

# Job Well Done

Poison Waters to absorb love and low blows in Royal Roast BY RYAN J. PRADO

The roast: a typically bawdy barrage of good-hearted chiding directed toward a person most often involved in public entertainment for the purposes of tribute. Many a performer hath gone toe to toe with contemporaries, friends and admirers in public roasts, weathering the storms of insult-lite with grace and aplomb. On Wednesday, March 23 at CC Slaughters, Portlanders will get their chance to see how **Poison Waters** handles the jabs.

With more than two decades of experience at various events as host, emcee or performer, Waters (aka Kevin Cook) knows a thing or two about being the center of attention. But with nine spots as "roasters" up for grabs via

silent auction at Slaughters Sunday, March 20 from 6 to 9 p.m.—and again the night of the roast—Waters has her grin-and-bear-it work cut out for her.

"I've always loved the celebrity roasts on Comedy Central and am amazed at how far they go to push each other's buttons," says Waters. "Let's be honest... In the drag scene, any public conversation or introduction onstage can suddenly become an impromptu mini roast."

Waters' poise and willingness to be roasted, she says, is not for the faint of heart.

"Not many people can take whatever is slung at them," she explains. "Comedy is such a big part of my existence, I'm looking forward to hearing others' humorous takes on Poison Waters."

On top of the laughs, the Royal Roast of Poison Waters doubles as a fundraiser for CC Slaughters' Gators softball team—of which Waters is a member—for the 2011 Rose City Softball Association season.

Bids for the silent auction start at \$25. Expect one surprise guest roaster, and the whole shebang is hosted by fellow drag

diva Bolivia Carmichaels.

The question remains: Is Waters apprehensive about not knowing who'll be slinging all the arrows until roast time?

"I'm hoping for folks that are not as close to me personally," says Waters, "because anyone who really knows me knows I'm not easily rattled and love to poke fun at myself. Wouldn't it be fun if I actually *learned* something new about me I hadn't realized?"

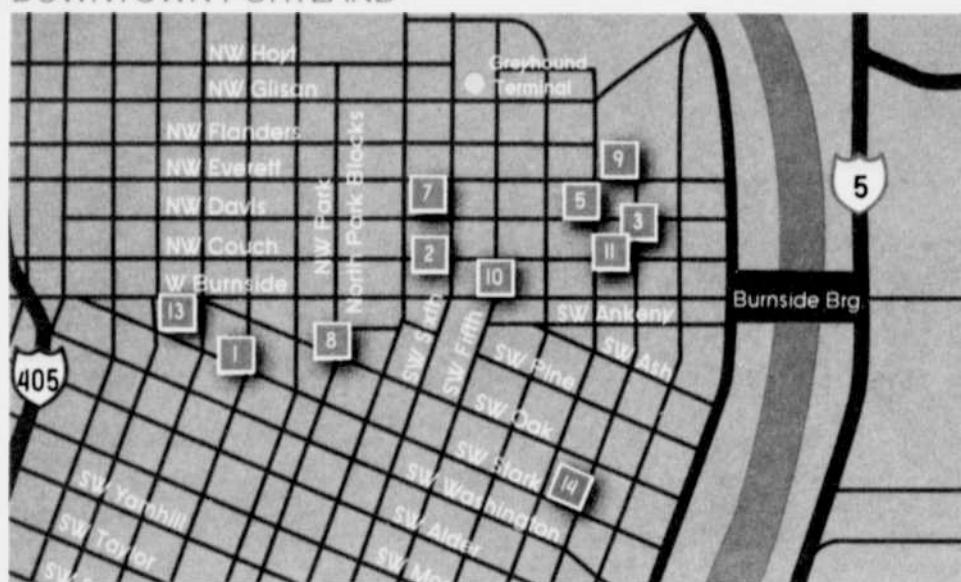
Stay tuned... ☪

*The Royal Roast of Poison Waters, Wed., March 23, 7-10 p.m.; CC Slaughters, 219 NW Davis St.; no cover; ccslaughterspdx.com.*



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Fri. April 8 **Scandals**  
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**9-11:30PM**

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*Multnomah County Health Department*