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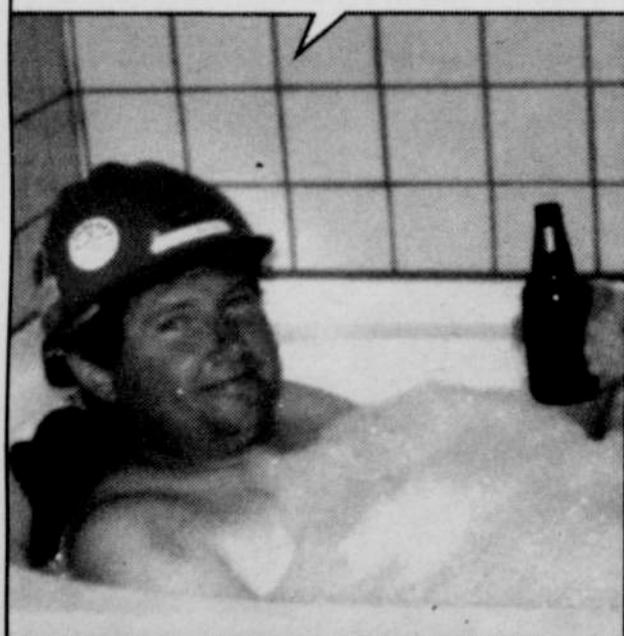
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Overlooked

Portland's vibrant night life was snubbed by *Nightclub & Bar* magazine, which recently published its Top 100 Nightclubs and Bars for 2006.

Claiming to "put the spotlight on on-premise operations and venues that shine," the drinking guide featured haunts from as far east as Long Branch in Raleigh, N.C., and as far west as Crocodile Cafe in Seattle.

Of the list of 100, not a single nod went to an Oregon establishment.

Yuppies Spot Bears in the City

The oh-so-metropolitan *Portland Tribune*, based in Clackamas County, ran an article Dec. 2 about the Oregon Bears, a cuddly bunch of gay men endowed with cushion for the pushin' and a thick coat of fur to get through long Oregon winters.

The article read like an anthropological study, initiating the *Trib's* sophisticated readers into the undercover world of the much-loved philanthropic organization.

Writer Anne Marie DiStefano described her experience at the bears' monthly Double X Dance at C.C. Slaughters when she said: "I don't mind admitting, I feel a bit out of place. But once I'm being led through the crowd by a guy who could easily be an extra in a biker movie—if he wasn't already a communications professional—I feel pretty safe."

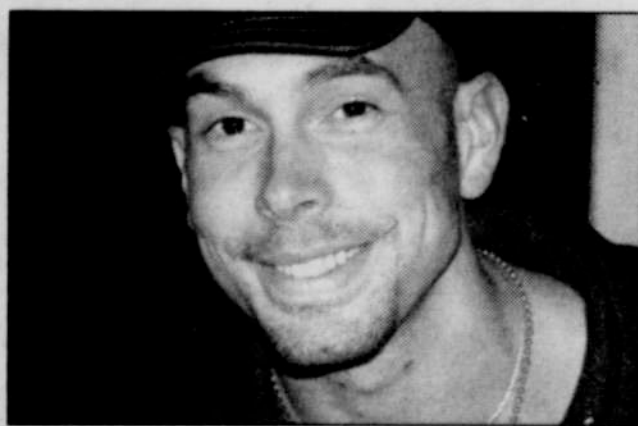
Good thing the big, hairy, gay men didn't scare Goldilocks away.

Wade for Mayor!

Portland actor Wade McCollum was pegged as a community leader by *Unscene Urban Navigator*. Most impressively, he rose to the role with rhetoric bordering on political maneuvering.

When asked how to keep Portland unique, the queer entertainer said: "I would like to see city and state officials working with the abundant community of visionary artists, architects and scientists to creatively adapt to this growing community. Resist urban sprawl!"

McCollum, co-founder and co-artistic director of Insight Out Theatre Collective, specifically called for more green buildings, cob structures, alternative-transport-equipped biodiesel at every gas station and the creation of a regenerative economy with environmental renewal as a viable industry.

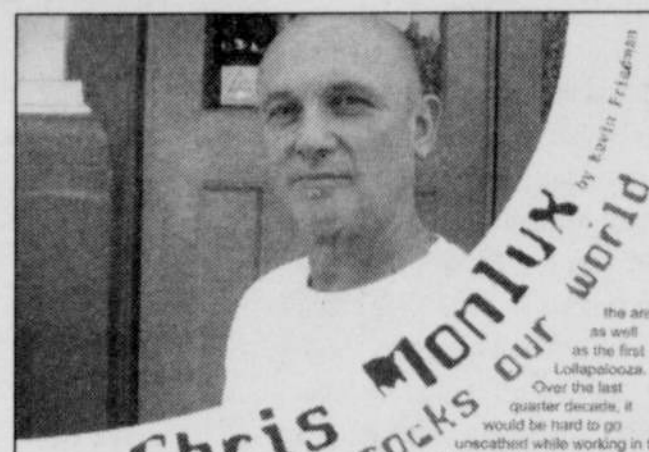


Wade McCollum's good ideas don't stop with mystical-themed musicals—he enjoys city planning as well!

media watch

Wonder Who

One of the co-owners of Wonder Ballroom gained visibility in an article in *PDX* magazine's first issue in October. This light-on-news, heavy-on-calendar publication featured

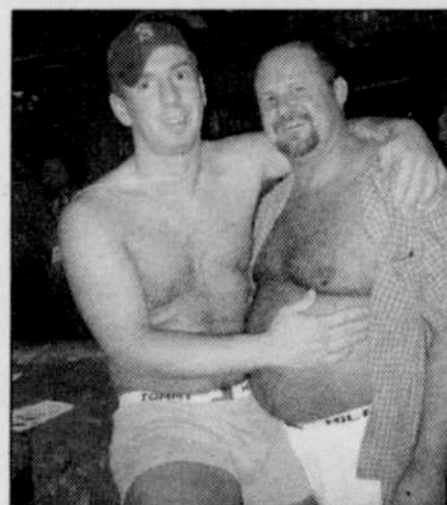


Chris Monlux owns Wonder Ballroom with Mark Woolley and Howie Bierbaum.

Chris Monlux, a gay Portland native whose music promotions career included bringing legendary bands to the Portland punk club Satyricon and drawing Allen Ginsberg and William Burroughs to Portland with the help of pal Gus Van Sant.

Monlux, who regales readers with tales from Portland's gritty music history, made the page for his newest venture, buying into Wonder with Mark Woolley and Howie Bierbaum.

"I want to do the quirky, off-the-beaten-path acts and cool special events," Monlux said in the article. "We just hosted a great neighborhood arts event, an eclectic queer night and a rock act in one week."



Bear-watching in Portland proves interesting for *Tribune* readers.

Here and Queer in the Military

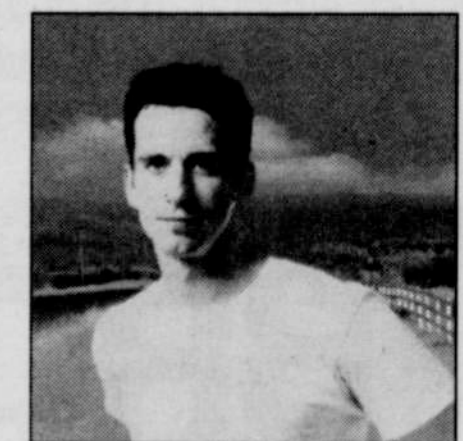
The Oregonian editorial board took on gays in the military Dec. 12 as the Supreme Court showed sympathy to military recruiters trolling college campuses.

The Oregonian offered bold words against the Clinton era's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

"The military will likely win this court battle, as it should," the editorial board stated. "But it will lose the recruiting war in the long run, if leaders in Congress and the armed services don't eliminate all barriers that deter qualified people—including gay people—from serving their country."

Dating Dan Savage

In the name of charity, *The Portland Mercury* is offering an evening with Dan Savage, nationally syndicated sex columnist and editor of the *Merc's* parent publication, *The Stranger*, based in Seattle.



This hunk of Savage love can be yours for a price. All proceeds go to charity.

The highest bidder is treated to sexy dinner conversation with Savage and a trip with Savage to one of Portland's finest strip clubs, with stripper tips included.

Proceeds benefit Join, a Portland homeless organization. 10