

February Events

The Office

Nite Club
Rockford

Thursday, February 12th

DJ Cody's CD Release Party
\$1 Domestic • \$1.75 Well Drinks
⊕ \$2 Shots! Starting at 10 pm

Saturday, February 14th

Valentines Day Red Party
\$2 Blow Jobs ⊕ Muff Dives

Sunday, February 22nd

Patty's Chili Cook Off
\$100 First Prize
\$1.50 Domestic ⊕ Bloody Mary's
Competition Starts at 4 pm

Friday, February 27th

Dance Your Ass Off Party
Jes One ⊕ Guest DJ
\$1.75 Domestic

Saturday, February 28th

Mardi Gras Party ⊕
Costume Contest
\$150 First Prize!
Wear A Mardi Gras Costume
⊕ Cover Is On Us!

Chris D
UWM Student &
La Cage Bartender

THE

**RED
D
G
I
E**

Magazine

Vol. 1 • No. 11
February 2004

February at

The Office
Nite Club
Rockford, IL

Show Lounge



Saturday, February 7th

PERFORMING IN OUR SHOW LOUNGE....

CECE MARTIN, TAJMA HALL, SHANNON DUPREE,

LADY GIA & REGINA UPRIGHT

SHOW START AT 11:30pm

Saturday, February 14th

VALENTINES DAY RED PARTY

\$2 BLOW JOBS & MUFF DIVES

Sunday, February 15th

BLACK TIE KARAOKE

\$1.50 DOMESTICS & BLOODY MARY'S

STARTING AT 9pm

OPEN TILL 2AM!

Saturday, February 21st

PERFORMING IN OUR SHOW LOUNGE....

CECE MARTIN, TAJMA HALL, STELLA BI-STAR LITE,

DEJA, DELIAH BOUVIER & DUSTI

SHOW START AT 11:30pm

Hunter's presents a new night

Whirl

WEDNESDAYS

New Look. Different Feel. Experience the Untapped Vibe.

hosted by

FRIDA LAY

with music by

DJ KENE

and visual performances by the

Whirl n' Twirl Boys

Flavored Teas \$ 5

Well Drinks \$ 1.50

Draft Beer \$.50

Beer Pitchers \$ 2.75

HUNTERS NIGHTCLUB

1932 E. Higgins Road

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www.whirlathunters.com

HUNTERS
n i g h t c l u b

Classified Policies & Pricing:

All classified ads are placed and/or quoted for ads up to 45 words in length. Classified ads will be categorized as follows:

Category #1

This is an individual category that is free of charge. Classified ads that fall under this category are personals, housing/roommate, items for sale and for rent.

Category #2

This is a commercial category that is quoted at a price of \$10 per ad, per issue. Classified ads that fall under this category are business, employment, masseurs and escorts.

GENERAL POLICY:

All ads that are of charge must be prepaid and accompanied by a check or money order made payable to the edge magazine. All ads are to be mailed to: **The Edge, P.O. Box 12, Rockford, IL 61105** by deadline date listed in the current issue of the edge magazine. The Edge is not liable for errors made due to questionable ad information and/or legibility of completed ad placement form. All completed ad placement forms will be treated with confidentiality. The edge magazine does not release customer's personal information.



CLASSIFIED AD PLACEMENT FORM Place your ad by filling out the form below

(please print - the edge is not responsible for errors made from handwritten ads)

Ad category (check one): Category #1 Category #2

Frequency of ad: month(s)

please include payment of \$10 X number of months with category #2 ads.

Personal information:

Name

Address

City state Zip

Phone Best time to call

DOB / / signature

Signature is required for **all** ads to verify certification of lawful placement and legal age. All ads submitted must have all information completed with a verifiable address and phone number. Mail completed form to following address:

The Edge Magazine
P.O. Box 12
Rockford, IL 61105

A Note from the Editor ~

First, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of The Edge Magazine. Our One-Year Anniversary is in March, but we will wait until April to celebrate. Since it's creation in March 2003, The Edge Magazine has grown quite extensively forcing many changes along the way. One of which is a new size that will be more efficient and a better way to get more magazines done with fewer steps and with greater quality.

Another change is more staff! I would like to take a moment and welcome the new members of the Edge family: James B. (Madison writer), Aaron H. (Springfield writer), Dan V. (Milwaukee Sales Rep.), Jack B. (Springfield Sales Rep.), and Lottie Dodge (Milwaukee writer). I'm sure they will bring great ideas to the magazine.

We are also starting a new column called "In the Spotlight", which will feature gay & lesbian businesses and organizations. February through April are already booked, so if you would like your organization featured in the Edge Magazine, give us a call.

We've come a long way and we will continue to bring you the best of what the community has to offer.

Sincerely,

Cody Barron
Editor/Co-Owner

THE EDGE

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Horoscopes

Monthly gay horoscope for February, 2004
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ISSN 1499-6537 <http://www.gay-astrology.com>

ARIES March 21 - April 19

Be careful of brooding strangers with their hands in their pants who want your cell phone number. Oh, that's your new "room mate". Whew. It's been long cold winter hasn't it? Here's a solution to warm things up: First, get on the phone, the internet, the bus, but start talking to people. Anybody good looking, or a reasonable facsimile thereof (in your case unreasonable) will do. Second, understand the love of your life isn't going to manifest out of the ethers on Valentine's Day, but a quick prayer to Our Lady Of The Vapours won't hurt. Thirdly, stop thinking about money, unless the ink smudges on the \$20 bills your new "room mate" just handed you for the rent. Fourthly, when opportunity knocks, do not say "Nobody here but us chickens, boss." You haven't been chicken for years. Too many crow's feet. Beware turkeys. Duck.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

You could take your boring life and do some boring things like update your resume, go find a dynamite new career, make piles of money, and generally be rich and cranky. Problem is that past life you had in the bordello in New Orleans in the 19th Century. Do not, under any circumstances, buy a plush red velvet sofa or a player piano on Valentine's Day. That hot new trick from last weekend just might be left over from the past life, except that this time you're not going to get paid off, well at least not in money. Ripped off, maybe, but then maybe you'll stop doing bad drugs, wake up, smell the coffee, take a cold shower and get back to your boring old life again. New Orleans was more fun. But that was then and this is now.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

OH the call of the wild! The bushes, the alleys, the tea rooms. The siren call of shady forms in dark unmentionable places, doing dark unmentionable things. Egads, stop writing poetry about it and start doing it. Well, yes, it is the middle of the winter and about the only thing you're going to score in a dark park at 2 a.m. is frostbite, and there are intimate places on one's anatomy where frostbite is not at all fun, so maybe we need a Plan B here. Friends to the rescue. There's always those whacked

out, too-weird-for-words, over top and off the wall excuses for humanity who are just too beyond words to mention. One of them is hot for you. Go for it. Happy Valentine's Day. Just don't tell your lover.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

What a lovely little month for getting a payraise, a promotion or even indulging in a sumptuous little brunch with your very best friends. And if that doesn't leave you crying for a new life with some excitement in it, I dunno what will. Now take that ever-so-respectable cosmic energy from the stars and turn it on its ear, or better yet turn it on your crotch. Seduce the boss at lunch hour, do the company accountant in the washroom, order in pizza for everyone in the baths, throw an orgy for your bowling team. Send your landlord a dozen red roses, a box of condoms and a love letter for Valentine's Day. Go wild. Just don't tell your mother. She still thinks you're getting a payraise, a promotion, and a brunch with your friends. If only she knew.....

LEO July 23 - August 22

Warm up your vocal chords. Your lover wants you to talk dirty this month. We're looking for a bravura performance here. A truckload of four-letter words worthy of a ship full of sailors on drunken shore leave for your adoring fans, flunkies, and hangers-on. Your lover might even like it, too, if you can be clever enough at it. When that is done, show your gracious magnanimity as Your Imperialness stoops to bestow the Royal Presence on the peasants of the realm, aka your co-workers. Emails from anonymous admirers are spam, and the chat rooms are filled with deceivers, which has never slowed you down in the past, but could seriously disappoint you for Valentine's Day. Beware trolling for trolls. Even trolls can fake an exotic accent on the internet.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept. 22

It's back to work this month. Time to regroup. This sainthood shtick is getting to be a bit much after all, and besides there's new vitamins and herbs to check out at the health food store. Don't forget the sale on junk food next door at the bakery shop. So let's get back to basics. The application form for The Mother Of All Valentine's Day Sluts Award indicates you have to establish complete and total depravity with 16 different drooling losers, a total absence of any moral standards whatsoever (three

Free Personals

24, GWM, 6', 140lbs. Brown hair with highlights. Blue eyes, smooth. Looking for GWM 30-35 that is good looking and financially stable. Mail replies to P.O.Box 12, Rockford, IL 61105 - **PER 101.**

Roommate Wanted. in large farmhouse in South Rockford. \$350/month includes everything except long distance phone calls. Shared bath, washer/dryer, large kitchen. call Roger (815) 873-1230.

23, GWM, 6ft 160lbs. cute guy next door Brown hair. Blue eyes, great personality Looking for 21-34 male that is ready to have fun. Mail replies to P.O.Box 12, Rockford, IL 61105 - **PER 100.**

Young, Attractive, Tan, Bi Male Exhibitionist seeks small groups of females or couples to perform for video taping and photos o.k.. Contact 608-663-9687 or sexygrl_1@hotmail.com

The Office Niteclub Show Lounge is currently looking for female impersonators to fill open cast positions, for our bi-weekly shows. Must be willing to learn and rehearse production numbers. Send inquiries to: officeniteclub@aol.com or leave a message at 815-397-9628.

Hot Wire Alternative Dating Service - Gays, Lesbians, TV's, TS's, She-Males. Free Intro for T-Girls. (262) 323-1601

Erotic Art Photographer. Specializing in classic artistic black & white images. Seeking make individuals, couples and groups to model for erotic art project. Offering TFP om exchange for modeling. Call 608-635-8479 or email liam-scott@charter.net

Roommate Wanted, to share home in historic Churchill Grove area. (815) 871-1121.

Help Wanted! The Edge Magazine is looking for writers in the Chicago, Milwaukee & Southern

Illinois areas. Due to unexpected growth, we are also looking for volunteers to help in the production and packaging of the magazine. For more info. call (815) 378-2215.

Want To Buy Old Wood Fishing Lures, Tackle & Old Lure Boxes --- **WE PAY CASH!**
Call Emery Manfrom: 414-344-1749 or email at: emanfrom@wi.rr.com



Hot, Male Escort from the Peoria, Illinois area. *Will travel.* email: alan_mike2002@yahoo.com for more information and scheduling.

Wanted to Buy. Vintage men's clothing from the 70's & 80's (club wear). Do you still have some of the cool clothes you purchased at the now defunct Lakehurst Mall in Waukegan? If so, call Jim at (262) 637-2539. Top Prices Paid!

Massage Therapist, Relaxing & Therapeutic. \$60/hour. In or out calls. Madison, WI. Randy, R.M.T. (608) 559-0322.

34, GBM, 5'9" 240lbs Hairy Cub, Total Bottom! Into all scenes. Looking for someone to rub oil on my back. Must have soft hands. If you're good, I might lick your toes. Mail replies to P.O. Box 12 Rockford, IL 61105 Per 103

21, GWM, 6'0", 150lbs. Brownish Blond Hair, Green Eyes. Very good looking, New to Rockford area and the gay scene. In search of friends for a good time or more. Anxious to see what happens. Mail replies to P.O. Box 12, Rockford, IL 61105 Per 104

31, Bi Male, 6'4" 185lbs Dark Hair & Eyes, Semi hairy chest. Very dominant top with 10" and beer can thick. Bareback only with submissive bottoms. Light S&M a plus, especially with a sling. Mail replies to P.O. Box 12, Rockford, IL 61105 Per 105

DJ'S TOP CLUB HITS

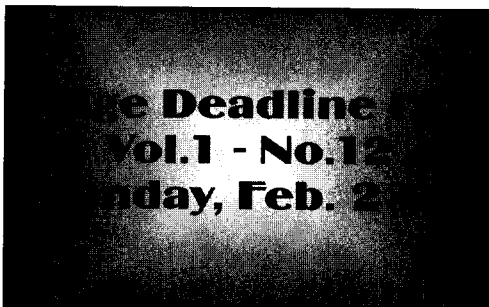
FEBRUARY 2004

CLUB 5 DJ/VJ - Tim Walters - Top 15

1. Britney featuring Madonna .. Me Against The Music
2. Madonna Nothing Fails
3. Pink God Is A DJ
4. Nelly Furtado Powerless
5. Whitney Houston You'll Never Stand Alone
6. Kristine W Fly Again
7. Seal Waiting For You
8. Kelis Milkshake
9. Industry Release Me
10. Kylie Minogue Slow
11. Missy Elliott Pass The Dutch
12. Christina Aguilera The Voice Within
13. Beyonce Me Myself And I
14. Widelife All Things
15. Thalia Baby I'm In Love

The Office NiteClub / Club 5 DJ Cody - Top 15

1. Britney Spears Toxic
2. Beyonce Me Myself & I
3. Kylie Minogue Slow
4. Janet Jackson Megamix 2004
5. Pepper Mashay & Colton Ford
..... Signed Sealed Delivered
6. Kelis Milkshake
7. Missy Elliott Pass the Dutch
8. Thea Austin Broken Wings
9. Madonna Mother & Father
10. Christina Aguilera The Voice Within
11. Kate Ryan Only If I
12. Atomic Kitten Ladies Night
13. Whitney Houston You'll Never Stand Alone
14. Funky Green Dogs Can't Help It
15. Nelly Furtado Powerless



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signed affidavits required from former lovers—no problem for you), and no less the five (count 'em) trips to the anonymous sexual disease clinic testing facility in the past three weeks. Hangovers don't count. By George! I think you're in the running for this one. Who needs sainthood?

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Read the Virgo horoscope above. You just wish you were that good at sleeze. But look, practice makes perfect, and this is your month to get started. Oh darn, I forgot. That means you have to make a decision. Look, honey, no Valentines for you this month, but there is something else. All the strangest El Kinkos are in the chat rooms and they are all, every single one of them, clicking on your profile. They are tasteless, unwashed, unlettered, illiterate knuckle-dragging morons, who would send shivers of disgust crashing through your effete little body. Before you turn away in horror, dear gentle Libra, there is also something I must add. They are also the most knock down, drag out, bounce-me-off-a-wall dynamite sex you've had in the past three years. Yeah, nobody said decisions are easy, did they?

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Would somebody get me Scorpio's cell phone number? I gotta make a call. Scorpio come home. It's finally happened. Yes, this is for real. That once and former hot little number who you on occasion used to refer to as your lover has got the hots for some dungeon action. I know, yes, I know you're out there in some anonymous dark place doing anonymous dark things. But guess who finally, after far, far too long wants those anonymous dark things you once promised. Okay, so some of the gear is getting a little rusty for lack of use. Three guesses whose first job it is to polish it up to it's previous shiny splendour? (Hint: it ain't you.) Make the session long and slow. You've got all month. Think of this as a black leather Valentine.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

What would you do if you met someone who is as flaky as you are? The mind boggles. But this is the month the stars decree that it shall happen. Pity you're not the type to take notes, but do remember all the bizarre details for your memoirs, or at least your story-telling self-justifications. The voice that would melt butter, the dark steamy eyes that oozed seduction, and the bulging crotch which promised a mountain of pleasure. I'll take notes as you tell us that what you really got was a hoarse voice from a cold, the strangest tinted contact lenses, and a tin-foil wrapped cucumber. Look, for your budget, cheapskate, you were expecting Hollywood special effects?

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Even if you get it in writing, don't believe it. Especially if the lawyer for the other side is flashing gold plated teeth when he's smiling. The money for that gold had to come from somebody, and you don't need to be the next sucker. So set aside your dreams of mammon for a month. Check in at home. Yeah, remember home? It's the place you sometimes sleep at night when you're not out travelling about making money. Yeah, that place. And the hottie that sleeps in the big double bed? Remember that one? Yeah, that one. Guess who's still so hot the snow is melting early? Do the right thing. Buy a Valentine Day's gift. (Be sure to charge it to the company.) Go home. Let nature take it's course. That's a good little Capricorn.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You're gonna love this month. First off, it's your month. Aquarius. Secondly, the entire world, no exceptions here, the entire world is playing your games. Holy smokes. Where does one start with a wealth of metaphysical riches such as this? Answer: anywhere you'd like. All roads lead back to your bedroom. And there's no commitments, just slam, bang, out the door (or through the turnstile), who's next? Just right for you. All fun and no worrisome details like relationships or anything like that. So what's the catch? Well, you might find somebody who's better at your games than you are, which could be an eye opener. But the real catch is February 29th. That's the last day of the Cosmic Special. Then we go back to the regular routine, and oh heck, I won't spoil your month by reminding you of that sorry old life of yours.....

PISCES Feb 19 - March 20

You really, really want to get your finances in order, and you really, really want to get everything grounded in your life, and you really, really try to achieve all that this month. But there is this small matter of the Cosmic Float, aka, reality as you know it, assuming you can actually know any sort of reality since reality is an illusion and how can one know an illusion which doesn't exist in the first place, especially when places themselves are a drifting etheric presence in a plane of consciousness which resonates to the dimensional interface of a Greater Unity. Pisces, if I may, for just a second? There's someone else out "there" (wherever or whatever "there" is) who is just like you. Connect on the Cosmic Plane and then you connect on the physical plane, and I do mean like connect, like at the hips. Okay? Fine. Now back to your little private reality. Enjoy.



Take My Advice...

By Tajma Hall.

Dear Taj, I am a gay male who is recently dating a bisexual male. I don't do a lot of dating, because it is difficult to find someone who has the qualities I would desire in a partner. However, I have recently run into someone who I think is worth the energy that a solid relationship takes.

We met a little over a month ago, and seemed to hit it off. I am very suspicious of smooth-going beginnings, but over the next few weeks he slowly put my mind at ease. We had some very good, quality weekends, but now things are different. He says that he has been very stressed out lately, and he seems to be using this as an excuse not to see or call me over the last couple weeks. I consider myself to be a very understanding person, and know that everyone needs time to himself in order to sort out their issues, but his stress is starting to become my stress. I find myself waiting for scheduled phone calls that don't come, I lack weekend plans because I've left my schedule open for him (and he has failed to materialize), and I feel like I have to give him space since he apparently doesn't want to confide his problems to me.

I do know the value of myself, and know that I shouldn't have to put up with his cold shoulder, but part of me wonders whether this will pass with his (hopefully) transitional "stress." I would hate to give up on a good person who is just going through a rough patch of life, but how long is too long to wait for this to pass? It takes time to get to know a person, and I am not sure whether I feel comfortable discarding someone so

quickly when circumstances may (or may not) change suddenly for the better. There is no crystal ball to help me out, but I would be appreciative of any course of action you could offer.

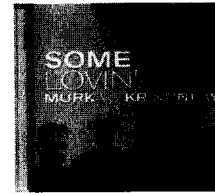
Sincerely, Need a Compass

Dear Need a Compass. I can tell that you are one of the rare people in this world who are willing to allow others to work through their problems while you wait on the sideline. Is this fair to you? Do you really think that things are gonna change? Do you really think he is being faithful to you while you wait? I think you know the answers to all of these questions. NO!

When you make the choice to date a bisexual male you open yourself up to immediate hurt. A true bisexual man is not one who can commit to a relationship with a man simply because he is not going to turn down the first female that wants some. The libido of a bisexual man is very different from yours love. He cannot settle with one or the other and if he is truly bisexual then you should not expect him too. It seems that for a month or so he was very interested in being with a man but one day woke up and decided he was not ready to be a gay male. He wants to remain bisexual and as much as you hate it you must let him go. I know that is easy for me to see but I say it for your own good. You will make a great lover/partner for someone but at this time I do not see it being with this gentleman. Please take my advice and move on. He is not worth another wasted moment. Take it from Lady Taj....there is a dream out there with your name on it and he is not bisexual and will not give you these problems.

Hang in there and keep your head up.

Music Review

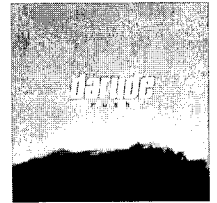


Some Lovin' Murk vs. Kristine W

1. Some Lovin (Peter Rauhofer Radio Edit)
2. Some Lovin (Gomi Main Radio Edit)
3. Some Lovin (Murk Miami Mix)
4. Some Lovin (Southside Remix)
5. Some Lovin (Peter Rauhofer Reconstruction Mix)
6. Some Lovin (Gomi Big Mix)

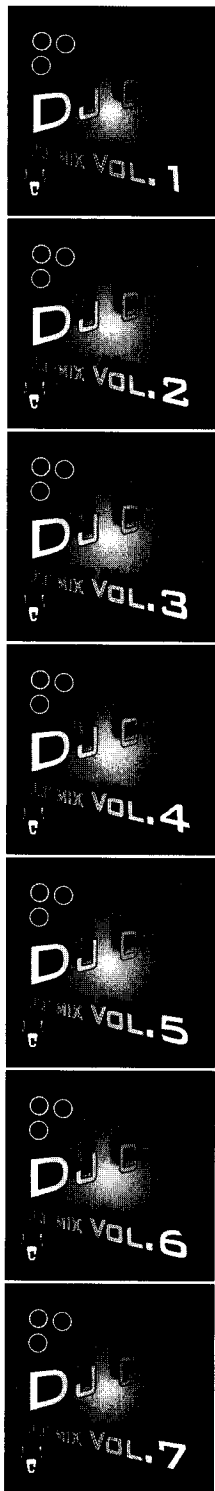
I actually bought this cd single after reading the great reviews the song recieved and I wasn't disappointed after hearing it. As usual Kristine W's vocals are excellent to say the least! There are some nice remixes on this cd maxi single starting with the "Peter Rauhofer Reconstruction Mix #" (10:05) with it's strong percussion, bassline, and synthesizers. This remix is my personal favorite. The "Gomi Big Mix" (8:08) has a retro disco feel which could have easily been sung by 70's artists The Emotions or First Choice. The "Murk Miami Mix" (8:21) has a deeper bassline, nice synthesizer stabs and interesting special effects. The "Southside Remix" (7:48) again has a deep bassline, lots of percussion and various synthesizers which complement Kristine's vocals. Last is the "Peter Rauhofer Radio Edit#" (3:35) which is a short version made for dance radio stations and the "Gomi Main radio Edit" (3:54) which is also edited for radio play. If you enjoy listening to artists such as Madonna or Amber then you'll certainly enjoy this cd from Kristine W.

RUSH Darude



- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Music | 7. Drive |
| 2. Next To You | 8. Passing By |
| 3. Bitter Sweet | 9. Obsession |
| 4. Serendipity | 10. Ranta |
| 5. Healing | 11. Music (Orig 12 Inch Mix) |
| 6. Rush | 12. Next To You |

On *Rush*, Finland's Ville Virtanen, better known as Darude, has kept his shiny techno sound intact, hoping to duplicate the success of the monstrous singles "Sandstorm" and "Feel That Beat" from 2001's *Before the Storm*. *Rush* may not reach that standard of dance floor nirvana, but the record is impeccably produced, with positive energy and shuddering thumps to spare. My personal fave is track 11 "Music" (original 12 inch mix). It's also exceedingly brainless, forgetting to mix up its sound and rhythms enough to produce the variety necessary for Darude's production mix to really take off. Actually, "mix" isn't even accurate, as it implies a record with some flow and purpose. None of these complaints matter when Darude is on, like when he gets a little dark on "Serendipity," then turns around and goes Ibiza for "Healing." A little more cohesion and a little less filler, however, could have turned this record into more than just a launching point for remixes that other DJs will use to far greater effect.



DJ Cody

BRINGS YOU THE LATEST
IN THE ULTI-MIX SERIES

ULTI-MIX VOL. 8



FEB. 12TH, '04

The Office
Nite Club
Rockford, IL

FEB. 23RD, '04



New Web Address!
www.djcody.com

Dear Taj, A few months ago I met a beautiful man (inside and out!) who is everything I want in a man. He's kind, well mannered, thoughtful, warm, loving, responsible, courteous ... the list goes on. He's also HIV positive. I'm negative. We practice safe sex. We've had a few long late-night talks, and there seems to be a recurring theme. He's worried that he'll infect me somehow. He even sketched one scenario where ten years from now I'm dead and he's still alive knowing he gave it to me.

I told him I could be killed by a truck tomorrow, and what am I going to do, stay in my house for the rest of my life? He's also worried that I don't "really" understand what I'm letting myself in for by dating him. I've never dated someone with HIV before, it's true, but I lost my much-loved uncle and several dear friends to the virus, so I'm no stranger!

I'm afraid it's L-O-V-E for both of us, but that he may try to talk himself out of it. Can you help me dispel this sense of doom that he has about the long term? Thanks.

Sincerely, Opposites Attract

Dear Opposites Attract. This is not the first time I have dealt with this problem over the years. As a matter of fact the very first couple that I sat down with who had this same concern has now been together for the past 3 years.

I need you both to sit down and really talk this out. It will never work if you don't each try to understand the cares and concerns of the other one. You must go into the relationship knowing there are going to be ups and downs but with constant understanding and love you can make it last as long as time allows. It will be give and take for both of you but you can do it.

Please understand the valid concerns of this beautiful man you have met. You have to realize that he only wants to make sure that you are really into this and are aware of what you are getting into. He needs to make sure that you really want to be with him and will

not run away as soon as you find a negative guy just as wonderful as he is or that you will not run away if you do become positive as well. Try to put yourself in his shoes and see where he is coming from. He is simply trying to protect the both of you. It may look one sided but open your mind a little more and see where his thoughts are coming from.

There are some wonderful HIV relationship counselors who will be happy to show both of you why you are great for each other. Call your local HIV hotline and get the number for that service. I can see the both of you many years from now happy and laughing and what you went through to become a couple.

Take care of yourself and this beautiful man and keep me updated.

Well boys and girls it is time for me to gather my thoughts so that I may once again counsel the hundreds of people lined up outside of my door. Please remember to love yourself because if you don't then who will. Peace and love to you all....

Lady Taj

THAT

"Your Total Health Awareness Team"

THAT Guy

Jbryan, BS - Executive Director

THAT Place

614 7th Street
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A'Lotta Grease

.....is the WORD!



Greetings everyone!

Wow was January a slow month for gossip and drama...where is Gina or Sabrina when you need them??! Let's start with the everyday stuff. Taj had her benefit show in the show lounge at The Office NiteClub. She brought Miss Vanessa and Jodie Santana with her from Chicago. For the few of us who attended, it was an awesome show. It's a shame that more of the Rockford crowd couldn't come out and support Taj as she gets ready for Miss Illinois Continental Plus Pageant. Also in the show lounge, Black Tie Karaoke and The Office had the Rockford Idol 2 Finals. Both Jared and Leticia tied for first place, so they had to split the \$250 grand prize, but walking out with \$125 in your pocket is still not a bad win. The Office has only had one show since our last edition. They brought in Regina Upright from Chicago who did her spectacular impression of Cher! Jodie Santana was scheduled, but she had an illness in the family, so Lady Gia came down from Milwaukee to fill her shoes and did a great job! Rumor has it we are going to be seeing a little more of Lady Gia here in Rockford. Ron Raymond also graced the stage from Iowa, via Las Vegas doing his usual great job MC'ing and entertaining the crowd. MsShalay Shontel made a return to the stage that night and did a great job. MsShalay had family in the audience who was seeing her perform for the first time, so it was a special night for her. CeCe Martin did an awesome rendition of Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds. Gurrirl, you put Britney to shame.

Last, but not least, The Office had a night stripping going on. Three male strippers came in from Chicago to entertain the Rockford crowd. Although one of the strippers was quite late, it still was a great show on stage. GQ won the hearts of a lot of guys that night. However, when they got down to the dance floor, the two that were accompanying GQ kinda lost interest and just wandered around. GQ on the other hand hopped up on that dance box and gave everyone a great show.

Let's see...gossip and drama in Rockford. The Oh Zone has been calm and quiet for the past month since they have semi-cleaned house. I think everyone is just waiting for the dust to settle before they get back on their drama horses and start racing to see who can be the best drama queen. Chris Digi had her baby and it was boy...Congrats Chris! Word has it that she sprained her wrist during labor. She must have put muscle in that delivery.

Down at The Office has pretty quiet too. Although one of the owners seems to have gossip following him. Not only does rumor have it that he's having secret rendezvous with a certain someone, but if you were at The Office last Saturday, you would have caught him behind the bar trying to be a bartender... complete with his shirt off, hair standing on end and green boxers riding high. Gurrirl you need to stay on the other side of the bar and let the boys do their job. Rumor also has it that MsShalay is spending a lot of time with the other owner...what's up with that girl? Is there something that we should know about?

The only other news I have from The Office is that I hear they are doing some changes in their show lounge. You can hear the pounding upstairs day and night. From what I've overheard they not only have given the show lounge a facelift, but the dressing room has been expanded to twice it's size, with a total of 12+ dressing and make-up stations available. My guess is they are getting prepared for many pageants in the future. Kudo's to The Office NiteClub! Their show lounge and shows have come along way in 2 years!

Well, that concludes another month of news, gossip and drama. Everyone needs to stop being so good so I have more to write about! Remember...if you don't have anything nice to say, email it to me. My email address is Grease@edgemonline.com.

Your loyal gossip & rumor central queen.

Miss A'Lotta Grease

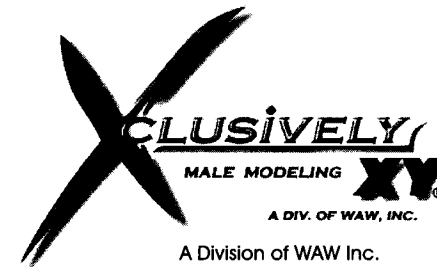


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February 27th
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This month's
"IN THE SPOTLIGHT"
Featuring
La Cage





Madison Happenings

by Travis Copeland

Hi all! Sorry about my hiatus last month; final exams and end-of-year preparations can really bog a guy down. But I'm back to report on all that's fit to print from Madtown.

January saw our first real proof that, yes, this is winter. The weather around here has been as bitter and cold as I am! Not good. Hopefully this month will see the return of above-freezing temperatures, so I can park my parka and get out my stylin' Kenneth cole!

In other news, there are a few exciting club events coming up soon. The first big news to present is a few changes at the Club Majestic (115 King St.). Apparently the management finally came to their senses about music stylings, and the "resident D.J." left under what you might call "irreconcilable differences..." And I, for one, couldn't be happier!

Also, Club Majestic is now offering \$10 all-you-can-drink Wednesdays and Thursdays! And rumor has it, it's not just rail drinks, either. Although it does fall on a weekday, this is a deal I'll have to check out soon! Though it's an obvious ploy to drum-up some new business, it certainly is welcome in Madison!

In other bar news, rumor has it that, in addition to Tuesday nights, Club 5 might start offering underage nights on Fridays. There is no set date or frequency yet, but keep your eyes peeled. Maybe it will give the kiddies something to do above and beyond the few 10% dances held throughout the year.

Speaking of which, the Valentine's Ball is on February 6. This should be about the time of press, so hopefully some of you will get this in time to check it out. The Ten Percent Society dances are held at the UW Memorial Union. If you miss this month's, check out the one on March 26 or April 23. Admission is \$3, and you must be 18+ to get in (unless you contact TPS first and get a pass).

And there you have gay politics as usual. If only the government could be as exciting as gay life, maybe voter turnout would be better! Alas. Though Wisconsin's primary is still a ways off, there are other politics boiling in the Madison area, namely the possible expansion of the DeJope casino. Let's face it, the country is hurting for jobs, but do we need them at the expense of more gambling? I encourage all readers to vote, though I haven't developed my own official position yet! Make sure to read up on the facts and cast your ballot, one way or the other.

That's good advice in general, and make sure to vote for president this November!

Well, there you have it, the most interesting news in the Madison area. School is back in session, and it's always fun to watch the out-of-state students bundling up and bitching about the cold... Bet they didn't think of THAT when they chose UW!

Anyway, here's to a happy February! I hope you all get to spend Valentine's Day with Mr. or Miss Right, or, at least, Mr. or Miss Right Now! As they say, "If you can't be with the one you love, then *TRICK THE HELL OUT!*" Ciao!

Club 5 Madison, WI





Gay Games Could Bring at Least \$25 Million to Chicago

01.27.04

The Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau has estimated that a Gay Games in Chicago would generate a minimum of \$25 million in direct economic benefit to the City and the region. In estimates provided to Chicago Games, Inc. the CTB numbers are based upon approximately 24,000 visitors to the Chicago region, 12,000 competitors and 12,000 friends, family and other tourists. The CTB Research is "conservative," and reflects a request from CGI for a number to help estimate the benefits if Chicago were selected to host the Gay Games.

"We view this number as a starting point," said Kevin Boyer, spokesperson for CGI. "Some Sydney experts have claimed an economic impact of close to \$80 million US." Economic impact numbers are estimates calculated by governments and tourism boards as they try to evaluate the benefits back to a community from travel and tourism. The Chicago CTB noted that while the numbers are conservative, actual economic impact could only be measured after the event had occurred.

Advisory Council Vote

In related Chicago news, the City's Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues has joined more than 25 other community organization promising support for a 2006 Gay Games held in Chicago. The Council, meeting January 21, 2004, adopted a resolution without opposition that "recognizes the hard work, deep commitment, and level of expertise that Chicago Games Inc. brings to its planned bid to host Gay Games 2006," and resolves that the council "will provide and encourage all feasible and advisable support to Chicago Games Inc. in its hosting activities after a review of award terms if its bid is accepted by the Federation of Gay

Games." The sponsor of the motion further clarified that a November vote stating "the Council could not recommend a bid," should not be interpreted as opposition to CGI, but as a resolution offered at a moment in time when the Council felt it couldn't support the bid.

Members of CGI made a lengthy presentation to the Advisory Council at its January 21 meeting. During that meeting, they presented draft budget numbers, noting an overall budget of \$6.2 million with \$1.3 million from corporate sponsors, \$200K from tourism grants, \$2.7 million from athlete registration fees and \$2 million from ticket sales, visitor badges, fundraising, donors and license fees. "Our budget is still under development, but this Draft Budget #8 reflects a conservative approach that will ensure a financially stable event," said Boyer.

"We are grateful for the confidence shown by the Council in our work," said Mona Noriega, a member of the CGI Board of Directors. "If Chicago is selected to host the Gay Games in 2006, a partnership with the Advisory Council will help ensure even greater community involvement and responsiveness."

Chicago Games, Inc. is a nonprofit organization preparing a bid to host Gay Games VII in the summer of 2006. Bid documents are due February 1, 2004, with a decision by the Federation of Gay Games expected March 1, 2004. Chicago is competing against Los Angeles for the right to host the event.

About the Gay Games

The Gay Games is a quadrennial athletic and cultural event which brings together people from around the world. Based on the principles of inclusion and participation, the Gay Games welcomes all people without regard to their sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, political belief(s), athletic/artistic ability, age, physical challenge, or health status.

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1st Alt. - Tajma Hall
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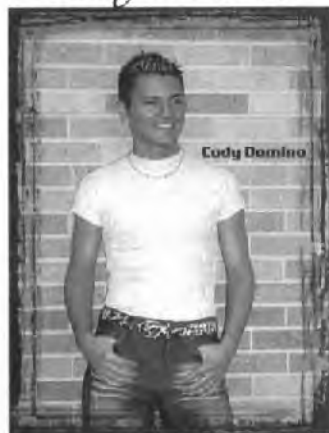
Starring:

Raphael Matthews

Cody Domino



Mr. Gay USA 2003



Mr. Gay Great Lakes USA 2003

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Rockford, IL



Miss Club 5 Pageant

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In the Spotlight

Hello and welcome to the first column of "In the Spotlight". This purpose of this column is to feature local gay and lesbian businesses and organizations. Each month we will feature a different business or organization with information and pictures.

This month featured guest is **La Cage Dance Club in Milwaukee, WI**. Located on the corner of 2nd street and National Ave. in Walker's Point. The main entrance is located on 2nd street, three doors down from the southwest corner of the block.

I'll start off with their drink specials for the week. If you're a regular at La Cage then you probably know everything in this paragraph. So feel free to skip to the next. Monday is 'shake-a-drink' night. Tuesday is Prize Night, and for every drink you buy you can receive a chance to win cash and prizes (after 10pm for both Monday and Tuesday). Wednesdays feature 2 for 1 along with 80's music on the dance floor. Thursdays is their Superbust. And Fridays feature "La Cage Presents" starting at 11pm with their show

director Nova D'Vine and their very talented show cast. After the show, both dance floors open up with 2 different dj's and 2 different styles of music. Saturdays are the premier night to party at La Cage with both dance floors open and 2 dj's.

The atmosphere on a Saturday night is the best a gay nightclub could offer. Both dance floors are packed. And with 7 bars that means you have 7 different bartenders to choose from. Let's not forget the amount of TV screens to look at. I think I lost count at 20. And if that's too much for you, there is a lower level called ETC. ETC. It is probably the most sophisticated "chill" bar in the Midwest. From the lighting to the dozens of flat screens to the waterfall behind the bar, it ranks #1 in my book. So if you ever happen to be checking out one of Milwaukee's 20 or so bars, make sure to make a stop at La Cage/ETC.

Well that's all for this month. Next month I will feature the Rainbow Room from Madison, WI. As the column progresses things will be added to give you the best that the Midwest has to offer. If you would like your business to be "In the Spotlight", send an email to: editor@edgemagonline.com



Chris D. Is our featured bartender of the month. He is 21 & works at La Cage in Milwaukee, WI

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and Tony-winner Rita Moreno, and *The Ritz* just about has all the ingredients of a genuine laugh orgy—the jokes that flop do so largely because they've become somewhat dated.

That this film escaped the craze to remake every film that ever made a profit seems to confirm a trend toward more moderate sexual practices. That being said, *The Ritz* remains one of the funniest comedies about the freedom of pre-condom gay culture.

La Cage aux Folles

La Cage aux Folles buoyed up the drag underworld for all to see in 1978; topics tagged as taboo suddenly became accessible to a wide audience. Still a cult favorite, this film did what *The Birdcage* failed to do: it forced the likes of Rush Limbaugh into a dress without compromising sympathy for those who put him into it.

Reversing the duplicitous slant of *The Gay Deceivers*, this story concerns a gay man (Ugo

Tognazzi) who agrees to play it straight to impress the conservative parents of his son's fiancé. Tognazzi then convinces his long-term lover (Michel Serrault) to hang up his drag act and play uncle long enough to get them all through dinner. Meanwhile, the son "de-gays" his father's apartment and asks his neglectful mother (Claire Maurier) to act as Tognazzi's wife.

Once the stage is set, nothing can stop the force of this farce; mishaps will occur, with exaggerated results. From Serrault's blatant jealousy of Maurier to the naked wrestler pattern on the dinner plates, the film moves briskly toward its inevitable and satisfying climax.

Although some viewers may object to the insinuation that gay relationships can be distilled into a heterosexual ideology, the well-drawn characters, finely-tuned plot and sharply-written dialog all contribute to the film's likeability. And unlike *Flesh*, which retains an air of modernism despite its age, *La Cage aux Folles* epitomizes the gay mentality of the past.

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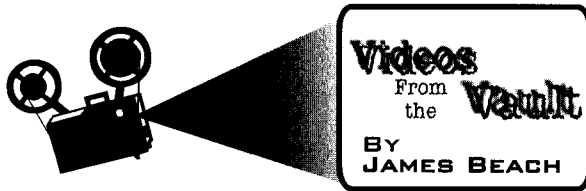
Friday's - Gay Men's Discussion Group - 7 - 8 p.m.

Transgender Group - Meets the second Sunday of the month at 3 p.m. Diversity Resource Center.

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For more information, call 964-2639 or visit our Web site at www.diversityofrockford.org

Diversity of Rockford Resource Center 117 South 3rd Street, Rockford IL 964-2639



Is retro chic or geek this week? You might want to check the latest issue of *Wallpaper* to be sure. Failing that, try renting some of these classic gay films to help you decide who's in and what's out.

Flesh

Produced by Andy Warhol in 1968, *Flesh* was perhaps the first film of its kind to promote ambiguous homosexuality. The story follows a day in the life of a male hustler (Joe Dallesandro) as he hits the streets to earn the money to buy an abortion for his wife's girlfriend. At least, this might be his motivation; the movie remains deliciously unclear while coercing lust, longing and the occasional unexpected burst of laughter from its viewers.

Against a backdrop of cityscapes and seedy apartments, the compelling Dallesandro hangs out with johns, artists, other hustlers, transvestites, an ex-girlfriend and, of course, the quintessential gym buddy. He earnestly discusses being queer, being married and being a trick, all with the benefit of an eighth-grade education. Mostly, though, he gets naked.

With its jagged editing and documentary feel, *Flesh* maintains an erotic tone while pivoting between surprising poignancy and a warped sense of humor. And because the film's end loops back around to its beginning, it just manages to edge its way out of seeming randomness.

The Gay Deceivers

Also released in 1968, *The Gay Deceivers* broke major ground by criticizing the army, the war and homophobia with its comedic premise about draft-dodgers who hide out in a gay neighborhood.

The plot, though, is sitcom thin. Two college guys (Larry Casey and Kevin Coughlin) flirt with the draft board to avoid being shipped to Viet-

nam; later, when they notice an army spy keeping tabs, the boys rent a one-bedroom in Fairyland; when they resort to camp and vamp, hilarity ensues.

Yes, the characters come off as cartoonish. Casey's frequently showcased—and superbly buff—bod is about as deep as the story goes, though Coughlin does endure a split-second or two of internal conflict. And the antics of the landlord (Michael Greer), though often funny, never stray far from the realm of stereotypical, limp-wristed queen.

And yes, what was considered the Gay Norm several decades ago could now slide easily into the Transgender category without much showing. Protagonists Casey and Coughlin seem to embody those mystifying “straight acting” homos that were so trendy during the '90's, nearly nullifying the film's point. Still, the make-love-not-war message does resonate, despite an unfunny brawl at the local gay bar.

While this film ultimately holds few surprises—a twelve year-old will probably anticipate the “twist” at the end—its sixties-era boldness cannot be completely ignored. However flimsy, effete and flawed, *The Gay Deceivers* remains a vital piece of gay Americana.

The Ritz

Though filmed in England, Terrence McNally's *The Ritz* (1976), scored with US audiences and critics alike. Farcical to the core, the plot revolves around an average guy (Jack Weston) who decides to hide out in the Ritz to escape his maniacal brother-in-law (Jerry Stiller). Unbeknownst to Weston, Stiller's “private dic” (Treat Williams) has also checked in, intent on a convoluted plan to blackmail Weston. And when Weston's wife (Kaye Ballard) shows up in drag, well, nobody's going home without a bit of nooky.

Set in a gay bathhouse equipped with movies, a steamroom, massage tables, swimming pools, a disco, a nightclub and free blood tests every Wednesday, the film flaunts its homosexuality with an abundance of promiscuous men wrapped in little more than handtowels. Add a pair of chaps, a Crisco oil party, a chubby chaser,



Hello, loyal readers! The New Year is rolling in with gusty winds of drama flowing from the Madison area! Generally low on the commotion meter – our Capitol City is making up for lost time. In the last article, Miss Teen Club 5 was called on the carpet for her immature behavior which included smashing her crown and tearing down bar fixtures during her performances. Word has trickled back that Miss Valentine thought the article was a hoot! Perhaps not now. Given the choice of relinquishing her title voluntarily or having it removed the hard way she has opted to finally show some class and ‘give it up’. Your new Miss Teen Club 5 is Kelliya Stevens as the original 1st Runner up, Bella Royale declined taking over the position with all the drama that is currently attached to this year's reign.

As for Miss Valentine – performers at her last show overheard that she is considering going into the world's oldest profession in Las Vegas. Good Luck....I think. Please don't think of coming to Milwaukee as our corners are FULL and they generally don't like to have timeshares on the corner of 2nd and Oregon.

This past week was Kyllie West's last show as Miss Club 5. That's what happens when you behave yourself and fulfill your obligations – you get to give up your crown! (see paragraph #1). On hand were Milwaukee favorites Kelly & Bob and the new and improved Miss Sharon Bumps (aka the rack that rules). Sharon showcased her talents not only at the bar but at Denny's early in the morning – it seems that she not only dances in those heels but can give the waitresses a run for their money, too. The night was a great

send-off for the Milwaukee troupe with the likes of Trinity Mathews, Bradley and Candi Lishious on hand and Veronica Cummings on hand.....on the dance floor.....on the props on the dance floor.....you get the picture. The next Miss Club 5 is scheduled for March 7th. Already there are some notables lining up in an attempt to join the Miss Club 5 family. Stay tuned for further developments!

Before you make your way to Madison though, check out Miss Triangle being held Friday February 27th! Always a full bar and always some heated competition. The current reigning Miss Triangle will not be able to attend the festivities since she's much safer in Michigan where there are no extradition laws for bail-jumping. Not that being Miss Triangle should be taken lightly – Shannon Dupree did a phenomenal job representing the bar the year prior and this is the type of reign that the winner should strive for. Oddly enough, I've seen this crown and its reason enough to want this title!

It seems that there are a couple of bar titles in the works (Miss Jo'Dee's and perhaps, Miss Club 219). LaCage is still in the works. I do remember a show at LaCage last year where it was mentioned by Miss Divine that there was to be a Miss LaCage coming in – I believe – November. Girl, check your calendar. As Shelby (a la Steel Magnolias) would say.....“IT'S TIME !!” I'm sure that Billy Blaze has survived her birthday show and the stage (and boys in the back) is safe for a Miss LaCage Pageant.

The next pageant of contention in Southeast Wisconsin will be Mr. Club Wisconsin hosted by Club 94 North and being organized by the venerable Miss Dawn Michaels and veteran show-girl (fresh back from Miss Northern Star) Jazmine Roberts. At last word, there were five or more contestants vying for the title. These include Bob (Mr. Triangle), Randy Wray, Mark Madison (the new Mr. Jo'Dee's International), Phil Stevens and some other names that have been tossed around. This will be very interesting since the talent is so varied that it will really showcase these boys. Other categories include formal wear, club wear, swimwear and on-stage question. Now, if I got some of the names wrong or they don't show up or I missed someone – please save your emails since this is written well in advance.

Now for some of the rumor mill. It seems one of our Milwaukee gals who has a regular gig at "Club" in town is claiming that they are a new cast member of the "Office" in Rockford! If true, way to go. If not - don't give up your nighttime job just yet 'cause I don't think there is a day job on your resume. Speaking of jobs, it seems that we may also lose one of our locals. Katrina Roberts is rumored to have an involuntary transfer in the works and she may be making her way north to Appleton. Be sure and check your trunk for a stowaway! Good Luck, Katrina!

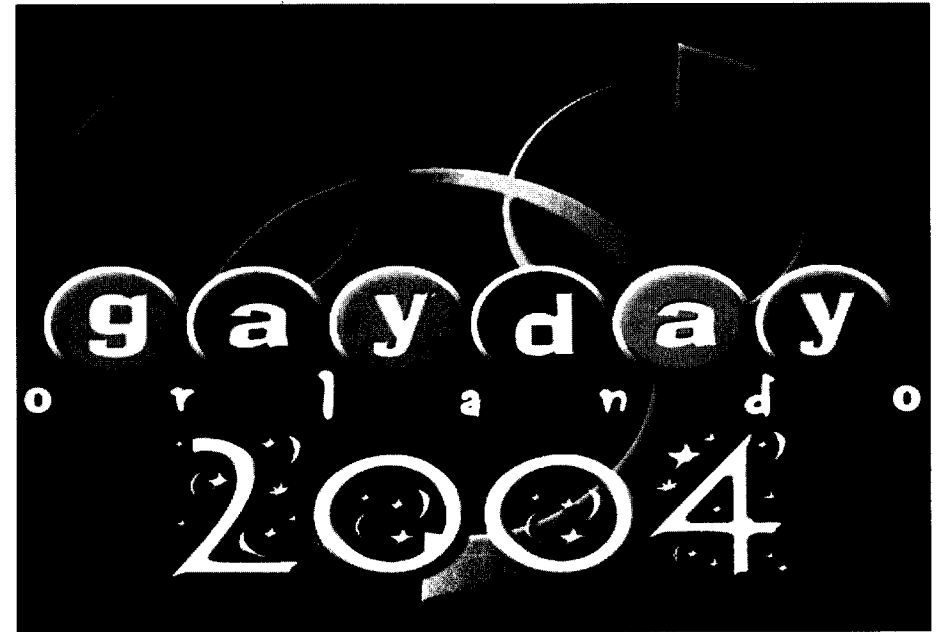
And for all of you - don't forget to get out and vote this February 17th. I never thought I would

see the day that the mere mention of 'gay weddings' and 'domestic partner benefits' would have right-wing Republicans puckered at both ends and proclaiming that the end of the world is coming. You see, not only are we an economic power but a power at the voting booth as well, and they **know** it. If they're not going to recognize us legally then they should at the very least have to deal with us politically. Go Vote!!

Keep Safe this year and keep the comments coming to Lottiedodge@sbcglobal.net



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The New RAINBOW ROOM

Madison, WI

Thursdays

Strippers from Romeo &
The men of Strippers Inc.

Fridays

All you can drink tap beer
for \$5 from 9pm to 12am

Saturdays

Happy Hour from 5pm to 9pm
with 2 for 1 drinks. Dance 'till
you drop with dj Ty

Feb 6th & 20th

The Desiree Mathews &
Kylie Stevens Review

Feb 13th

The ACTION WI Benefit
with Ken Burns of the
Junkier and Martin Price
as the Mazomanie Boys

Feb 14th

The Diamond Girl
Valentines Day Review

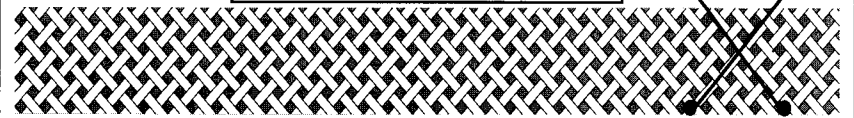
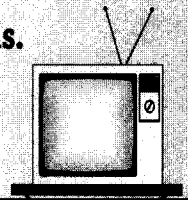
Feb 28th

The Cass Marie Divas
debut Miami Richards, Venus
& Bianca from Savannah GA.

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Quest and Starlite Productions

are proud to bring to you:



Appearances By:

Victoria "Porkchop" Parker, Miss Continental Plus '03
 Emir Illuzion, Miss Wisconsin Continental Plus '03
 Loretta LaMour, Miss Wisconsin Continental Plus '02
 Alexis St. James, Miss Wisconsin Continental '03
 Neely O'Hara, Miss Wisconsin Continental '02
 Cass Marie Domino, Miss Wisconsin Continental '01
 CeCe Rae, Miss Wisconsin Continental Elite '04



The Miss Wisconsin Continental Plus Pageant



February 7th at Historic West Theatre in Green Bay; Cover \$15 at door.
 Registration 12:00 pm – Interview 3:00 pm (Baymont Inn) – Pageant 8:00 pm.

Categories are: White Presentation, Swimsuit, Talent, Evening Gown
 Top 4 finalists: On-stage Question-and-Answer. Entry Fee \$125
 Entry is open to all who wish to compete and represent Wisconsin
 at the **Miss Continental Plus Pageant**
 in Chicago, April 2004.

For Entry/Rules/Information/Table Reservations
 call 847-757-8067 or 920-435-1057

Email: Tiflog18@comcast.net
quest@quest-online.com

PRIZE PACKAGES!

Miss Wisconsin Continental Plus	1st Runner-up
\$3200 Value Prize Package	\$1650 Value Prize Package
Cash\Prizes\Bookings	Cash\Prizes\Bookings
	2nd Runner-up
	\$100