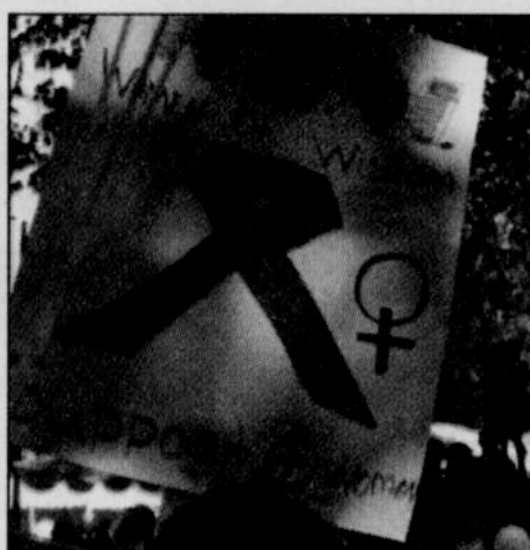
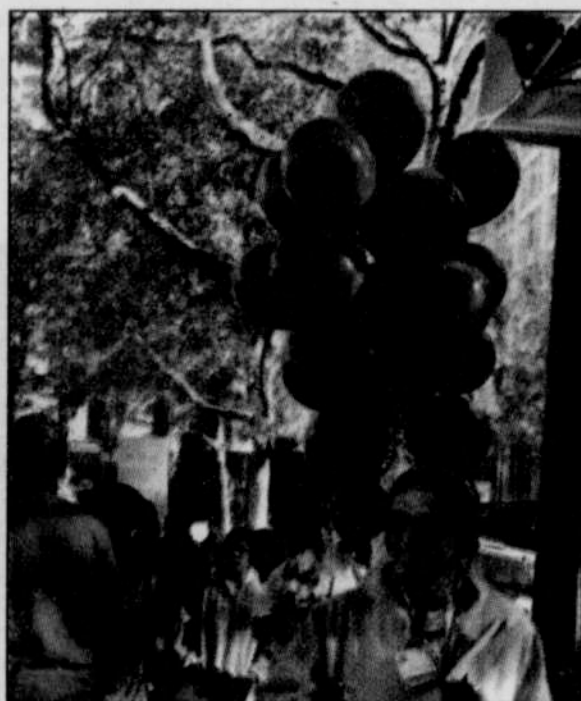


AIDSWALK05 AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS

Photos by Marty Davis

A record 10,000 people walked Sept. 25 in downtown Portland to fight AIDS, raising \$275,000, the most ever in the 19-year history of Cascade AIDS Project's AIDSWalk. This year's event also had record numbers of walkers, corporate and individual teams, and sponsorships.

In Oregon, as many as 8,600 men, women and children are living with HIV or AIDS. Another 3,068 Oregonians have already died from AIDS-related complications. In 2003, some 500 new reports of HIV or AIDS were made to state health officials. Last year, CAP educated 21,500 youth and adults about HIV prevention and supported and housed 1,800 men, women and children with HIV or AIDS and their family members. [M]



BRO DINNER EXCEEDS FUND-RAISING GOALS

Photos by Marty Davis



Dressed out in polyester suits and lots of glitter, more than 650 supporters of Basic Rights Oregon gathered Sept. 24 at the Oregon Convention Center for the organization's yearly gala and raised more than \$170,000.

Among the regaled guests at "Studio BRO...Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now" were a particularly witty comedy team made up of Portland General Electric executive vice president Fred Miller and former Gov. Barbara Roberts, the honorary chairs for the event.

With the disco music pumping and the disco balls swirling, *Willamette Week* columnist Byron Beck and radio personality Daria O'Neill helped the crowd gather momentum for the auction and pitch, which exceeded the planners' most optimistic hopes.

Community leaders were also honored. The Fighting Spirit Award for Lifetime Achievement was given to Ramon Ramirez, president of Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United, who spoke to the allied struggles of queers and migrant farmworkers.

The Heroes of the 2005 legislative session were the sponsors of Senate Bill 1000 (Gov. Ted Kulongoski and his wife, Mary Oberst; Senate Majority Leader Kate Brown; and state Sens. Frank Morse, Ben Westlund and Alan Bates); supportive House members (House Democratic Leader Jeff Merkley and state Reps. Mary Nolan, Debi Farr and Diane Rosenbaum); Oregon Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; the Community of Welcoming Congregations; and the Salem Basic Rights Action Team. [M]

