

PHOTOS BY MARTY DAVIS

Meghan Moyer (right) leads a rally for Kulongoski before the "Jabbin' at the Aladdin" debate

endorsement from BRO. "We're saying that each of these people...is equally good on our issues," DuBois said.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY LAUNCHES QUEER OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Democratic Party of Oregon announced Sept. 4 a new organizing effort to engage more members of the state's gay, lesbian, bi and trans communities in the democratic process.

The party has hired a field organizer devoted to working with other advocacy groups in the sexual minorities community to educate voters about the candidates on the Democratic ticket and their positions on the issues. Meghan Moyer has been meeting with organizations such as Basic Rights Oregon, Metropolitan Community Church of Portland and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; promoting the party at events such as Salem's Capitol Pride and last month's queer film festival; and registering voters at gay bars.

Another component of this effort is to encourage more people to be active in the political decision-making process—not only this fall but for the long term. Officials believe that the health of the state's future is riding on this race and that unity is essential in order to promote equal opportunity, access and treatment for all.

"We don't just want you to support us," said Barbara Smith Warner, director of Forward Oregon, the party's coordinated campaign. We want to

support you, because the GLBT community is part of the Democratic family."

For more information call 503-234-5365.

CABIN FEVER

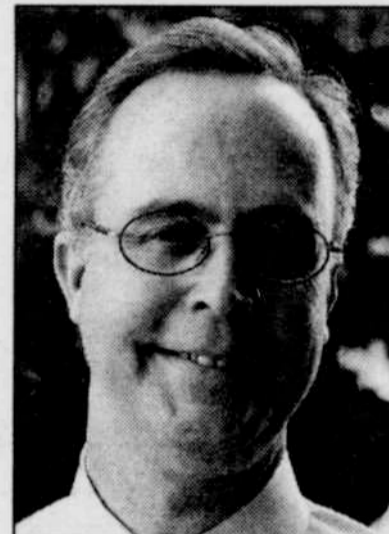
The Log Cabin Republicans of Washington announced their endorsements Sept. 21 for the Nov. 5 general election and—guess what?—they're all Republicans!

"Log Cabin is proud to support these candidates for public office," president Brian C. Ballard said. "Each candidate agrees that gays and lesbians should be treated equally under the law."

Log Cabin asked candidates whether they would support legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and whether they would continue to fund HIV/AIDS programs. They also were considered based on their support for recent legislation.

Conspicuously missing from the list was a recommendation for Seat 2, District 49—a race pitting gay Democratic Vancouver City Councilor Jim Moeller against anti-gay Republican attorney Barbara Peterson. Ballard told *Just Out* that the GOP candidate had not responded to Log Cabin's requests for information.

For more information visit www.LogCabinWA.com.



The Log Cabin Republicans of Washington are silent on Jim Moeller

BRINGING THE HOUSE DOWN

Basic Rights Oregon is keeping a close eye on legislative races this year, because the political climate in Salem next session will make or break a bill banning discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The organization has poured more than \$40,000 into the campaign coffers of fair-minded candidates.

Field director Jessica DuBois has been asking them a slew of questions to determine their stance on queer rights. "We look at not only their support of our issues and their voting records...but definitely also look at the health of their campaign—if the candidates are walking and knocking on doors, if they're actively fund raising, if they're getting out and doing what they really need to do, if they have a good mail plan and things like that."

These are the most notable races in this election cycle:

- **Senate District 17:** DuBois said BRO is helping Democratic state Rep. Charlie Ringo defeat Republican state Rep. Bill Witt, who "really couldn't be more of a foe, sincerely, to our issues. He has been a co-sponsor of Defense of Marriage Act-type legislation...in 1999." Witt, a founder of the Oregon Christian Coalition, also contributed money to the Oregon Citizens Alliance's Ballot Measure 9 campaign in 1992.

- **House District 38:** Democrat Greg Macpherson faces Republican Jim Zupancic, who "did not want to participate in our [questionnaire] process at all," DuBois said.

- **House District 28:** Democrat Jeff Barker "is a former cop, an ex-Marine who is a white older man...who's very progressive on social

issues but doesn't necessarily have the background that makes you think that he would be," DuBois said. His opponent is an African American Republican, Keith Parker. "That's just an interesting race in terms of the profiles of the two candidates...at first glance not necessarily appealing to the base of voters that you would think that they would be appealing to."

- **House District 34:** Beaverton voters can't lose with Democrat Brad Avakian and Republican John Scruggs, who received a rare dual



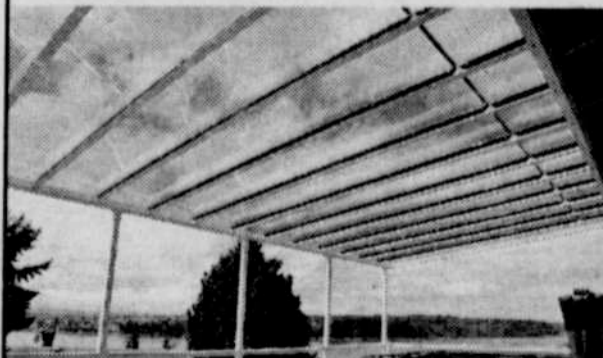
Democratic gubernatorial candidate Ted Kulongoski hitches a ride from campaign staffer Gail Shibley, Oregon's first openly queer state legislator, during Portland Pride 2002

FAB JAB

The queerest sighting during the "Jabbin' at the Aladdin" debate Oct. 14 had to be infamous drag queen Darcelle escorting Republican gubernatorial candidate Kevin Mannix to his seat. The questions, however, never tackled any sexual minority issues.

Polls show Democrat Ted Kulongoski in a surprisingly tight race with Mannix, an ultraconservative Catholic who authored a bill to ban artificial insemination for unmarried women in 1995 and sponsored a ballot measure banning same-sex marriages and opposed granting gay men and lesbians the right to take family leave to care for a partner in 1999. Two years ago he expressed his support for the Oregon Citizens Alliance's Measure 9 before doing a flip-flop on the issue. [E]

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