

culture

No Fooling

Red Dress Party raises cash and spirits

by Joshua Ryan • Photos by Marty Davis

Take a red dress...add in theater, hot men and beautiful women...and you have the recipe for Portland's successful Red Dress Party held April Fool's Day in a Northeast warehouse.

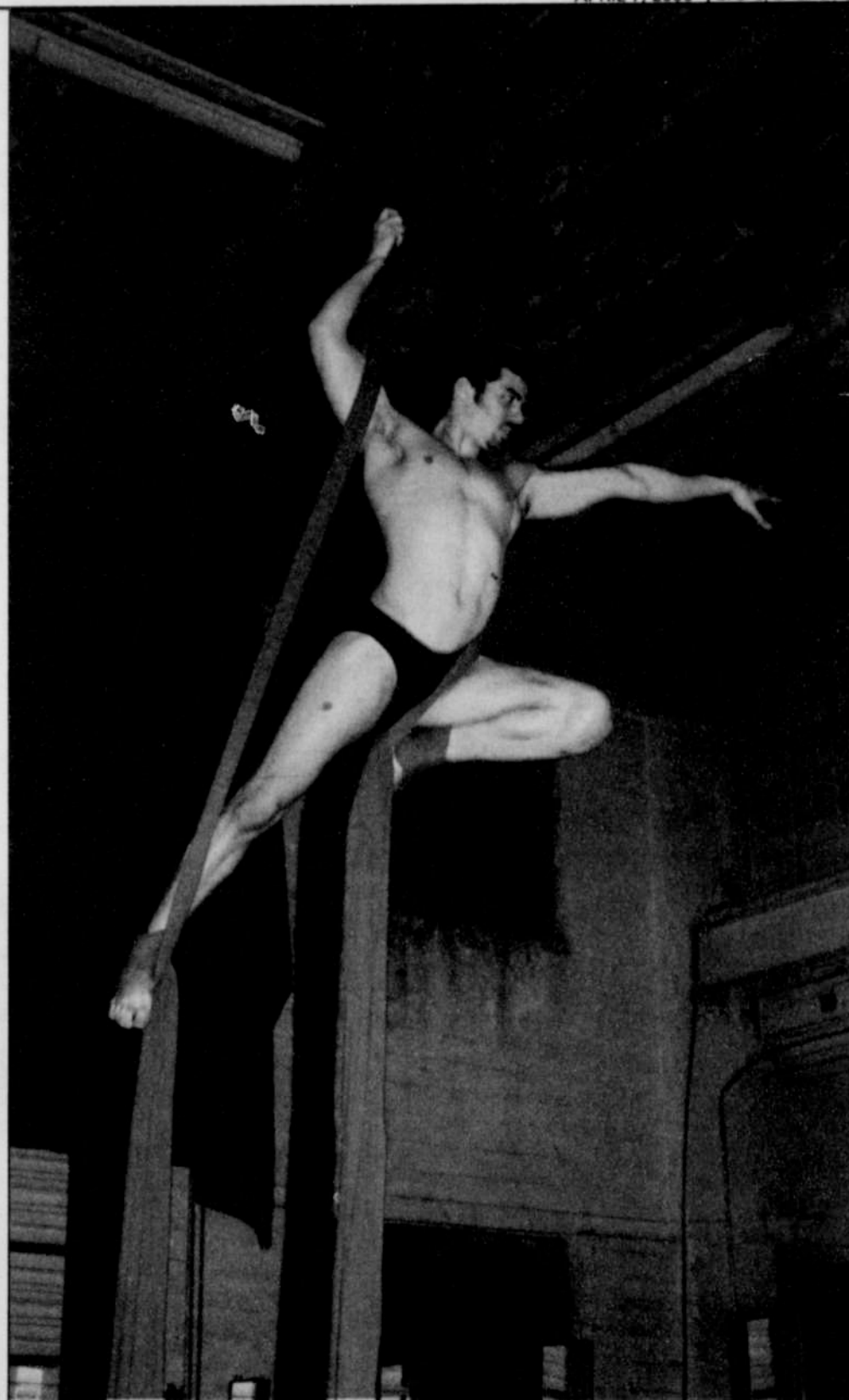
The lines were long (both at the entrance and the multiple bars scattered throughout the premises), parking was a challenge, and the areas outside the main dance floor were lightly used (except for the lounge playing '80s music, which was the most fun place in the building). But these small distractions aside, the joint was packed with red, red and more red.

There were, of course, red dresses in a multitude of styles. Partygoers enjoyed wearing everything from formal evening gowns and cocktail dresses to over-the-top splendiferous

costumes and homemade outfits that were designed primarily to show off hunky body parts and provide easy access.

Best of all, because the event was packed, it generated revenue for three worthy charities: Our House of Portland, Camp Starlight and Q Center. An estimated 1,598 people attended, and although final dollar totals were being accounted for at press time, organizers believe their goal of \$25,000 was surpassed.

"We are grateful to everyone who came and partied with us for these three amazing causes," festivities director Jeff Hawthorne said. "There were some glitches as usual, but the crowd remained supportive and friendly, and that's why we love this party and the people who come to it." **jo**

MORE PARTY PICS ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.JUSTOUT.COM

Q Center board co-chairwoman Gwenn Baldwin (above photo, left) and Rose Empress XLIV Poison Waters (center photo, left) were among the VIPs spotted among the throngs at the Red Dress Party.