

outstanding

Puppet Pulls Strings

When she chose her DJ name a decade ago in San Francisco, Puppet had no idea she'd be pulling the strings in Portland's queer night life scene. But after launching several successful queer nights at various clubs around the city, Puppet is very much in charge.

Fueled by her mutual passions for bringing different groups of people together and for queer hip-hop music, Puppet has a master plan of attracting national-caliber acts to the city and creating a climate where their music is welcomed and appreciated. "I wanted a place where everyone could come that's not segregated," she said.

Puppet's many DJ nights at Porky's Pub in North Portland—Booty, Swine, Queer Fetish and Wild Card—cater to a mixed crowd of lesbians, gay men, genderqueers, transgender and straight people and the leather and fetish communities. "I really believe in integrating communities," she said.

Puppet, along with co-conspirators Jen Holland and Stormy, created Booty: Queer as Ye Be, a pirate-themed offshoot of the now-defunct Skervy, and the queer night has earned a reputation for drawing the outrageous.

"Booty has that feeling that you can get away with anything. What are you gonna do? No one



DJ Puppet is one of the most innovative producers in Portland, pairing a trashy queer night and a nonsmoking venue.

gets hurt," she said.

Booty's one drawback: too much smoke in a small venue. Learning from that fault, on New Year's Eve Puppet launched Swine, a smoke-free night featuring an hour of live entertainment and, of course, hip-hop, plus occasional funk and Motown records.

"I smoke, and I practically have to burn my clothes after Booty," she said, explaining the impetus for Swine.

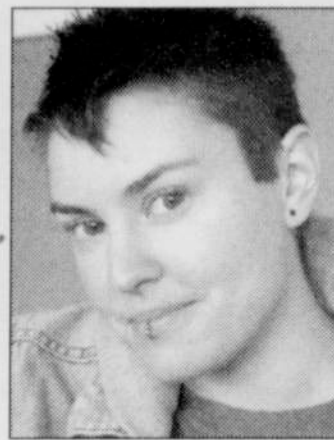
However, Puppet also hopes Swine will attract touring artists and draw a crowd that will attend PeaceOut Northwest, a queer hip-hop festival she is scheming to bring to Portland in the fall.

For more information visit www.puppdx.com.

—Jaymee R. Cuti

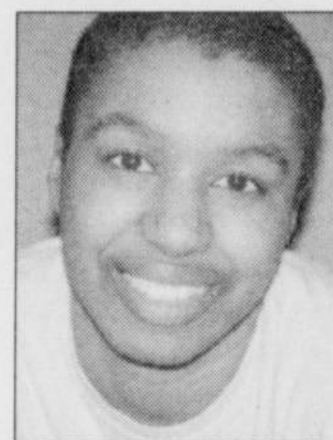
just asking

On the night *Brokeback Mountain* racked up four Golden Globe Awards, *Just Out* asked readers if they'd seen the acclaimed love story.



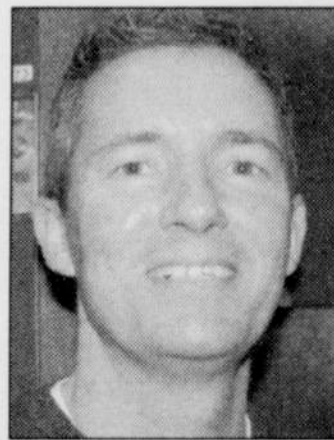
MAX VOLTAGE
The Accidental String Quartet

"Yes, it was the best movie I saw this year. Gay cowboys are hot, and the film was very haunting and poignant."



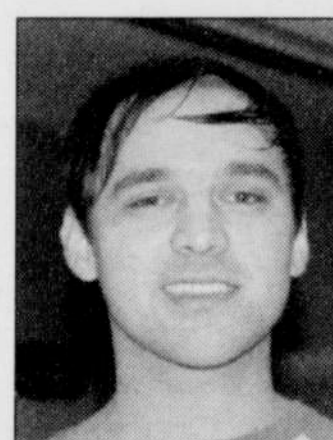
KRONDA ADAIR
Single

"I thought it was really beautifully filmed and well-acted but depressing as hell."



CHRIS GREENAWAY
Mortgage Banker

"I thought the setting was outstanding, and I liked the small ensemble cast, but as a love story, it was not the best I've ever seen."



BLAKE MARTINEZ
Local Homo

"It's the best movie ever. If you didn't cry, you have no soul."



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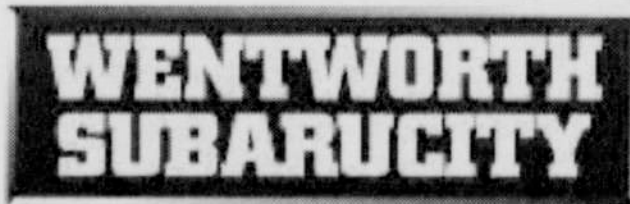
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