



Kathleen Rocco of Oregon Health Sciences University was one of six students who won a Pride of the Rose Scholarship

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Noel was convicted along with Knoller of involuntary manslaughter and keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being. He said he's confident his case will be overturned on appeal.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS NAMED

The Pride of the Rose Scholarship Fund recognized six students during Turnabout on Sept. 8 at Darcelle XV. The awards this year ranged from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

The fund honors students who are—or whose parents are—gay, lesbian, bi or trans. The winners are Aaron Link of Dell'Arte International School of Theater, Luiz Magana of Columbia College, Kathleen Rocco of Oregon Health Sciences University, Aaron Scott of Grinnell College, Tyler Cole Smith of National College of

Naturopathic Medicine and Ryan Welker of Clark University.

According to Equity Foundation, two sets of parents accepted the scholarships for their children. The crowd gave them a rousing round of applause for their support.

For more information send e-mail to info@equityfoundation.org or write to P.O. Box 5696, Portland, OR 97228-5696.

SHEPHERD SCHOLAR ANNOUNCED

Perry S. Heitman, a third-year student at Northwestern School of Law in Chicago, will receive \$4,000 from the Bill & Ann Shepherd Legal Scholarship Fund, which is managed by Equity Foundation.

The Louisiana native has volunteered for individuals with HIV/AIDS and raised money for Lazarus House, a New Orleans hospice. He also worked with the Human Rights Campaign, Basic Rights Oregon and 2000's No on 9 Campaign.

Heitman recently volunteered on a project to research state statutes that could be affected by 1998's Tanner vs. Oregon Health Sciences University decision, which established employment benefit rights for same-sex domestic partners. The fund honors law students in their last year of study who are dedicated to passing the bar exam and donating part of their legal expertise to helping keep their state hate-free by fighting bigotry and discrimination against sexual minorities.

The annual spring concert and decadent dessert revue *A Class Act* benefits the fund. Premier jazz musician Skip Elliott Bowman will perform April 25, 2003, at Portland's historic Old Church, 1422 S.W. 11th Ave.

For more information call 503-231-5759 or visit the Internet site www.equityfoundation.org.

CRAZY LIKE A FOX

An "ex-gay" Portland man is calling for a boycott of the Fox News Channel because he says talk show host Bill O'Reilly is an "unfair and unbalanced...back-stabbing hypocrite."

"I was molested by homosexuals at a young age and then wasted 12 years in the 'gay lifestyle,'" Richard Weller wrote in an e-mail distributed Sept. 24 by the Oregon Citizens Alliance. "I was converted to Christianity and learned to love, forgive and pray for those who had hurt me. Bill O'Reilly refers to people like me, who disagree with him, as 'phonies, hypocrites and gasbags.'"

Weller claimed an "ex-gay" guest was treated in a "very offensive and hostile" manner recently on *The O'Reilly Factor*. On an earlier episode, however, lesbian mother Rosie O'Donnell was shown "much respect" and "praised for her bravery," he continued.

"I can tell you, from my own personal experience, that gays do not make good role models," Weller wrote. "They do try to convince youngsters that experimenting with dangerous and unhealthy behavior is OK."

Weller—a pianist who has worked as a landscaper, security guard, certified nurses aid and full-time caregiver—concluded his tirade by asking supporters to let the network know how they feel and to send questions or comments to him at jonahmichaels@msn.com. "No hate mail please," he requested. 

Compiled by JIM RADOSTA, ED WALSH and KIM STEPHENSON

Worried About Your Rights?

When it comes to your estate, as a Gay or Lesbian, you need all the protection you can get.

You Should Be.

Gay and Lesbian couples need to take extra precautions when creating an estate plan. Why? Because the government doesn't provide equal rights to same sex couples, and it's essential that you're prepared for the legal battle that may ensue when you or your partner die.

Rely on Someone Who Knows Your Rights

Richard Schneider, a local attorney with 20 years of experience, is an excellent resource. He's well versed in the legal dilemmas that the GLBT community faces and can help you arm yourself against intervention by the courts. He'll be happy to provide you with a free one-hour consultation, advising you and our partner of your rights and show you the best way to protect them.

Prepare for Tomorrow by Planning Today

Call us today for a FREE report entitled "Gay and Lesbian Couples Face Special Challenges in Estate Planning."

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