

PHELPS CANCELS PICKET

The man behind the Web site GodHatesFags.com has canceled his planned picket of schools and churches in Beaverton. The Rev. Fred Phelps, head of the Topeka, Kan.-based Westboro Baptist Church, threatened to descend upon Oregon on Feb. 8 and 9 to protest a publicly funded pro-gay photo exhibit.

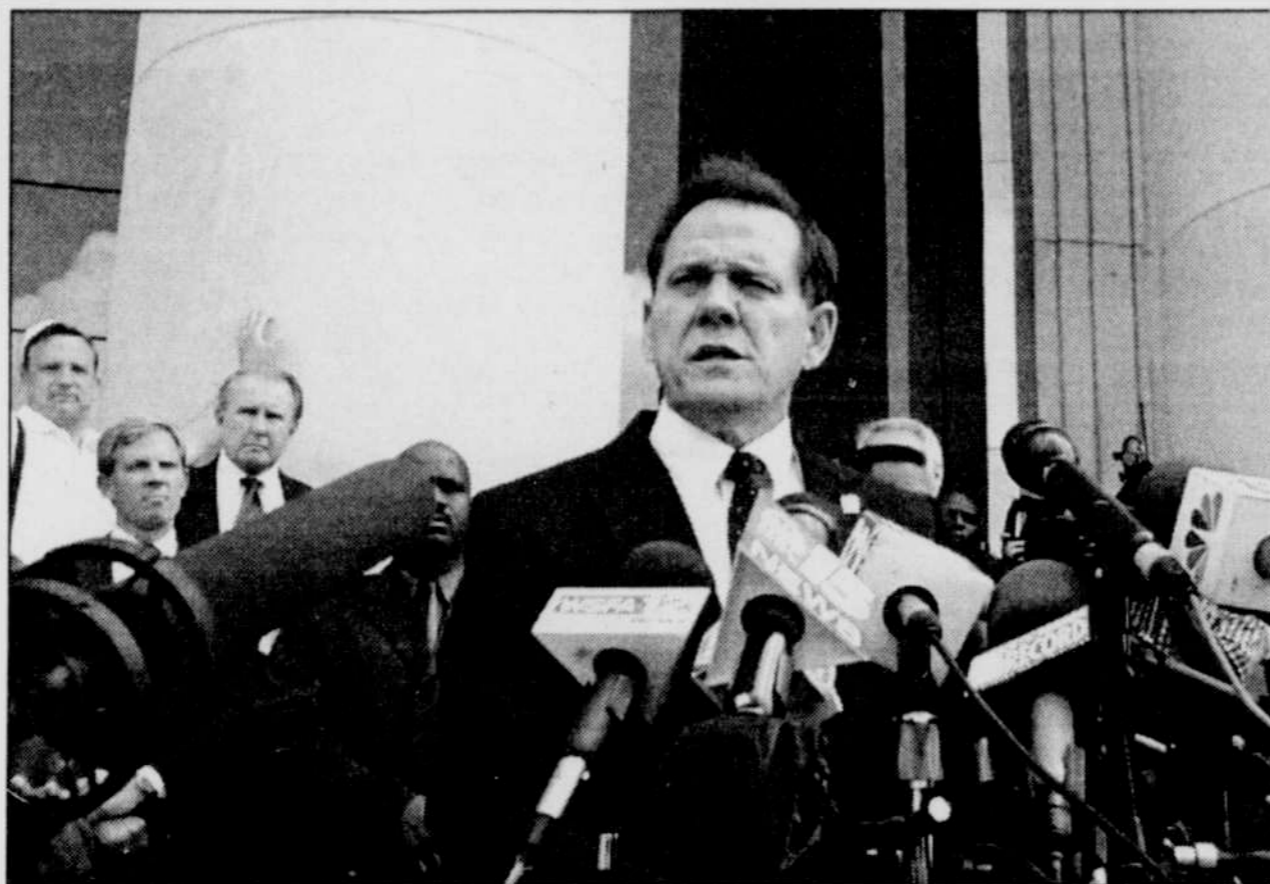
As a counterprotest, community activists have planned a Celebration of Family Diversity for 1 p.m. Feb. 8 at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 11265 S.W. Cabot St. Despite the no-show by Phelps, the event will go on as scheduled. Organizers include the Portland Gay Men's Chorus, Love Makes a Family, the Community of Welcoming Congregations and Basic Rights Oregon.

The celebration will feature a potluck; postcards urging Congress to vote against the Federal Marriage Amendment; and letters of support for the Beaverton School District, which paid \$1,600 to rent *In Our Family*, a 20-photograph touring exhibit that celebrates families of every kind, including those with gay and lesbian parents. The images will be on display this month at the Arts & Communication Magnet Academy, 11375 S.W. Center St., and at district headquarters, 16550 S.W. Merlo Road.

ANTI-GAY JUDGE HEADED TO PORTLAND

Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore, who has called for the execution of homosexuals, will be honored this month by the Constitution Party of Oregon.

The recognition will take place during the second annual "Profiles in Courage" banquet



Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore has called homosexuality "an inherent evil against which children must be protected"

5:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Columbia Conference Center, 8439 N.E. Columbia Blvd. Also honored will be "Doc" Marion Hite, a 98-year-old anti-abortion activist who has terrorized women outside Portland's Lovejoy Surgicenter for more than 22 years.

"We believe that these two men represent the finest expression of American citizenship," said Bob Ekstrom, Oregon Constitution Party chairman. "Both have shown uncompromising faithfulness, regardless of the sacrifice, in the defense of the highest principles that govern

public life. This evening is not only about honoring them. It is also about calling the rest of us forward to follow their high example."

In February 2002 Moore denied a lesbian mother custody of her children, stating that homosexual conduct creates a presumption of unfitness to be a parent. He wrote that homosexuality is "abhorrent, immoral" and "detestable" as well as "an abominable sin" and "an inherent evil against which children must be protected."

Most egregiously, Moore advocated extreme measures, stating that "the state carries the power

of the sword, that is, the power to prohibit conduct with physical penalties, such as confinement and even execution. It must use that power to prevent the subversion of children toward this lifestyle, to not encourage a criminal lifestyle."

He was removed from his post in November for ignoring a federal order to remove a Ten Commandments monument from the state Supreme Court building. After the \$40 dinner, which will benefit Moore's Foundation for Moral Law, he will give a speech addressing the question, "Can the State Acknowledge God?"

For more information call 503-761-2400 or write to 107 Jefferson St., Oregon City, OR 97045.

PORTLANDER BEHIND KERRY COMEBACK

A Portland bisexual activist can take some of the credit for the sudden success of the presidential bid by U.S. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., frontrunner for the Democratic nod.

CM Hall—who previously worked as Basic Rights Oregon's development director and served on 2000's No on 9 Campaign—arrived in Iowa last June to assume the role of campaign constituency director, rallying support from groups such as sexual and ethnic minorities, women, environmentalists and union members. Last month she was transferred to Michigan to recruit veteran voters.

Hall told Boston's *Bay Windows* newspaper Jan. 22 that she supports Kerry because he's "been fighting for us since 1985," when he authored the Senate version of the Civil Rights Amendments Act, which would have banned anti-gay discrim-

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