rocked. Working people don't have any more money to give."

## PRIDE PROTESTER PROSECUTED

A Pride Northwest board member is helping authorities gather evidence to support criminal trespass charges filed against an anti-gay protester who disrupted Portland Pride 2002 last month.

PHOTO BY MARY DAVIS



Norm Costa

Norm Costa is working with Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Laurie Abraham. He is seeking photographs of the sandwich board the man was wearing at the Unity Stage and on Southwest Naito Parkway as well as descriptions of any dialogue spectators can recall.

For more information call 503-203-8453, e-mail [costa107@atbi.com](mailto:costa107@atbi.com) or write to 5812 S.W. Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Portland, OR 97221.

## WALK THIS WAY

AIDSWalk02, the state's largest annual HIV and AIDS fund-raising event, will celebrate its 16th anniversary Sept. 21. More than 5,000 individuals, teams and volunteers are expected to participate in the five-kilometer walk through downtown Portland.

Organizers promise "refreshments, high-energy entertainment, inspirational presentations and an uplifting experience to remember." This year's honorary chairman is actor Danny Glover.

All of the funds raised go to Cascade AIDS Project, which serves residents living in Oregon and southwest Washington. The nonprofit organization provides prevention education to youth and adults at the highest risk of infection; support services; housing to men, women and children living with HIV and their families; and public advocacy at the national and local levels.

To register call 503-223-WALK or visit the Internet site [www.cascadeaids.org](http://www.cascadeaids.org).

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4. Press your Mac's physical "acupuncture point" reset button
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