



PHOTO BY JIM RADOSTA

University of Oregon's Niki Confer promotes "size positivity" during Creating Change

sister. We had a fun summer—all the kids were on the swim team—and we can't believe Bert is now starting the sixth grade."

Lofton and Croteau, whose story inspired lesbian comedian Rosie O'Donnell to talk about her family on *Primetime Live* in March, received a slew of accolades throughout the year, including the Families of Courage Award and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Leadership Award. They also were the special guests at Basic Rights Oregon's Annual Dinner in September.

2002 was a bittersweet year for Georgena Moran, a lesbian who has the most rapidly progressive form of



Nora Beck is on the front line fighting homophobia in college athletics

PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

multiple sclerosis and needs money for an experimental stem cell transplant. Volunteers are working diligently to raise \$150,000 to cover her medical expenses but recently learned the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle has postponed the study, delaying treatment until next spring at the earliest.

"This has been a wonderful group of strong, supportive and very capable women," said Anne Bletcher of Georgena's Journey: A Community Confronts MS. "True friends who have worked very hard together and together have been able to do some amazing things."

A Dec. 7 silent auction brought in almost \$8,000, bringing the fund's grand total to \$71,000. The next benefit is Give Peace a Dance, a New Year's Eve party presented by the Lesbian Community Project and Portland Lesbian Choir at Shenanigan's on the Willamette.

For the first time in its 90-year history, the National Collegiate Athletic Association devoted a session to the subject of homophobia in sports during its annual National Convention held from Jan. 12 to 14 in Indianapolis.

Most of the credit for this belongs to Lewis & Clark professor Nora Beck, who raised a stink two years earlier when a diversity panel failed to address the pervasive problem.

"I just couldn't concentrate," she said of her experience as a closeted athlete. "My grades went down.... I was nervous someone was going to find out. I just didn't perform well."

Next up Beck will be organizing a panel planned for the National Gay and Lesbian Athletics Conference from March 28 to 30 in Boston and Cambridge, Mass. The gather-



PHOTO BY THE NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

Clockwise from left, Roger Croteau, Judy Wieder, Lorri L. Jean, Alec Mapa, Derek Henkle, Steve Lofton, Wilson Cruz, Ernie and Wayne at the NGLTF Leadership Awards ceremony Sept. 17 in Los Angeles

ing promises to "change the way the world of mainstream sports views LGBT athletes."

Three gay men from southern Oregon bravely stepped forward to form the Klamath Pride Organization, which offered friendly social interaction, outreach and support to the conservative region's sexual minorities community.

"It's hard to get us all together," said Jeff Foster, 22, who co-founded the group with Jared Hargrove, 20, and Jeff London, 34. "Nobody really wants to take a risk in a community of cowboys, farmers and gangster wannabes."

Unfortunately, *Just Out* received this e-mail just a month after profiling the organization: "Due to lack of involvement KPO will be canceling all future events until further notice. We are sorry to make this announcement." [E]



PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

Friends are fighting to save Georgena Moran's life



"You don't always have to say things to have an impact. Apparently the sight of me and my boyfriend holding hands at the Oscars quite caught people's eye. In regard to its impact, it was thought to be almost as good as an openly gay man getting an Oscar."

—Sir Ian McKellen, to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 27.

"RUC is an organization that reflects my fundamental beliefs and principles. Working together we can expand the Republican Party's outreach to nontraditional Republicans, we can make sexual orientation a non-issue for the Republican Party, and we can help achieve equality for all gay and lesbian Americans."

—Mary Cheney, Vice President Dick Cheney's lesbian daughter, on her decision to join the Republican Unity Coalition, to *AndrewSullivan.com*, April 22.

"For years, [Saddam] Hussein has not admitted two things. One is U.N. inspectors and two is that his mustache makes him look gay. It makes me wonder what else he's hiding."

—Bill Maher of *Politically Incorrect*, to Detroit's *Metro Times*, Oct. 2.

"We call you to be a people of manners, principles, honor and purity, to reject the immoral acts of fornication, homosexuality, intoxicants, gamblings and trading with interest."

—From Osama bin Laden's "Letter to the American People."

"As president of the United States, I would recognize civil unions, which will then allow full equality under the law as far as the federal government is concerned....

Decent Americans won't look a group in the face and say you don't deserve rights. I just don't believe that."

—Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, Democratic candidate for 2004, speaking at the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association convention in Philadelphia, Sept. 15.

"Here are nongay people who can't even take the harassment of living on a street called Gay, much less being gay. Wouldn't it



be nice if the gay and lesbian community could simply petition to have themselves named the 'green apple community' and we could eliminate the harassment, intimidation and hatred that we experience on a daily basis."

—Montgomery County, Ohio, gay activist Jim McCarthy after 19 residents of Gay Road lobbied successfully to have their street name changed to Green Apple Road, to the *Dayton Daily News*, April 12.

"Archie [Bunker] is sitting here with his hippie son-in-law, married to the screwball daughter.... The son-in-law apparently goes both ways.... The point that I make is that, goddamn it, I do not think that you glorify on public television homosexuality. You don't glorify it, John [Ehrlichman], any more than you glorify, uh, whores.... I don't want to see this country to go that way. You know what happened to the Greeks. Homosexuality destroyed them. Sure, Aristotle was a homo, we all know that, so was Socrates.... Do you know what happened to the Romans? The last six Roman emperors were fags.... You see, homosexuality, dope, uh, immorality in general: These are the enemies of strong societies. That's why the Commu-



nists and the left-wingers are pushing it. They're trying to destroy us."

—President Richard Nixon, speaking to aides in his office May 13, 1971, as reported March 21 by the *Washington Post*.

"Now that I'm am getting older, the word gay doesn't make any sense to me any more. Plus, all the guys I sleep with tell me they're straight anyway. Sexuality is such a modern thing. If you go back to the Roman times, guys were sucking everything."

—Boy George, to the *Houston Voice*, Aug. 9.