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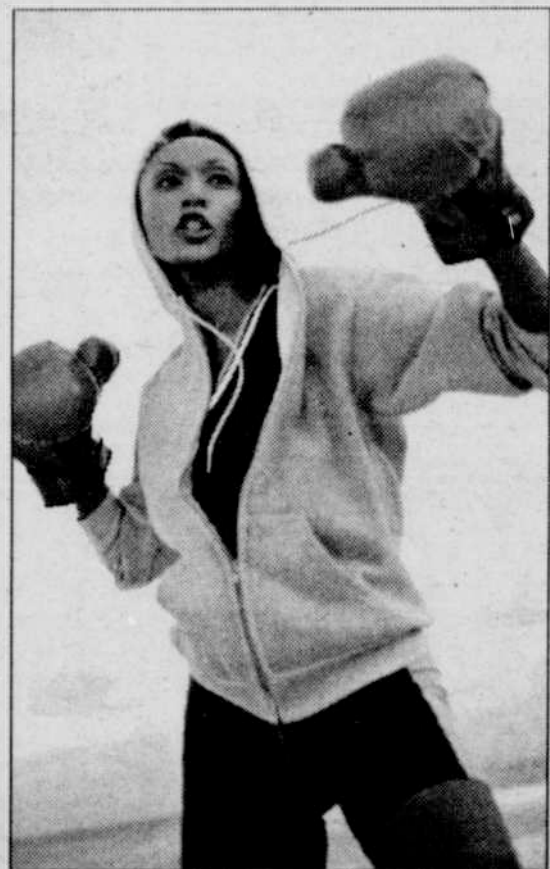
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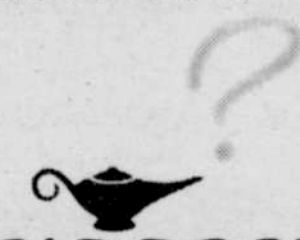
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enforcement agencies and grassroots community groups to develop strategies that work.

"The HIV prevention program focused more on community outreach than clinic-based services," Shirley said. "We have integrated HIV, STD and hepatitis C prevention efforts through contracts with community providers, interventions on the street through needle-exchange programs and at drug treatment centers, offering testing at community events and testing, education and support groups at correctional facilities."

In 2000 Portland reported nine AIDS cases per 100,000 people. This rate is far below the Healthy People goal of 43 and the national average of 15.4.

manufacturers; and consulting firms. In contrast, unfriendly market sectors were: engineering and construction; food, beverage and grocery enterprises; and retail and consumer products.

Six companies received a rating of 14 percent because HRC was unable to find any evidence that they had overtly resisted equal treatment for their sexual minority employees but neither had they taken any affirmative steps. These employers are: Domino's, FedEx, MeadWestvaco, Meijer, Shaw Industries and Wal-Mart.

CHANGING LANES

Gay, lesbian, bi and trans voters will have a chance to talk policy and bowl a few frames with the man who is likely to be the



Nike employees march through downtown June 16 during Portland Pride 2002

NIKE EARNS PERFECT SCORE

Beaverton-based Nike was one of 13 major U.S. corporations that earned 100 percent on the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's first Corporate Equality Index, released Aug. 13.

The rating system grades large corporations on policies that affect their sexual minority employees, consumers and investors. The other companies that scored 100 percent are Aetna, American Airlines, Apple Computer, Avaya, Eastman Kodak, Intel, J.P. Morgan Chase, Lucent Technologies, NCR, Replacements, Worldspan and Xerox.

"While many of these companies have had a long commitment to gay and lesbian employees, most achieved a perfect score after adding gender identity to their nondiscrimination policies," said Kim I. Mills, HRC education director. "Eighty of the companies rated, or 25 percent, met every criterion of the index except for having a gender identity nondiscrimination policy. Those companies received scores of 86 percent."

At the other end of the scale, three companies scored zero: Cracker Barrel, Emerson Electric and Lockheed Martin. They have no policies aimed at treating their queer employees fairly, and all have resisted shareholder resolutions urging them to include sexual orientation in their nondiscrimination policies.

HRC rated 319 companies on seven factors, including whether they have a written nondiscrimination policy covering sexual orientation; have a written nondiscrimination policy covering gender identity and/or expression; offer health insurance coverage to their employees' same-sex domestic partners; and decline to engage in any activities that would undermine the goal of equal rights for gay, lesbian, bi and trans people.

The median score for all companies was 57 percent. Companies in several industries consistently scored on the higher end of the scale: banking and financial services; high-tech equipment

state's next governor Aug. 16.

Basic Rights Oregon is sponsoring Queer Bowl 2002 with Democratic candidate Ted Kulongoski from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at AMF Pro 300 Lanes, 3031 S.E. Powell Blvd. Organizers say this will be a good time for the sexual minorities community to discuss the state's future and get to know the avid bowler in an informal setting.

For more information call 503-222-6151.

CELEBRATE FREEDOM

The Freedom Socialists will hold a "Garden Party Victory Celebration for Voters' Rights & Free Expression" 6:30 p.m. Aug. 17 at the Bread & Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth St. The Oregon Appeals Court upheld the party's right to use its name when running candidates June 12.

Jordana Sardo, a lesbian who plans to run for state representative in 2004, will speak at the party along with Steve Goldberg, the attorney who won the landmark case, and Robert Williams, a labor activist and leader in the African American community. The event also will feature music, poetry, skits and toasts.

A Northwest summer buffet will be served for \$8; sliding-scale rates and work exchange are available. Proceeds go to the Freedom Socialist Party Ballot Access Case Defense Fund.

For rides, child care or information call 503-240-4462.

CULTURE CLUB

Youth for Understanding International Exchange is seeking loving host families in Oregon for high schoolers from countries such

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