



New York's premier drag queen, Edie

All's well that ends well

Peacock in the Park goes out with a bang

BY LISA BRADSHAW • PHOTOS BY MARTY DAVIS

At Lady Elaine Peacock's final Peacock in the Park in 1993, the drag and performance event's founder released doves from the stage that flew up and out over the audience before soaring off to places unknown. But one of the birds stuck around.

It "actually landed on her shoulder and sat there for awhile," remembers event co-organizer Kimberlee Van Patten. Wanting to relive that moment in Lady Elaine's memory, Peacock co-hostess Maria released the doves again at the June 27 show, something she hadn't done since 1994.

This time, no birds stayed behind, but they did hover over an appreciative audience at Washington Park Amphitheatre that cheered, clapped and sunbathed its way through the 18th and final Peacock in the Park. Peacock Productions is discontinuing the event—a fund-raiser for the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund—because of ever-increasing production costs.

Pink Martini opened the show, followed by Portland's biggest diva treat of all time: Margie Boulé, Poison Waters and Pink Martini's China Forbes blending a delightful triad of melodies. In addition to the traditional drag numbers was a performance by pianist and composer Michael Allen Harrison, who reprised a song he wrote for Lady Elaine more than a decade ago.

Portland-area students were also onstage, receiving \$20,000 in scholarships.

As another queen who liked to wear her hair big, Elizabeth I, once said, "The end crowneth the work."

"I did cry at the end of the show," admits Van Patten. "However, I didn't feel as sad as I did proud. I was so pleased with the way things turned out for our last Peacock in the Park. It was everything we had dreamed it would be and more!"



Pink Martini's Thomas Lauderdale (left) and Timothy Nishimoto sing a duet



Former La Femme Magnifique International Tiara Desmond



Darcelle & Co. never looked better



Kimberlee Van Patten congratulates scholarship recipient Victoria Miller-Moon, who is studying gay and lesbian advocacy law



One of the great diva moments in history: From left, China Forbes, Margie Boulé and Poison Waters share a song