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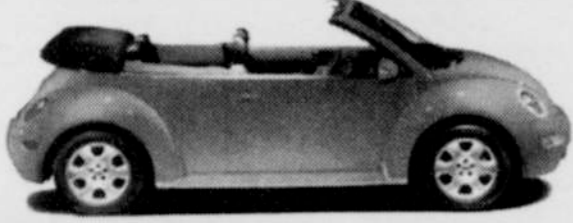
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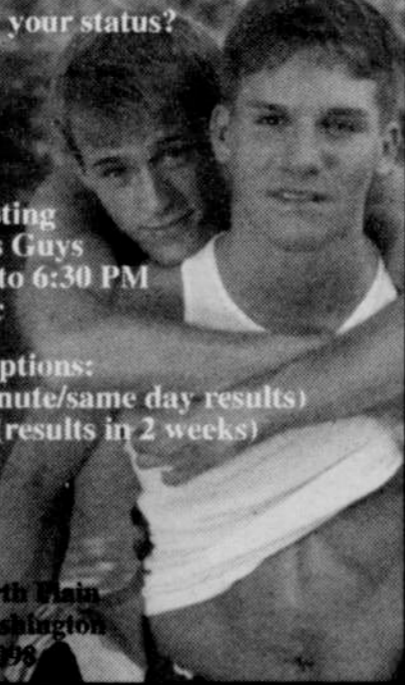


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# northwest



Gov. Ted Kulongoski (left) and Sho Dozono gave presentations at BRO's Oregonians Against Discrimination luncheon.

## BRO Luncheon Draws Business Crowd

Basic Rights Oregon held its annual Oregonians Against Discrimination luncheon April 13 at the Hilton Hotel. The event raised approximately \$65,000 for BRO's education fund, which supports public education, litigation work and campaigns, among other projects.

The election year brought out many political candidates, including gubernatorial hopeful Jim Hill, who has been missing from such luncheons for several years.

"Politics can create a lot of division, but there were also a lot of people coming together for a common purpose," said BRO spokeswoman Rebekah Kassell. "How fantastic is it that year after year we continue to have more and more companies and CEOs in particular as well as elected officials making this event and the work a priority?"

The honorees were Julia Brim-Edwards of Nike, Sam Brooks of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs, Mark Dodson of Northwest Natural, Peggy Fowler of Portland General Electric, Eric Friedenwald-Fishman of Metropolitan Group, Roger Hinshaw of Bank of America, Peter Kohler

of Oregon Health & Science University, Clara Padilla Andrews of *El Hispanic News*, Judy Pepler of Qwest, Brian Rohter of New Seasons Market and Malia Wasson of U.S. Bank.

## Equity Funds Prides

Equity Foundation has distributed \$9,000 to five Pride festivals throughout Oregon.

The beneficiaries were the Southern Oregon Pride Festival, June 7 to 10 in Medford; Bend Pride, June 24 at McKay Park, and Bend's second annual Drag Pageant, Oct. 7 at the Domino Room; Coos County Pride Picnic, June 11 at Bastendorf County Park; Portland Pride, June 17 and 18 at Waterfront Park; and Out/Loud Queer Women's Music Festival, May 12 at the University of Oregon Women's Center.

## Eugene Q Center Seeks Volunteers

Eugene's Q Center is opening its doors five nights a week and needs volunteers to staff its office.

Volunteer positions promise adventure, fulfillment and an opportunity to listen to music and surf the Web. For more information call 541-762-1046, visit [www.qcenter.org](http://www.qcenter.org) or e-mail [brianpeterson06@gmail.com](mailto:brianpeterson06@gmail.com).

## Endorsements Abound

Multnomah County chair candidate Ted Wheeler rocked the mainstream press this month with three prominent endorsements. *The Oregonian*, *The Gresham Outlook* and *The Portland Tribune* endorsed Wheeler, citing shortcomings of incumbent Diane Linn and a need for change in an untested hopeful.

Meanwhile, lesbian candidate Tina Kotek scored an easy endorsement from *The Oregonian* April 13 in her run for the Oregon House of Representatives District 44 seat left vacant by Gary Hansen.

Kotek, who is running against Hansen's legislative assistant, Mark Kirchmeier, and West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District administrator Jim Robinson, stood out for her work as policy director for the nonprofit advocacy group Children First for Oregon.


"Neither, however, comes close to matching Kotek's policy expertise, her personal magnetism or her years of demonstrated passion in advocating for

children and the needy," *The Oregonian* reported. "In a district where one out of four kids lives in poverty, Kotek is the clear choice."

## Gay Network Runs Christian PSA

America's first gay television network, Here, will begin broadcasting a commercial from the United Church of Christ as a free public service announcement.

The commercial, which was rejected by competing gay network Logo, expresses a welcoming platform and invites the queer community to its church.

"We will not allow our community's interaction with various religious groups to be defined by those who do not include us in their houses of worship, but rather by those who welcome us as part of their respective congregations," said network spokesman Stephen Macias. "We strongly support all faith-based organizations that use their teachings to bring people together, not to divide with fear and prejudice." 



MARTY DAVIS