



■ **NEWS**
Investigation Stalled
in Activist's Death

P. 8

■ **NEWS**
Canada Court Upholds
Gay Marriage

P. 8

■ **ADVICE**
Dear Ruthie Answers
Your Questions

P. 36



Step

Wisconsin's lesbian & gay newspaper of record since 1984 ■ Issue 20.12 ■ June 19, 2003

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PrideFest Survives Rain But Suffers Huge Deficit

Losses as High as \$150,000 • Story Pg 4

SPECIAL COVERAGE

"Deaf LGBTs
Confront PrideFest
on Accessibility"

by Jamakaya • PG. 5

PRIDEFEST STATEMENT

on 2003 Festival • PG. 6

EDITORIAL:

"Blinded by Pride"

by William Attewell • PG. 14

PHOTO ESSAY:

"Faces of Pride"

by Armando Gallegos • PG. 20

PRIDEFEST DIARY:

"Entertain Me"

by William Duane • PG. 23

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Wisconsin IN Step

Issue 20.12 • Don't Shoot the Messenger

IN Step World Headquarters

1661 North Water Street, Suite 411
 Milwaukee, WI 53202
 414.278.7840 voice
 414.278.5868 fax
 www.instepnews.com
 ISSN# 1045-2435

William Attewell
 editor@instepnews.com
 editor-in-chief

Mike Fitzpatrick
 foxvalley@instepnews.com
 fox valley bureau

Wayne Brasler, Dear Ruthie,
 Jamakaya, Michael Johnston,
 J.C. Michalek, Billy Masters,
 Carl M. Szatmary, Rex Wockner,
 and W.W. Wells III
 contributing writers

Alison Bechdel, Paul Berge,
 Tami Friday
 cartoonists

Ad Sales
 ads@instepnews.com
 Advertising Sales

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IN Side

News

- 5 PrideFest Weathers Rain, Chill but Suffer Huge Deficit
By Jamakaya
- 5 Deaf LGBTs Confront PrideFest on Accessibility
By Jamakaya
- 6 PrideFest Parade a Splashing Success
- 8 Investigation Stalls in Activist's Death
By Mike Fitzpatrick
- 8 Gay Earthquake Up North
By Rex Wockner

Group Notes

- 10 Chicago Pride Fest and Dyke March June 28, Pride Parade June 29
- 10 Two SPRAWL Women's Dances Set for July
- 11 Tickets Available for OutReach Awards Banquet
- 11 Diverse and Resilient Welcomes New Staff
- 11 Memorial: Dennis R. Thomas

Opinions

- 13 POLITICS: Mayoral Candidates Need to Go to LGBT School
By Barbara Lightner
- 14 EDITORIAL: The Failure and Future of PrideFest
By William Attewell
- 15 LETTERS: IN Step Readers Speak Their Mind

Section Q

- 16 UWM "Summerdances" Set for June 27-29
- 16 "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Marcus Center July 15-20
- 16 Lunt-Fontanne Estate Ten Chimneys Open for Tours
- 16 "Layered, Stitched and Assembled" at Madison Art Museum
- 16 Su Friedrich's "Odds of Recovery" Screens June 26-27
- 16 Milwaukee Symphony Offers Classical Music CD
- 19 Lakefront Festival of Arts Moves to the Calatrava June 20-22
- 23 A PrideFest Diary: Entertain Me
By William Duane
- 39 CORDIALLY YOURS
By Michael Johnston



PrideFest Weathers Rain But Suffers Huge Deficit • 4

By Jamakaya



Deaf LGBTs Protest PrideFest • 5

By Jamakaya



"Faces of Pride" • 20

Photo Essay By Armando Gallegos



PrideFest Diary • 23

By William Duane

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE:

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Wisconsin's Only Gay & Lesbian Newspaper. Since 1984.

PrideFest Survives Rain and Chill But Suffers Huge Deficit

By Jamakaya

Milwaukee — PrideFest 2003 managed to endure a sometimes rainy and chilly festival weekend to reach an attendance of 18,104, just 500 below last year's record. But the festival faces tough challenges ahead as it wrestles to recoup a deficit of between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

That was the estimate delivered by PrideFest Treasurer Paul Sherry at a meeting of PrideFest organizers and community leaders at the M&M Club on June 12. An exact figure for the financial shortfall may not be known for several weeks until all the bills come in.

Sherry declared that "Bankruptcy is not an option" as he and other PrideFest Council members tried to steer the discussion to practical solutions for PrideFest's money crunch. The challenge is daunting because PrideFest must pay off record debts while also raising substantial seed money for next year's festival.

When asked how such a huge shortfall could occur, organizers placed the blame squarely on the weather, which reduced estimated attendance as well as the consumption of beer. Sherry pointed out that ticket prices and beer sales comprise about 75% of the festival's income. Co-Chair Lil Lau reported that 21 barrels of beer, estimated to cost \$13,000, went unsold.

Sherry and others seemed confident that if the weather had been better and 4,000 to 5,000 additional people had attended, PrideFest would not be in such financial straits. Taking the higher figure of 5,000 (which some observers find unrealistic given the festival's incremental growth of

just a few thousand every one or two years) and multiplying it by the \$9 gate fee would have netted an additional \$45,000. The loss from beer and gate admissions comes to just \$58,000 of the overall estimated loss.

When pressed about where the rest of the financial loss stems from, Sherry conceded that more money was spent this year on bigger stars like Pat Benatar and Peter Paige of "Queer as Folk."

"We responded to what people have been asking for, which was more big name acts. So yeah, we did take a little more of a risk in that area."

Neil Albrecht, executive director of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, praised the Council members for their hard work but noted that "If the Community Center finished the year at a deficit of \$150,000, there would be a tremendous scrutinization of the staff and board."

Wisconsin IN Step requested copies of PrideFest budgets and projections for this year's festival. Sherry e-mailed a detailed expense report but no income budget or projections, so it is impossible to analyze the soundness of the financial planning. An accountant told IN Step that any budget without income projections is incomplete and a recipe for "financial chaos."

William Attewell, publisher and editor of Wisconsin IN Step, spoke at the meeting, reading what he described as his next editorial on PrideFest. [See the full text of a somewhat revised editorial elsewhere in this issue.] Attewell has written several extensive articles in the last year about alleged problems with personnel and operations at the festival.

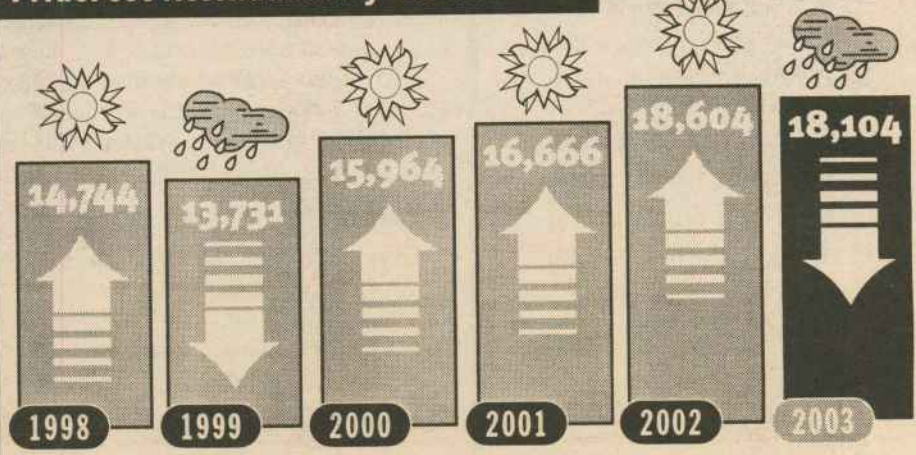
In his statement, Attewell called the financial deficit "a self-inflicted wound"

and "arguably the largest and most expensive debacle in our community's history." He said that PrideFest's board "failed to use sound business principles and practices when planning this year's festival" in "a continuing pattern of apparent mismanagement and lack of oversight which Wisconsin's LGBT community can no

utilities cost about \$2,000 per month), or relocating to a smaller office to save money. The Rev. Lew Broyles offered the use of the Metropolitan Community Church on the south side for meetings or storage.

Paul Sherry reported that PrideFest had hired a consultant to assess its operations. They met with her this spring and

PrideFest Attendance by the Numbers



longer ignore."

"If you publish that," former PrideFest Co-Director Susan Cook responded, "you will pound another nail into the coffin of this organization."

Attewell called for the Cream City Foundation to fund a new executive director for PrideFest and for PrideFest to merge with the LGBT Community Center, an organization with "proven accountability systems." The suggested merger with the LGBT Center drew the most vocal protests, with heads shaking and shouts of "No way!" around the room.

"We need the help but we don't want the strings attached," said PrideFest Entertainment Director Nick Laurent. (Laurent also dispelled a wild rumor that Pat Benatar and her entourage rented 30-plus rooms at the Pfister Hotel. Fact: Benatar and her husband Neil Giraldo and their two kids shared a 2-bedroom suite, her manager had another room, and band members stayed at Howard Johnson's.)

Co-Chair Lil Lau took particular exception to Attewell's characterization of the PrideFest Council as "an elitist and closed organization."

"We have literally been begging people to join the Council," said Lau, her voice straining with emotion. "This whole festival is put on by a core of nine people — nine people. We want more people to help us. We can't go on like this."

After some of the anger and frustration subsided, many suggestions were thrown around for the rest of the evening.

It is likely that a series of fundraisers for PrideFest will be held over the next 6-12 months. Volunteer Coordinator Sheri Goldberg said that many PrideFest volunteers have already offered to help. Co-Chair Michael Lisowski said that Proud Crowd members and PrideFest sponsors would be contacted, informed of the situation, and asked for assistance.

Council members will re-submit their application to the IRS for 501(c)3 status, which would be beneficial for PrideFest as it would make donations tax-deductible. They are also looking into the possibility of closing the PrideFest office (rent, phone and

will meet with her again and work to implement her recommendations.

Bill Meunier, a former Co-Director of PrideFest, proposed the creation of an Advisory Council to be made up of community members with expertise in areas that would enhance the operations of PrideFest, like fundraising, budgeting, human resources, etc. Advisory Council members, wrote Meunier in his proposal, "should include representatives of the sponsors, LGBT businesses, political groups, and other interested parties." The Advisory Council would not make the day-to-day decisions that belong to the Pride Council and Board, but would be there to offer their expertise and guidance.

Michael Lisowski liked the Advisory Council proposal. In contrast to the Attewell proposal, he told IN Step, "I think the Advisory Council is a good compromise. Our supporters are going to want some changes, some accountability. That's understandable. An Advisory Council might make it a more open and professional organization."

In addition, both Denise Wise, board member of the Cream City Foundation, and Brenda Coley, board member of the LGBT Community Center, offered to assist PrideFest as it works through its crisis.

Throughout the meeting PrideFest organizers spoke of the positive energy at the 2003 festival — a record number of volunteers, a wider array of performers, decent attendance despite the poor weather, and good feedback from festival-goers. (No mention was made of Deaf LGBTs protesting the lack of ASL interpreters.)

"The success of PrideFest should not be measured solely by attendance and money," Susan Cook commented.

"I hope we can do this, I hope we can make it," said PrideFest volunteer George Schneider. "Because one day the torch will be passed on to others and we have to make sure PrideFest is there for them."

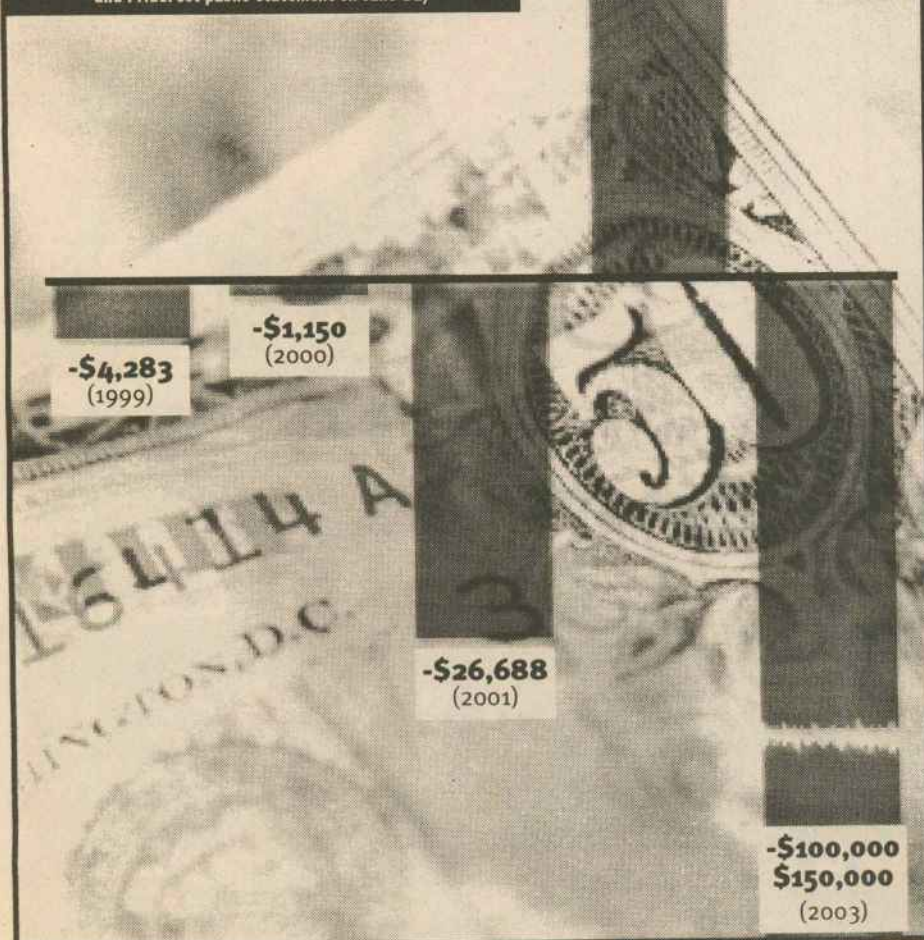
"Despite all these adversities," he added, "I think this meeting ended on a very positive note."

PrideFest can be reached at (414) 645-FEST.

PrideFest Finances at a Glance

Yearly Totals 1999-2003

(Graphic indicates profit or loss for each festival year.
Source: PrideFest audited financial statements for 1999-2002
and PrideFest public statement on June 12)

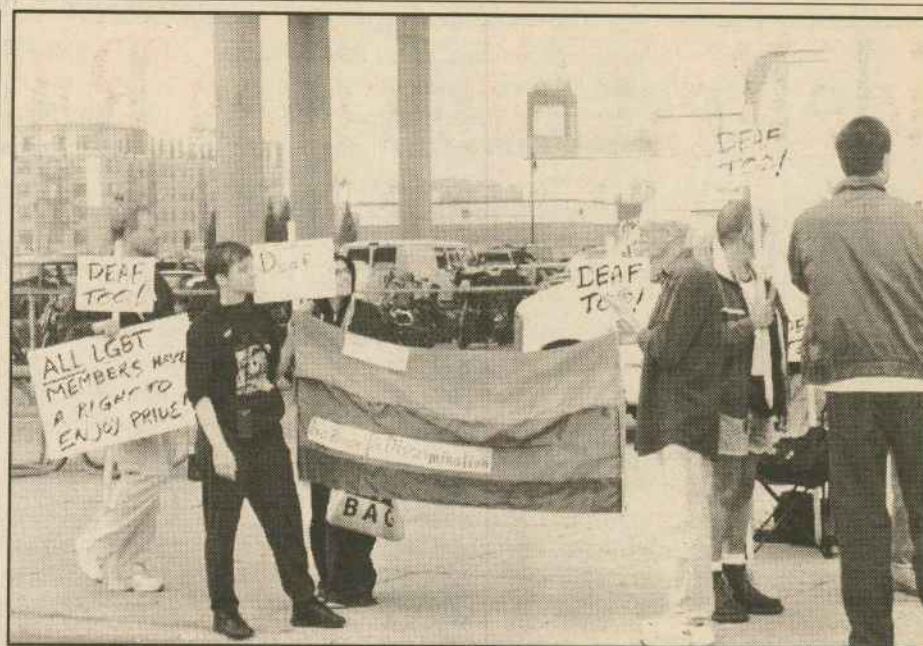


Deaf LGBTs Confront PrideFest on Accessibility

By Jamakaya

Milwaukee — People entering this year's PrideFest on June 7 were surprised to be greeted by more than the usual fundamentalist zealots quoting scripture. This year, LGBT members of the Deaf community and their supporters picketed outside the gates to protest the absence of sign language interpreters at PrideFest.

A leaflet handed out declared: "There is no pride in discrimination!" It stated: "For years, the Deaf LGBT community has paid full price for PrideFest without being able to understand most of the performances due to lack of sign language interpreters. Does this make you proud? For years, the Deaf LGBT community has educated PrideFest about their responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA),



LGBT members of the Deaf community and their supporters picket outside the gates of PrideFest on June 7 to protest the absence of sign language interpreters at the festival. Photo: Armando Gallegos.

them back in February.

"Right up to the last week before PF happened we were [assured] by Mr. Paul Sherry [PrideFest Treasurer] that two paid interpreters up to 30 hours for the three day event would be approved. We had all the interpreters ready and everything worked out and no reason to believe he

service, which is a mandatory federal law to ensure access to all, including the Deaf."

Garay and Puhlmann's complaints were reinforced by Sowa Unora, an ASL interpreter who coordinated interpreters for all but one PrideFest between 1994 and 2000. Unora says: "We recruited, scheduled and coordinated interpreters on-site, and did all outreach, advance planning and follow-up."

"Once the fest moved to the Summerfest grounds I started talking to various council members about improving the services. Moving to Summerfest was a big step for the growing festival, putting it in the 'big time,' and I argued that the access services provided should be consistent with that. A big concern was that the quality of service provided by volunteers was inconsistent; another was issues of coordination with performers, such as a major act which at the last minute refused to share the stage with interpreters. I suggested that for at least the big name acts, interpreters should be paid in order to provide better quality of interpretation. Also, that services should be integrated into PF's ongoing organizing, planned for in advance and not just brought in at the last minute."

In 1999, Unora says she told PrideFest organizers that they couldn't assume a volunteer would be there every year to organize interpreters. "They needed to take responsibility," she says.

"I finally got the entertainment committee to meet with me to plan ahead for the 2000 fest, and in mid-April we met. We had a great discussion for over an hour, during which time they not only supported my suggestions, they proffered some of their own including the idea that a board position should be created — Access

Coordinator. I do not know if any of what went on in that meeting was recorded or ever conveyed to the board. At that point we were only a few weeks from the 2000 festival so there was no time to get started on the process but they agreed to contact me later that summer or early fall to start planning for the following year."

Unora says she had a list of about ten people, Deaf and hard of hearing and interpreters, who were willing to work with PrideFest in establishing a committee. All of them agreed that PrideFest had to become more involved.

But Unora heard nothing until of April 2001 when PrideFest Volunteer Coordinator Sheri Goldberg called asking if she would coordinate interpreters again.

"I told her no," said Unora. "She tried contacting several of the potential committee people, and of course they were no more willing than I to try to throw the whole thing together at that late date. So in the few weeks left before the fest they tried to do what they should have been doing months before, i.e.: learn how to get interpreters. They managed to get the state waiver which would cover the costs. But because they had waited so long, the agency they worked with was not able to get enough interpreters, so very little of the fest got covered. They complained how hard it was — a situation they created for themselves."

"Last year I understand they did pay for interpreters for at least some acts, but there was a lot of the fest that had no interpreters at all. Furthermore, there was very little info available to D/hh attendees as to when interpreters were scheduled or how to get an interpreter for something they were interested in. All the years we had volunteers, we had had a booth near the main stage with clear signs where Deaf could check schedules and request temps for specific events."

Unora concurs with the conclusion arrived at by Suzette Garay and Greg Puhlmann: "It is our firm belief that PF continues to ignore us and refuses to make accessibility for its Deaf members a priority ... Shame on you PF!"

IN Step asked PrideFest's Paul Sherry for a comment, but did not receive his response before press time. Other PrideFest officials, who were admittedly less involved in negotiations with the Deaf community, nevertheless freely made comments calling the Deaf protesters "too angry," "unwilling to budge," and "trouble-makers."

In the interests of full disclosure, this reporter is the domestic partner of the ASL interpreter Sowa Unora. She is also visually impaired and a longtime advocate for the disabled.

"FOR YEARS, THE DEAF LGBT COMMUNITY HAS PAID FULL PRICE FOR PRIDEFEST WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO UNDERSTAND MOST OF THE PERFORMANCES DUE TO LACK OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS. DOES THIS MAKE YOU PROUD?"

— PROTEST LEAFLET OUTSIDE PRIDEFEST

yet they still refuse to make their event accessible. Does this make you proud?"

As the leaflet suggests, the protest was the result of years of what Deaf LGBTs perceive as neglect and broken promises on the part of PrideFest. While there have been volunteer American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters working on an ad hoc basis at past festivals and at least one or two years when PrideFest received a waiver from the state which enabled them to hire interpreters, no organized, reliable system has been instituted to provide the Deaf access to major PrideFest events each year.

Suzette Garay and Greg Puhlmann, Deaf LGBT representatives, conveyed the following information to *Wisconsin IN Step* via e-mail.

"We have tried consistently to work with PF for the past 8 years! PF continues to deny the fact that we have been doing the work for ensuring accessibility for Deaf LGBT members entirely on our own (finding both volunteers and paid interpreters), and it was not until recently (last year) that PF recognized that we as a group needed to be involved in their budget planning committee so that we could avoid last minute scrambling to secure interpreters."

"PF has grown significantly, quality of entertainment is much more complex and volunteer interpreters are no longer possible ... [W]e have continued to supply the interpreters and work with PF to ensure paying of interpreters is done. However, this has not been done without much resistance, ignorance, and even refusal from PF committees. This recent event was the worst we have experienced from PF. Denying ANY interpreters on stage whether they are paid or volunteered was a direct violation of the ADA law for access."

Garay and Puhlmann say they worked with PrideFest weeks in advance of the event and even tried to begin working with

would not honor the agreement. Then, the day before the event, he tells us NO interpreters will be allowed this year and 'we will just work with you guys for next year's event, we just do not have the money!'

Garay and Puhlmann believe they were strung along to the last minute to prevent them from filing an injunction against the festival. "We will no longer remain a 'silent minority' within a minority and we are seeking legal compensation for our inability to access PrideFest this past year," they wrote.

"We continue to find it hard that PF says every year 'we do not have the money to pay for interpreters,' when PrideFest is able to double its size of entertainment, pay thousands of dollars for the entertainment, pay for many things, and even boast every year about giving money back to its community, and they cannot figure out how to pay \$1,500-\$2,000 for interpreting



PrideFest organizers officially open the 2003 festival on June 6. Pictured (l-r) Peter Minns, Cindy Taylor, Michael Lisowski, Lil Lau, Sheri Goldberg, Marcus Smith and Nick Laurent. Photo: Armando Gallegos.

PrideFest Statement on 2003 Festival

During the weekend of June 6, 7, and 8th, thousands of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgendered people chose to show pride in themselves and their community by attending PrideFest 2003. Together with the largest group of non-LGBT people ever to attend a Gay Milwaukee event, they made a crowd of 18,104 people.

A line-up of performers that was strong enough to be compared to the entertainment line ups of major Pride festivals on the coasts entertained that crowd. There were hundreds of volunteers who filled over 1,000 volunteer slots.

Dozens of vendors sold thousands of items in the PrideFest Marketplace. Thousands of people became more aware of community issues and volunteer opportunities through informational booths. Electronic media coverage of the event painted a positive picture of our community.

Despite a driving rainstorm, over 50 businesses and organizations proudly marched through the streets in the annual Pride Parade. New exhibits in the History/Herstory tent were seen by hundreds of patrons. From the Drag-A-Thon to the Leather Show, to the Youth Pride Village, special efforts to include all elements of our community were met and appreciated by large crowds.

Local and out-of-town guests were unanimous in praising the quality of the PrideFest 2003. They told us how much they enjoyed the entertainment, food and special events. Above all else, they told us how proud they were that our community could put on such a magnificent festival.

We believe this year's PrideFest displayed the breadth of the talent in our community. We believe the sponsors, volunteers and patrons all

have a right to feel proud of what they saw and experienced at PrideFest 2003. All of them have our deepest appreciation and sincere thanks.

Promoting pride, not making money, is the mission of PrideFest. Nevertheless we are keenly aware of our responsibility to make sure there are sufficient funds to pay our bills and to continue the valuable work done by everyone who participated in our festival. It is a responsibility that we take with the utmost seriousness. It is with great disappointment that we must tell you that PrideFest 2003 lost money.

We cannot tell you the size of the losses. It will be several weeks before all of the bills come in. However, we can say that we expect the loss to be substantial. When we are able to fully determine the final figures, we will release them to the LGBT community.

We believe that the unprecedented bad weather is the major factor that caused our financial problems. It was cold all weekend and it rained during two of our three days. On Saturday, the temperature on the festival grounds dipped to 40 degrees. On Saturday evening, the grounds were so foggy that the fireworks were postponed until Sunday night.

Sunday's rain led to the smallest crowd of parade watchers since the early days of PrideFest. By the time the skies cleared it was too late in the day for many who otherwise might have attended PrideFest.

Like other lakefront festivals, PrideFest depends on the sale of tickets at the gate and on beer sales. The combination of rain and cold reduced what should have been a record crowd. Furthermore, no matter how much you enjoy the entertainment it is hard to enjoy a beer while you are peering through the fog and shivering in the cold.

Even with the bad weather, we fell only 500 short of last year's attendance record, which was

set with nearly perfect weather conditions. Thousands of people came out in the rain and cold to see the first-rate entertainment on PrideFest's stages. The entertainment was costly, but without it the crowds would have been much smaller and we would still be dealing with a large financial loss.

We also recognize that we made some decisions that contributed to the losses. We will be looking at every decision we made to determine what impact it had on our situation and to be sure misjudgments do not occur again.

We assure you that the members of Board and Pride Council are doing everything they can to minimize the deficit. Every bill will be scrutinized and paid as soon as fiscally possible. We have already talked to officials of Summerfest and they've agreed to help.

Above all else, bankruptcy is NOT an option for PrideFest. All bills will be paid though some may not be paid on time.

We appreciate the many, many statements of support PrideFest has received over the past few days. We also appreciate the suggestions we received concerning the future operations of PrideFest. We will continue our efforts to gather ideas from the LGBT community, and we will carefully consider any fund-raising and organizational structuring ideas presented to us.

We also appreciate the outspoken support we've received from so many members of our community. We are especially grateful for offers of help given by officials of the Cream City Foundation, members of the LGBT Community Center, members of the Proud Crowd and so many others.

We assure them and you that together we will make certain that PrideFest remains an event that all of LGBT Wisconsin can be proud of.

Michael Lisowski and Lil Lau
PrideFest Co-Chairs



PrideFest Parade a Splashing Success

Milwaukee — Despite the rainy weather on Sunday afternoon June 9, this year's PrideFest Parade/March participants put on a great show. Of the almost 40 groups pre-registered, only two didn't show on parade day. With the additional walk-up registrations, the parade contained just over 40 entries this year. Leading off was a squad car with lights and siren going, supplied by the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department. Special thanks also go to the Chicago Chapter of the American Veterans for Equal Rights, a gay veterans group, who served as the parade color guard.

The parade stepped off precisely at 2:30 p.m. Other than the expected gap after the Harleys, which need to keep moving so they don't overheat, the parade remained relatively tight throughout the route. For reasons not totally clear, the Milwaukee Police Department sent the parade up Cass Street, rather than Van Buren, as shown on

the permit. This only put the parade off by a block, and hopefully didn't inconvenience too many parade-goers.

The only down side to the parade this year was the conduct of the fundamentalist protesters. Rather than using just their normal signs and bible verses, they resorted to lewd name-calling and epithets.

In spite of the weather and the protesters, a good time was had by all. First Place Awards were handed out on the Miller Stage following the parade. First Place Decorated Car went to Las Americas Without Borders. First Place Marching Unit went to the rifle twirlers of Chicago's R.O.T.C. Another Chicago group, the Lakeside Pride Freedom Band, finished in a close Second Place. First Place Float went to the Milwaukee bar 219. The float competition was very tight, with Harbor Room, 94 North, and SSBL/MMST/HIT following

in that order on the heels of 219.

Congratulations to the First Place winners, and to all entries for a great job this year. A tip of the hat goes to Bella Café for allowing the judging stand to be placed in front of their shop again this year, and a special thanks to the parade judges this year, Randy Williams, Eric Zimmerman, Aaron Stevenson, and Ryan Durant, who are all members of the Minneapolis Twin Cities Pride Committee. For details on the Twin Cities celebration June 20-29, go to: www.tcpride.org.

—Gary Timm,
PrideFest Parade Coordinator
Parade Photos by Armando Gallegos

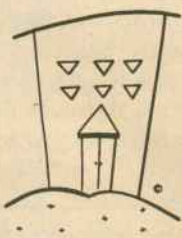


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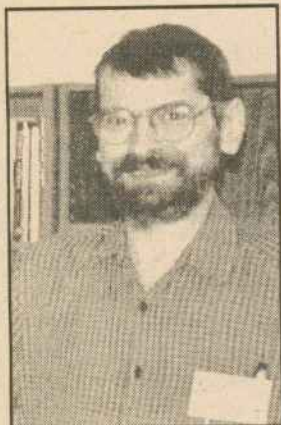


For more information, call 773-868-3010 or visit www.chicagoevents.com



Investigation Stalls in Activist's Death

By Mike Fitzpatrick



John A. Klinger.
Photo courtesy of
Lavendar Magazine

Eau Claire — Somewhere between the final minutes of April 28 and the morning of the 29th, death came to John A. Klinger. Six weeks following the May 1st recovery of the 49 year-old gay and AIDS activist's body from the Eau Claire River ten miles north of here, that window period remains the key finding of the active, ongoing but stymied probe by the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department.

According to lead investigator Detective Sgt. John Vogler, though the final coroner's report remains forthcoming, Klinger's body showed no overt signs of struggle and was free of alcohol or other intoxicating drugs that might have triggered an accidental drowning. But the lack of information about what occurred on the river bank just upstream of the reportedly cruisy LL Phillips Park has thus far foiled the search for the cause of Klinger's death. "We've reached an impasse," Vogler said.

The primary reason Klinger's death remains suspicious is the fact that he needed to have been transported to the secluded site where it occurred. "Very simply, John didn't drive. He walked

everywhere," surviving sister Sue Klinger said. "How did he get so far out of town?" Klinger also noted that while her brother's eyeglasses were found near the site where a fisherman discovered his body, his wallet and favorite leather coat remain missing.

Detective Vogler confirmed the wide range of rumored motives circulating through region's LGBT community, where Klinger was well known for his service as a founding member the Chippewa Valley LGBT Center and as a member of both the Wisconsin HIV/AIDS Prevention Planning Council and the Western Region Ryan White Consortium. "This might have been a trick that went bad or possibly something more sinister than that," Vogler said.

However, Vogler also believes that the personal fear of revealing sexual orientation, same-sex sexual behavior or simply being present at an accidental drowning might be driving an unknown witness to remain silent. "It could have been a scenario where an accident happened and whoever was there with (Klinger) can't come forward for a myriad of reasons," Vogler suggested. "Not because they murdered him. We're sensitive to that."

Convincing reluctant witnesses to come forward remains the greatest challenge to solving the puzzle of Klinger's death Vogler admits. "How do you overcome that wall of secrecy?"

With the approval of the investigative team, the Klinger family began posting bright yellow flyers with John's picture throughout the city and outlying areas last Monday. The flyers state that the family is seeking help in finding anyone knowing of the dead man's whereabouts or individuals who might have been seen with him on the night of April 28-29. The flyer also direct anyone with information to call a Confidential Tipster Line at (715) 839-4982 or the Eau Claire County sheriff's office at (715) 839-5102.

IN Step has begun an in-depth investigation into Klinger's death and currently plans to do a feature piece on the activist's life and passing in the near future, in addition to continuing coverage of the investigation.

own crafting seeking the justices' thoughts on the matter. That would buy some time.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister John Manley told reporters, "I think it's time for us to recognize that same-sex marriages are part of our societal norm."

And federal Liberal leadership frontrunner Paul Martin, who likely will become Canada's next Prime Minister when Jean Chrétien retires next year, said: "We can't discriminate between Canadians. ... If the court decides that it's a question of rights, it's a question of rights and you can't discriminate."

Ontario provincial officials promised to follow the Court of Appeal ruling and register the same-sex marriages -- the two from 2001 and the new ones.

"I'm charged to follow the laws and will follow the laws with regards to this matter," Ontario Attorney General Norm Sterling said. "We said during the appeal process that the province of Ontario would follow the court ruling. We made that clear during the process."

A court in Quebec and British Columbia's highest court also recently declared the opposite-sex definition of marriage unconstitutional but both courts gave the federal government more than a year to change the law before having it forcibly changed by the court. The Ontario ruling left no such gap.

A different mood has emerged in the conservative province of Alberta. Premier Ralph Klein said there will be no gay marriages there, and gay marriages from elsewhere won't be recognized either.

It is unlikely Alberta has the power to carry through on Klein's threat. He promised to invoke a very rarely used section of the Constitution called "the notwithstanding clause" that allows provinces to enact temporary laws that contradict the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Such laws, however, cannot usurp federal power -- and the definition of marriage is a federal matter in Canada.

"If there is any move to sanctify and legalize same-sex marriages, we will use the notwithstanding clause. Period. End of story," Klein said.

"The Ralph Klein government [is] beyond their jurisdiction on that -- and it likely wouldn't survive a court challenge from a same-sex couple wishing to marry in Alberta," Carleton University political-science professor Miriam Smith told [this newspaper]. "Ralph is spouting off hot air to appease the right-wing voters in Alberta. He always does that and then he backs down and says, 'The courts made us do it!'"

Gay Earthquake Up North Canadian Court Legalizes Gay Marriage

By Rex Wockner

Toronto — Same-sex couples began getting married in Toronto June 10. Married-married. Under the regular marriage laws.

The weddings began hours after the province of Ontario's highest court, the Court of Appeal, ruled that the federal government's definition of marriage was unconstitutional and ordered the Toronto city clerk to issue marriage licenses immediately to several gay couples who had sued for the right to marry.

Toronto City Hall and other municipalities responded that they would issue a marriage license to any same-sex couple that otherwise met the license criteria. And the first full same-sex marriages in North America began.

The court's ruling said:

"To remedy the infringement of these constitutional rights, we:

"(1) declare the existing common law definition of marriage to be invalid to the extent that it refers to 'one man and one

woman';

"(2) reformulate the common law definition of marriage as 'the voluntary union for life of two persons to the exclusion of all others';

"(3) order the declaration of invalidity in (1) and the reformulated definition in (2) to have immediate effect;

"(4) order the Clerk of the City of Toronto to issue marriage licenses to the Couples; and

"(5) order the Registrar General of the Province of Ontario to accept for registration the marriage certificates of Kevin Bourassa and Joe Varnell and of Elaine and Anne Vautour."

Bourassa and Varnell and the Vautours were married in 2001 by a Metropolitan Community Church minister but the province refused to register their marriages. They were married via the ancient Christian tradition of "publishing the banns of marriage" (asking in church on three Sundays if anyone objects to the marriage) which is a legal alternative in

Ontario to obtaining a marriage license from the city.

Following the ruling, one of the couples at the heart of the legal challenge wasted no time in getting hitched. Michael Leshner and Michael Stark tied the knot before an Ontario Superior Court justice that afternoon as Leshner's 90-year-old mother and a gaggle of reporters looked on.

"We're blissfully happy," Leshner said. "The bench has wished us a long, happy marriage and we hope to fulfill that. ... Go tell [Prime Minister] Jean Chrétien it's dead. The argument's over. No more political discussion, we've won, the Charter [of Rights and Freedoms] won, it's a great day for Canada."

Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms forbids discrimination that cannot be "demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society."

The federal government has made no effort to halt the Ontario marriages. Justice Minister Martin Cauchon says Liberal Party officials are studying the ruling and trying to decide what to do. The feds could appeal to the Canadian Supreme Court but there is a good chance gays would win there as well. Failure to appeal will allow the Ontario decision to become law nationally. Cauchon also could send the Supreme Court a constitutional-reference case of his



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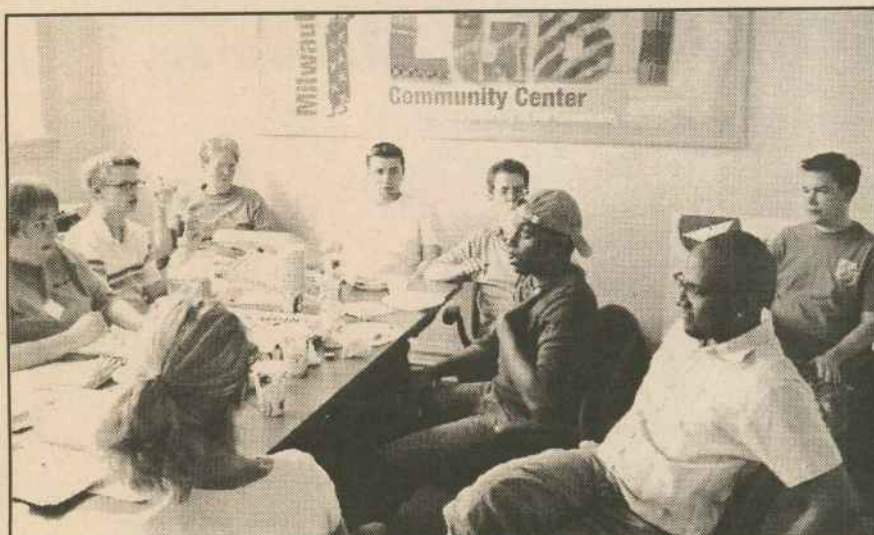
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GROUP NOTES



Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Advocates share success stories after canvassing in Shorewood as part of "Equality Knocks."

Equality Knocks Again

Milwaukee — On Saturday, June 14, volunteers from LGBT Center Advocates went door-to-door in Sen. Alberta Darling's (R - River Hills) district seeking support for Wisconsin's domestic partner registry bill.

This canvass, aptly named "Equality Knocks," has been gaining grassroots support from non-gay allies since its inception in 2001.

In the most recent canvass, Equality Knocks volunteers found that 75% of Darling voters supported domestic partnership and signed a letter to her urging her to support the bill. The Domestic Partner registry has been introduced the last two legislative sessions and will likely be reintroduced later this year.

To participate or for more information about Equality Knocks, please call the Center Advocates at 271-2656 ext. 119.

Chicago Pride Fest and Dyke March June 28, Pride Parade June 29

Chicago — Chicago's Northalsted Merchants Association, sponsor of the city's popular Market Days each summer, will sponsor "Pride Fest" on Saturday, June 28, the same day as the city's annual Dyke March. Chicago's annual Pride Parade follows on Sunday, June 29.

Pride Fest's entertainment stage will feature both live acts and dance DJs. There will also be food and beverage vendors. Pride Fest as well as the following day's Pride Parade which draws more than 350,000 spectators, cap off a month of GLBT activities and events during Pride month, celebrated each June.

Pride Fest will be held from 12 noon to 8 p.m. at the intersections of North Halsted and Waveland in the city's Boystown (or East Lakeview) neighborhood. Suggested gate donation is \$5. For more information on Chicago's Pride Fest, visit: www.chicagoevents.com.

The annual Dyke March takes place Saturday afternoon, June 28 from 2-4 p.m. It steps off at 2 p.m. from the corner of Foster and Ashland Aves. All lesbians are invited to attend and/or march. There will be a rally and entertainment afterward. For more information, visit: www.dykemarchchicago.org.

Chicago's 34th annual Pride Parade will step off at Noon from the corner of N. Halsted and Belmont, proceeding north on Halsted to Broadway, then south on Broadway to Diversey, and east on Diversey to Lincoln Park. There are expected to be more than 200 floats, decorated cars, marching contingents, politicians and celebrities in the parade. Leading the

parade will be former major league baseball star Billy Bean. For more information on the Chicago Pride Parade, visit: www.chicagopride.com.

Two SPRAWL Women's Dances Set for July

Madison — One SPRAWL, two SPRAWL/Pride SPRAWL, new SPRAWL/Join us once, join us twice/Listen up! It's good advice!/Come alone or with a date!/Bring your pals, bring your mate!/Dance and gossip, spread good cheer/Aren't you glad SPRAWL week's almost here?

SPRAWL Women's Dance and All-grrl Gathering announces two - count 'em! - two women's dances on two consecutive weekends in the fabulous summer of 2003. Join the fun on Saturday, July 19, for the largest women-only event of Madison, Wisconsin's LGBT Pride Weekend. Dancing in the Marquee Room of the Madison Civic Center, 211 State St., begins at 7:30 p.m. and runs through midnight. Last year's Pride SPRAWL attracted three hundred women.

Then on Saturday, July 26, SPRAWL will be at it again - this time in conjunction with the first Tomboy Girl Women's Music Fest in Madison (<http://tomboygirl.com>). Dancing in the Spotlight Room of the Civic Center commences after Lucie Blue Tremblay delivers the final performance of the festival. SPRAWL hopes women will join us and lots of out-of-town visitors for a second Saturday night of fun and frolic with hundreds of women friends.

For more info, email: sprawl@her-space.com.

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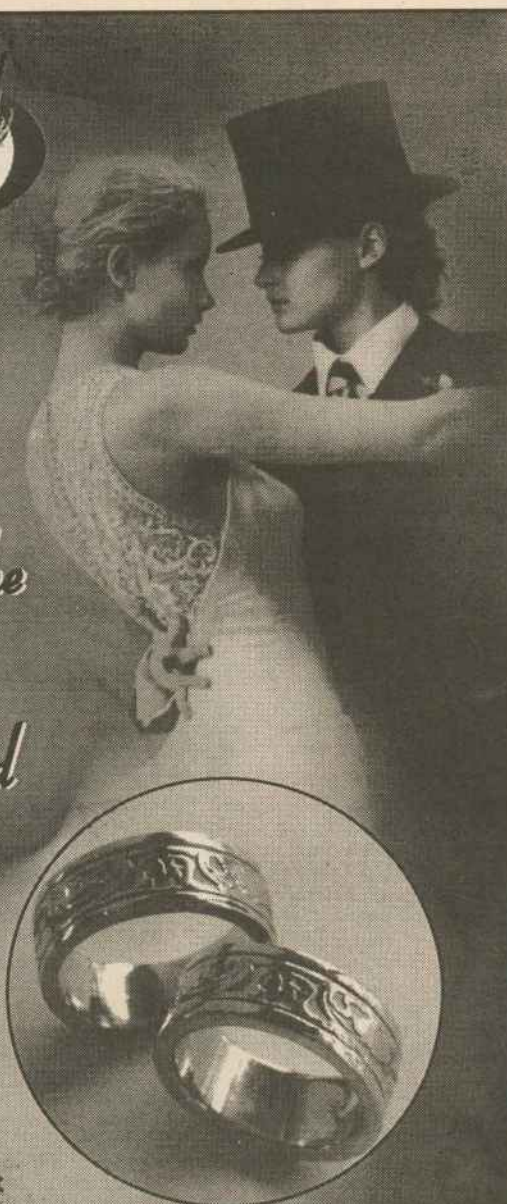
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Tickets Available for OutReach Awards Banquet

Madison — Tickets for the 11th Annual OutReach Awards Banquet are now available. The Banquet will take place Wednesday, July 16, 2003 at Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center. General Admission tickets cost \$50. Sponsorship packages that include 2 tickets and Program Book and verbal recognition are available for \$125.

The scheduled keynote speaker is Former Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus, who signed Wisconsin's historic gay civil rights bill into law in 1982. Also featured will be theatrical vignettes by the youth of Proud Theater and much, much, more. The Awards Banquet is an annual fundraising event held by OutReach, Madison's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community center. Awards given at the event recognize outstanding achievement on behalf of the LGBT communities by individuals and organizations.

The schedule for the event is: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Reception/Cocktails; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Silent Auction; 7:30-9:30 p.m. Dinner; 7:30-9:30 p.m. Program. Tickets may be purchased through several means. Credit card orders may be placed by calling (608) 255-8582. Those wishing to attend may also purchase tickets from nearly 30 table captains or by stopping by OutReach at 600 Williamson St. Scholarships are available by calling OutReach at (608) 255-8582. Tickets must be purchased by Wednesday July 9, 2003.

Diverse and Resilient Welcomes New Staff

Milwaukee — Diverse and Resilient, Inc. has announced that Mark O'Neil has joined the organization as its first Program

Coordinator.

Most recently O'Neil has served as Program Director of the GALAXY program for the YWCA of the Coulee Region in La Crosse. There he oversaw general administrative duties for the youth program that served over 250 young people from the tri-state region of Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin. He also supervised program staff and interns, coordinated program fund development activities and organized volunteers. He will enlarge upon these duties with Diverse and Resilient and will take on some adult leadership development programming as well.

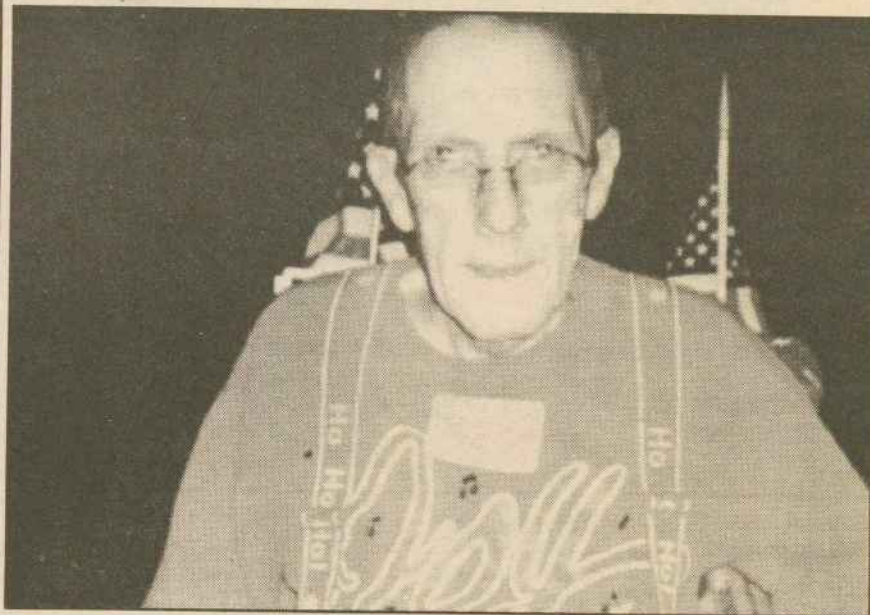
Prior to joining GALAXY, Mark was an AmeriCorp member, serving the La Crosse community in areas of education, public safety, and human services. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, where he majored in Psychology.

O'Neil can be reached at markoneil@diverseandresilient.org or at (414) 390-0444, ext. 2. To learn more about Diverse and Resilient, Inc. visit their website at www.diverseandresilient.org.

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Memorial



Dennis R. Thomas

April 3, 1943 - May 21, 2003

Dennis Thomas died at his home on May 21, 2003 of lung cancer. Thomas was active in the LGBT community for many years and was one of the original volunteers who helped form PrideFest. He was also very involved with AIDS activism in Milwaukee.

"He helped the gay community in many ways," a close friend told *IN Step*. "And he never asked for acclaim."

Thomas was born in Niagara,

Wis., and his first years were spent in an orphanage. He enlisted in the Army in 1960 and was later assigned to the White House as an honor guard during the Kennedy administration.

Thomas was also a volunteer at Wadsworth Liberty on the V.A. Grounds in Milwaukee.

Thomas is survived by many friends his beloved cats Mercy and Baby Brother.

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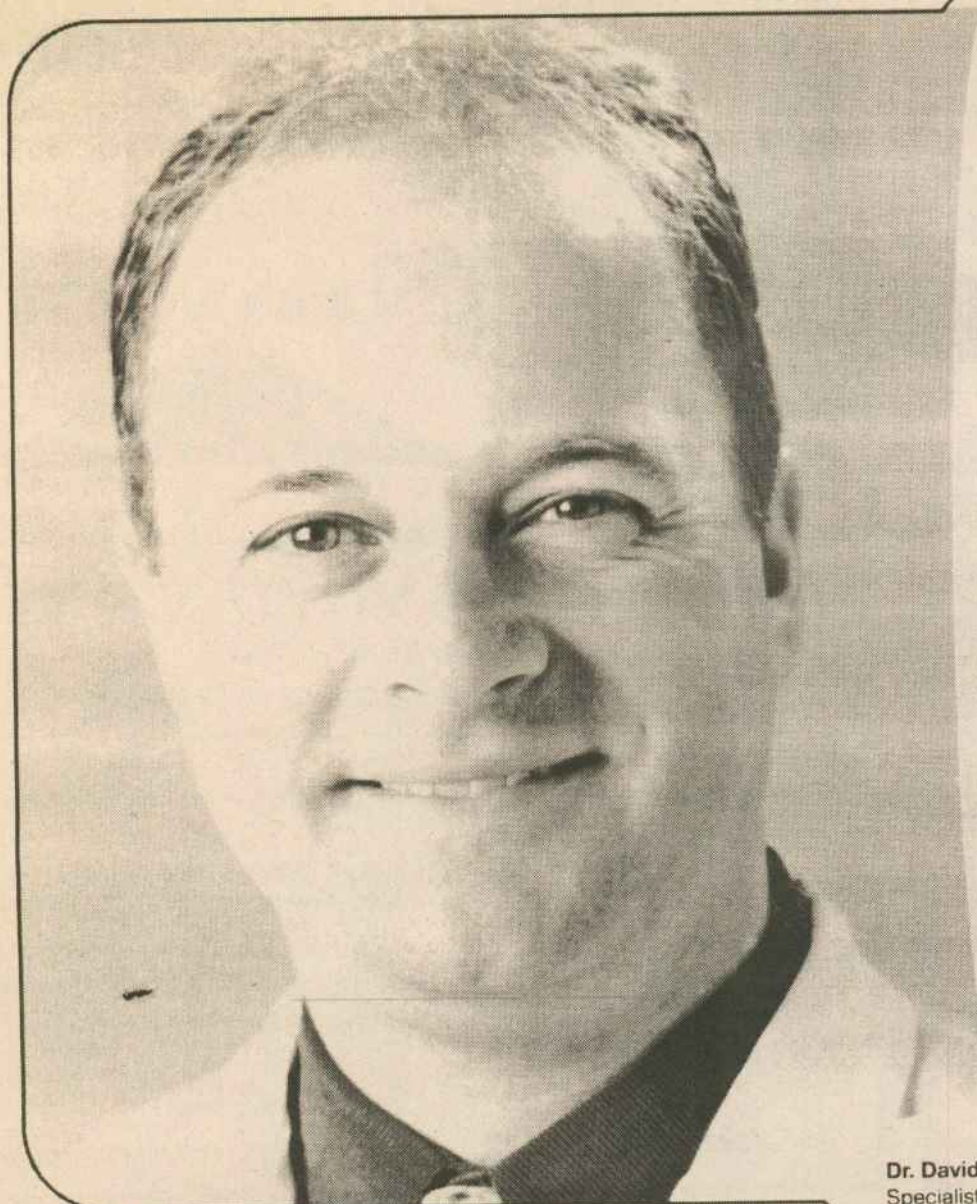
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"AND THAT, BOYS, IS HOW TO TIE YOURSELF IN KNOTS."

Milwaukee Mayoral Candidates Seem to Care, But Need to Go to LGBT School

By Barbara Lightner

Milwaukee's Human Rights League Political Action Committee (HRL-PAC) was at PrideFest June 7 with a candidates forum again, this time for mayor of the city of Milwaukee. Compared to the days when HRL-PAC sponsored a mayoral forum and no candidates showed up, we have progressed significantly. The candidates who participated were supportive. But still, there was something altogether too easy about it all. No hesitations. No concerns. No problems. No difference in programs or approaches. No disagreements with each other. No different formulations. Just a big "Hooray! Made your day!" kind of talk. The candidates clearly needed to have gone to LGBT school to get a more complete understanding of the issues, and how our needs might be met.

That is not to say their intentions weren't good. I think they were, and it certainly looked to me like those who participated were committed to caring. They were State

Representative Pedro Colón, business woman Sandy Folaron, city employee Martin Matson, and Alderman Marvin Pratt. Alderman Tom Nardelli informed PrideFest he would be out of town that day, and former U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett, who announced his mayoral bid that very day, did not attend.

If the candidates did not clearly distinguish themselves on LGBT issues, they did – to judge by repeated phrases, and their short introductory comments – have their own take on city politics in general. Pedro Colón was clearly the progressive candidate, urging that representatives of all peoples should "sit down at the table" to discuss how to "put this city together." He emphasized health care, safety, and basic dignity; and saw great possibilities in Milwaukee with its historic roots in progressive policies like unemployment compensation and progressive taxation. He urged that we not "shy away" from this heritage in advancing the LGBT agenda.

Businesswoman Sandy Folaron approached city issues in terms of neighborhood and commercial development. A small business owner (The Great Milwaukee Coffee Company), Folaron has developed both a marketing plan and a strategic plan for city development, with a strong emphasis on neighborhood development. Active in her neighborhood association, Folaron was active in seeing that the Washington Heights Rainbow Association has a representative on the neighborhood board. She also noted that she included her home in the Gay Parade of Homes. Although taxes were not directly addressed, Folaron pointed out that she would keep property taxes low.

Martin Matson frequently referred to the need to have an open and honest government, with no surprises, making sure that government is transparent and residents have knowledge of what's going on. Humble in his own manner, Matson was the one candidate who most directly referred (by code) to the current mayor, John Norquist, noting for example that he was running against "arrogance," a notion that one might say has resonance both nationally and locally. It is the purpose of the mayor's office, he believes, to "focus" the city on the tasks it must undertake.

Marvin Pratt was clearly the one most adept at "working the audience," laughing here, being humble there, admitting that he did not "know enough" about the LGBT communities (though in a most un-humble posture)! Pratt's priorities included "fighting off the state legislature," where the Republican majority has been outright hos-



Milwaukee Mayoral candidate Sandy Folaron addresses the crowd on June 7 at HRL-Pac's Mayoral Forum at PrideFest. Photo: Armando Gallegos.

tile and skewed in its treatment of Milwaukee; domestic partners; financing for the police department and meeting the city's safety concerns; good jobs; and livable neighborhoods.

On LGBT issues, however, mayoral candidates expressing the caring approach without the subtlety and nuances of real politics are inadequate for today, although they might have been adequate for an earlier time when LGBTs had to scramble for almost any public support. The day has come when we must ask candidates for a more thorough knowledge of LGBT issues, needs, and priorities – before we vote.

We have good reason to be skeptical of mayoral candidates who do not actively pursue and take into account LGBT issues. We have seen obvious hate crimes neglected. We have been victims of domestic violence that has not adequately been addressed. We have law enforcement officials who spurn our rights under the

Constitution and the law. We have inadequate health information and services. We have continuing job discrimination.

We have good reason to insist that mayoral candidates provide concrete steps to remove discrimination in health benefits. Today we are penalized, unable to obtain the same benefits – and accept the same responsibilities – as married couples who work for the city. Even where these benefits have been extended in city employment, the qualifying procedures are invasive. Domestic partners must, for example, "prove" their relationship, as married couples do not have to do; they must pay a special fee, and – most distressing – they cannot cover their children because the city refuses to cover the children of domestic partners.

We pay taxes, we have helped revitalize neighborhoods, and we have contributed significantly to the economic and cultural life of Milwaukee. Yet our communities have been only minimally the recipients of city funding and city leveraging of funding.

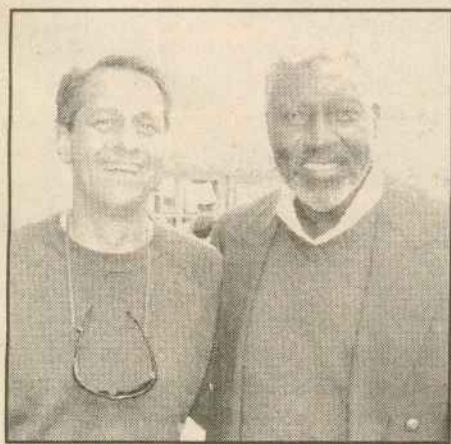
Most telling – if not the most distressing when it comes to assessing the dignity and status of our communities – is that we have an LGBT liaison in the mayor's office who is absolutely hidden from view, so much so in fact that many in our communities have not known that such a liaison even exists.

In their presentations, all candidates supported an initiative that would make the liaison visible and accessible to the LGBT communities. They supported a more equitable domestic partners contract. They addressed police and safety issues in general. And they understood that health issues are significant for our communities, including issues related to suicide, depression, alcohol and other drug abuse, breast cancer and HIV/AIDS. So far to the good.

Colón and Folaron in particular emphasized bringing our communities in to "sit down at the table," suggesting an accessibility that has not previously been forthcoming. In the absence of a genuine political debate at the forum, we should take the winner up on this suggestion, even though it is after we vote.

The last pledge of the day for the mayoral candidates was that they each would support meeting face-to-face with representatives of the LGBT communities to discuss the substance of our agendas, and would require that various department heads, including those from Police and from Health, be there as well. They all agreed this would happen within the first six months of their term.

Let's go for a little community organizing and get ready for that meeting, with some of our people both old and new. Get substantive agendas together. Make an appointment with the new mayor and his or her department heads. Sit down, talk, and work it out. Yeah!



Milwaukee Fire & Police Commission member Leonard Sobczak (l) and Milwaukee Common Council President and mayoral candidate Marvin Pratt pose after HRL-Pac's Mayoral Forum at PrideFest. Photo: Armando Gallegos.



Milwaukee Mayoral candidate Pedro Colón (l) and Molly Herrington pose prior to the June 7 HRL-Pac Mayoral Forum at PrideFest. Photo: Armando Gallegos.

Editorial

Blinded by Pride: The Failure & Future of PrideFest

By William Attewell

PrideFest's announcement on June 12 of the estimated loss of up to \$150,000 on the 2003 festival is going to come as a shock to our community. This is arguably the largest and most expensive debacle in our community's history and its impact and scope should not be underestimated.

I sincerely compliment PrideFest's council and volunteers for their enormous contributions to the festival and our community. Understandably, they may feel defensive and even angry for being challenged so soon after such a super-human and exhausting effort. However, there are deep-rooted, systemic problems within PrideFest that must be addressed and resolved.

Perhaps the most tragic aspect of this loss is that it was a self-inflicted wound. PrideFest's board and council share the ultimate responsibility of financial oversight for the organization to ensure that these types of disasters do not

**BOTH FROM INSIDE
AND FROM OUTSIDE THE
ORGANIZATION, PRIDE-
FEST LEADERS WERE
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DIRECTION, MANAGE-
MENT, ORGANIZATIONAL
STRUCTURE AND LEADER-
SHIP OF PRIDEFEST.**

occur. PrideFest's financial mismanagement this year has now precipitated a community-wide crisis.

Funds that might have gone to bolster emerging and established community organizations will likely be diverted to prop up PrideFest. Organizations which historically have received monies from PrideFest for volunteering at the festival may be asked to forego payment. Vendors may or may not be paid. Bankruptcy for PrideFest, Inc. is a possibility, and plans to hold PrideFest on the Summerfest grounds in 2004 may be in jeopardy.

Both from inside and from outside the organization, PrideFest leaders were repeatedly made aware — well before this year's festival — of concerns about the direction, management, organizational structure and leadership of PrideFest.

The unprecedented, good-faith meeting, in the Fall of 2002, which included among other community leaders, Neil Albrecht (Milwaukee LGBT Center), Doug Nelson (ARCW), Denise Wise (CCF), Owen Mahon (House of Infinity), Elna Hickson (PFLAG), and Si Smits (G/L Community Trust Fund), attempted to show support for — and communicate to — PrideFest's board concerns about the

path the festival had chosen. Those concerns were apparently brushed aside.

Instead, PrideFest's closed system allowed its leaders to go for a home run when they simply should have tried to get on base. As a result, the LGBT community in Wisconsin may have struck out.

Every PrideFest leader I have spoken with since the festival has blamed poor weather this year for this collapse. The truth is quite the opposite — despite the weather, Wisconsin's LGBT community DID come out to support PrideFest! Attendance for this year's festival, at 18,101, was only 500 off last year's record-setting mark.

PrideFest's board failed to use sound business principles and practices when planning this year's festival. It is a continuing pattern of apparent mismanagement and lack of oversight which Wisconsin's LGBT community can no longer ignore.

The smell of scandal has surrounded PrideFest for years. The clouds of speculation surrounding Christine Klein's and other PrideFest leaders' sudden and unexplained departures, the arrest of Justin Lockridge for theft from PrideFest two years ago, and the apparent conflict of interest perpetrated by former co-director Bo Dyer in recent months are but a few examples that point to a board and organization which at times seems unable to live up to even minimal standards of fiduciary responsibility and standards and practices.

Some PrideFest leaders hold a belief that PrideFest remains the last bastion of true grassroots activism in our community. Some PrideFest leaders have privately expressed distrust and disdain for successful community institutions like the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, the Cream City Foundation and ARCW and perceive those groups as elitist and closed organizations.

This is simply projection on their part. While no organization is perfect, it is PrideFest which is truly an elitist and closed organization.

PrideFest by-laws allow board and council members to serve with no term limits. There is no mechanism by which a community member or organization can directly interface with PrideFest to initiate true change. Given the current ratio of board to council members on PrideFest, it

is mathematically impossible for the council to override a unanimous board decision. It is also impossible — given the by-laws — for any well-meaning, talented and accountable individual from our community to join PrideFest's board without first serving a year on its council.

The LGBT Center's Board should establish a PrideFest Advisory Committee and the Center's Board should name the members of this committee. The Center's Board must have a broad-based Advisory Committee representing the entire community. It would likely include individu-

**SADLY, GIVEN THE CURRENT ATTITUDE OF
PRIDEFEST'S LEADERSHIP, ITS BY-LAWS AND ORGANI-
ZATIONAL STRUCTURE, THE CHANGE WHICH IS SO
DESPERATELY NEEDED NOW WILL ONLY COME FROM A
TIDAL WAVE OF OUTRAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY.**

Without delay, PrideFest must become an open and completely transparent organization. Only under an efficient, professional and fully accountable structure will true, successful grassroots activism be able to occur within PrideFest as it already has in many other of our community organizations.

There are many, many individuals and organizations who will now step forward in a sincere effort to re-build a solid foundation for PrideFest and its future. There remains in our community enough good will for the concept of a PrideFest to continue.

An immediate, accountable mechanism must be found for PrideFest to be redeveloped and produced. Our community resources and talent pool are currently very lean and there are only a small number of viable organizations which could help facilitate such an enormous undertaking.

I believe we must look to the Cream City Foundation and the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. These two organizations simply must step up.

The Community Center and CCF are the best representatives of our community in this situation and are among the few organizations which have proven accountability systems in terms of board, staff, and volunteers.

CCF must seriously consider using its current financial assets, endowment and any other resources at its disposal to quickly find and fund an executive director for PrideFest. PrideFest might then be merged with the LGBT Center.

PrideFest's current board and council could then be converted — as quickly as possible — to an interim, advisory, emeritus board until a new board can be put in place, a board which may or may not include the current members.

Other funders, including the G/L Community Trust Fund and sponsors of PrideFest must be developed to help defray any additional costs and to offset PrideFest's current debt to ensure the production of PrideFest 2004.

als from PrideFest's current board and council for transitional purposes.

Additionally, I urge that PrideFest agree to a Town Hall meeting — well-publicized in advance — to update the whole community on the situation, to report on steps being taken to solve the immediate financial crisis and to announce the steps being taken to reform internal planning and budgeting procedures so that this type of deficit never occurs again. It would be beneficial for an independent group — other than those which may have a direct stake in the future of the festival to facilitate such a meeting.

I can personally promise and assure our community that *IN Step* will do everything in its power to lobby support for the redevelopment of PrideFest. However, it would be irresponsible to voice support for any such efforts under its current organizational structure and leadership. Sadly, given the current attitude of PrideFest's leadership, its by-laws and organizational structure, the change which is so desperately needed now will only come from a tidal wave of outrage from our community.

**IN Step looks forward to
community input on this very
important issue. Please send your
letters to: editor@instepnews.com,
fax us at (414) 278-5868, or write
to: Wisconsin IN Step, 1661 N.
Water St., Suite 411, Milwaukee, WI
53202. We will be holding extra
space for you!**

**PRIDEFEST'S BOARD FAILED TO USE SOUND BUSINESS
PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES WHEN PLANNING THIS
YEAR'S FESTIVAL. IT IS A CONTINUING PATTERN OF
APPARENT MISMANAGEMENT AND LACK OF OVER-
SIGHT WHICH WISCONSIN'S LGBT COMMUNITY
CAN NO LONGER IGNORE.**



LETTERS

The Love That Dare Not Speak its Name: An Open Letter to PrideFest

Thank you for the countless hours put into organizing yet another year of food, fun, and entertainment. However, I must admit that I am feeling quite a bit of concern about the direction that PrideFest is going. Or should I say "ClosetFest?"

Not once in any of the advertising for an LGBT festival did I see the term "LGBT," nor mention of the words lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender. Have we become so obsessed with fitting in, or being "just like everyone else" that we are willing to deny our very nature? It's all well and good that it's "Our Time to Shine," but how about telling people who we are?

In *IN Step*, (June 5, pp 30-31) there was a two-page ad listing all the headlining acts, but not once a mention of LGBT. Even the Milwaukee LGBT Center had only a logo without a name by it. The same ad ran in several other local publications of note. How would a tourist looking at these ads know it was an LGBT festival?

The headliner this year was Pat Benatar and her husband. I quote directly from the flyer you sent me, "At the dawn of MTV, Benatar was the image of the female rocker for an entire generation of young women and the young men who loved them." I'm glad she speaks to heterosexuals, but what has she done for us? Congratulations on getting a wonderful pair of artists for the event, but is it necessary to promote them with such blatant heterosexism?

It's time to put the "Pride" back in PrideFest. It's time to ask ourselves what's really important – blending in, or actually getting equal treatment in spite of our differences? Are we so afraid of Fred Phelps and company that we must hide our identity at our own festival? PrideFest used to be about the issues; equality, fighting AIDS, and fighting hate crimes. Now I'm not so sure that it stands for anything, and many others in my community have the same concerns. I have no problem with my community knowing that I'm a lesbian who also happens to be transgendered. I would like to attend a PRIDE event with the same degree of openness.

**Rev. Traci Klawes, ULC
Milwaukee**

Kudos to Pride Participants

Dear Editor:

I am a 58-year-old GWM, who has been an active member of the gay community in Milwaukee for over three decades. PrideFest always brings tears to my eyes. I am so proud of the Milwaukee gay community and the strides forward it has made over the past years.

I get so tired of hearing gay friends say they don't support PrideFest because they feel the drag and leather community are not what they are about. Well, if more middle of the road gays got out there and showed themselves at PrideFest, and marched in the Parade, the public would see just how diverse our community is, and it would help to break down some of the stereotypes.

It was great to see all the representation from the various religious organizations. Yes, you can be gay and religious too! Let the world know it! God bless all of you who marched!

Kudos to the bars and organizations that participated in the parade. And shame

on you, bars that did not! You rely on the strength of the gay community for a living. You don't have to spend a lot of money – drive a car with a sign, whatever – but take the time and trouble to let us know you support the gay community you're a part of. If it's political, get over it! If we cannot unite for weekend to celebrate our culture, how can we ever expect to win the approval and necessary rights we so justly deserve?

As far as I'm concerned I am going to personally stop spending my dollars in the establishments that chose not to participate in this year's parade, and encourage others to do the same. I'll be spending my time at the Harbor Room, 219, Club 94, Woody's, Jodee's and the other bars that supported this year's Parade and PrideFest. (Other bars may have supported PrideFest and not participated in the Parade...how, would I as an average citizen of the gay community know this?)

And, finally, a big thank you to all of you that worked so hard to make this year's festival what it was. You may not always realize it, but, your efforts are appreciated and very much matter!

Name withheld on request

BESTD Proud of Gremminger

Dear Editor:

The 2003 PrideFest Community Service award given to Dr. Roger Gremminger was well deserved and long over due. His colleagues, the BESTD Clinic volunteers, applaud him on this honor.

In reporting it however, *IN Step* overlooked the major portion of his volunteer efforts, his almost unprecedented 25 year continuous relationship to BESTD and its predecessors. He came to the Clinic in 1978 and has been offering his time and skills as a clinician on a regular basis ever since.

He has been on the cutting edge of LGBT health care all this time, including being part of the initial Milwaukee response to AIDS/HIV with the formation of the BESTD Milwaukee AIDS Project Committee in the early '80s. He wrote a ground breaking paper, offering medical students and clinicians guidance in giving sexual risk exams to LGBT clients. He was involved in the pilots of HIV testing and Hepatitis B testing and vaccination.

Gremminger also has served during more than half of those 25 years as Medical Director of BESTD. He continues his volunteer work as Clinician and Medical Director with the same sensitive and professional expertise today as he has been offering for the last quarter century.

Ross Walker and Erv Uecker

Pride and Prejudice

Dear Editor:

They call it "PrideFest." Right now I'm feeling anything but pride. My experience of certain groups in the lesbian "community" is one of disappointment, hurt and disgust. I've always shuddered and objected when someone referred to that segment of lesbians who regularly frequent Milwaukee's gay and lesbian bars as the "lesbian community." "No," I usually say, "Don't refer to those people as the community." Last weekend at PrideFest I experienced just how ruthless and vicious some people in our "community" can be. We wonder why the most successful and long-lasting lesbian relationships are among and between those women whom we never see out. It is now

painfully clear to me why that is the case.

After the end of a ten-year relationship three years ago, I had no idea what kind of women were out there. I thought that with the progress of the gay and lesbian movement on many fronts, women were not afraid to be who they were anymore, even took pride in being lesbians. I always have, until recently. I admit I was very naive about what lesbians on the bar scene were like. I had been tending to a relationship, raising children, getting educated and building a career for many years. Actually, most lesbians are doing all of those things. You never see them out, though, because they apparently know better than to enter the fray. My girlfriend had always told me how awful it was out there; how many lesbians were ruthless and back-stabbing. But there are still so few places to meet quality people, couples with the same ideals and standards, and those who share the desire to live happy, normal, well-adjusted lives. And going out to gay bars now and then, one of the few places where you can express affection, dance together, and be with others with the same lifestyle, is something that you would think one might take pleasure in. After all, if you insist on believing there is some sense of "community among gays and lesbians, as I used to believe, it's nice to have a diversion from the rigors of daily life once in awhile.

Having recently experienced struggles in my own relationship, and having no desire to go out to the bars, I thought that Pride would be a place where I could go and experience gays and lesbians out of the bar scene, out of that dark, dank forum. It's difficult enough to have meaningful friendships in that context, but I refuse to be totally cynical about people, and I thought that this environment would be one where I could casually say hello to "friends" and acquaintances I rarely see. I was wrong. In fact, I made a huge mistake. All it took was me attending Pride with a friend who herself rarely goes out and is not known to many lesbians whom I know. While it is quite obviously my mistake to bare, I had no idea that not more than hours after I had seen a number of lesbians at Pride, my girlfriend would be receiving telephone calls filled with assumptions, conclusions and bitter spin that I never expected. All, of course, under the guise of just wanting to let her know to prevent any hurt.

Why is it that so many lesbians in this community secretly take pleasure in seeing others hurt, their relationships fail, or someone make a mistake? Is it because they are so insecure and unhappy with themselves that they have a subconscious desire to make others feel the same way? Is it because there aren't enough "good women" around to date and they are just waiting like vultures for someone to become available? Is it because their own lives are so miserable? Or is it just women? Misery does love company. I am left with mostly questions, no answers, and a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach.

They say Milwaukee is one of the best cities for lesbians. I never knew why, and now I am quite sure the opposite holds true. I'll never know who said what about my unfortunate attendance at PrideFest, and the chances of my hoped-for reconciliation with my girlfriend are probably slim at the very best, but I can honestly say that I will never forget the bitterness and ire that exists out there among a segment of

the lesbian "community" that I will never again have a desire to be a part of.

Name withheld on request

Serving Up Pride

Dear Editor:

Once again the GLBT community has displayed its generosity by generating more 6,100 lbs. of donated food during the drive at PrideFest 2003 to benefit the Hunger Task Force. That is a 50 % increase over the total food collected in 2002!

The donors at the PrideFest drive are the friendliest people, even when they had to wait patiently in line due to the great response. Our appreciation goes out to all of the donors that brought food, the volunteers that gave of their time, the bars that posted our flyers, and of course, the PrideFest Committee for providing us the opportunity.

Special thanks goes to Sheri Goldberg and Paul Sherry of Pridefest for their last minute assistance with logistics and crowd control. This event's success was definitely an example of the GLBT community's ability to live up to this year's theme — Our Time to Shine!

**Michael Jonas, Associate Director
Hunger Task Force**

Nardelli Sends Regrets

Dear Editor:

The story that appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reporting on PrideFest events stated that I did not participate in a PrideFest forum but failed to report that their organizers had been made aware of my inability to participate in PrideFest events as early as May 12, 2003. I had advised the organizers that I would not be available to participate due to a family wedding that was held in Minnesota.

As soon as I received the later notice of plans for a forum, I immediately phoned the PrideFest offices and left a message referring them to my earlier communication indicating my inability to participate because I would be out of the city.

My absence from PrideFest events should not be construed as not being supportive of your festival events or of those who make [up] the LGBT community.

**Thomas G. Nardelli
Candidate for Milwaukee Mayor**

Editor's Note: Alderman Nardelli attached a copy of the May 12 letter to PrideFest. In it, he said: "I am looking forward to demonstrating to you and the LGBT community support for equal treatment for all citizens. I do not support and I have generally opposed 'special' treatment, but I am a staunch advocate for equal treatment. I am sorry I can't join you for this year's PrideFest celebration, but I do look forward to other opportunities to visit with residents who make up Milwaukee's LGBT community as we move forward with our campaign."

Proud of IN Step & Green Bay

Dear Editor:

First, my name is Keith Bunij and live in Chicago, Illinois. I was originally from here, but at the age of 8 (1978) my parents, family and I moved to the small town of Armstrong Creek, Wisconsin. I graduated high school in 1988 and attended UW Center-Marquette for two years where I finally discovered, or should I say uncovered, my gay life. Marinette, being such a small town of approximately 12,000, had very few gay men. Every weekend my roommate Nancy and I traveled to Za's in Green Bay to go out on Friday and Saturday nights. In 1988 I discovered *IN Step* magazine and looked forward to every copy. Green Bay and *IN Step* have always held a very special place in my heart.

Basically I am e-mailing just to say "Congratulations" on all your years, growth and accomplishments. I look forward to always picking up a copy of *IN Step*.

Keith Bunij, Chicago

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: editor@instepnews.com

LETTERS POLICY: Letters submitted for publication should be on topics of general interest to the community and no more than 250 words in length. Anonymous or unsigned letters will not be published. Names withheld upon request. All material is subject to editing prior to publication. Letters exceeding 250 words may be edited for length and we reserve the right to withhold letters which are abusive, malicious or potentially libelous. Letters which are not sent via e-mail should be typed and legible.

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UWM "Summerdances" Set for June 27-29

Milwaukee – The UWM Peck School of the Arts Dance Program's fourth annual Summer Dance Festival continues with "Summerdances," which will be performed Friday, June 27 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, June 28 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, June 29 at 3 p.m. in the Mainstage Theatre, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. The Friday evening performance will be followed by an informal reception.

Summer Dance Festival 2003 is part of an ongoing series of summer dance festivals that bring together local companies, Peck School of the Arts alumni, the UWM faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and guest artists. It includes works by faculty members Simone Ferro and Janet Lilly, as well as the work of two guests, Zvi Gotheiner and Laura Simms, both of whom have been artists-in-residence with the Dance Program.

At the center of the concert is "The Robe of Love," based on storyteller Laura Simms' adaptation of a Moroccan fairy tale. In "Robe of Love," Simms, Ferro, Lilly, scenic designer Sandra

Strawn and costume designer Amy Horst have created an impressionistic dance/theatre narrative about a young girl's quest for her heart's desire. Working from Simms' text and concept, Ferro, Lilly and colleague Ed Burgess created movement for the cast of 20.

New York-based choreographer Zvi Gotheiner devoted his recent residency to setting excerpts from "Chairs" on the Dance Program's students. "Chairs" is a 90-minute piece first choreographed in 1991 for his own company. According to Gotheiner, "Chairs" was the first piece he created that gave him the feeling that he was really a choreographer. The students will perform five excerpts to an eclectic music collage.

Also in the concert are two works by UWM Dance faculty originally choreographed for UWM music ensemble concerts. Simone Ferro has choreographed "Variations," a large group work to music by John Harbison. First created for a UWM Wind Ensemble performance, the abstract work is a high-energy music visualization. Janet Lilly's duet, "Tarantella," created for UWM's Corigliano Celebration this past spring, is a comically malevolent piece for two male dancers to the Tarantella from Corigliano's Symphony No. 1.

Tickets for "Summerdances" are \$16/\$9 for students and seniors. For tickets or more information, call (414) 229-4308.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Marcus Center July 15-20

Milwaukee – Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's international musical phenomenon "Jesus Christ Superstar" will play a limited engagement at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St., July 15-20.

The epic re-telling of the last seven days in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, "Jesus Christ Superstar" follows his entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through his death at the hands of Pontius Pilate. Acclaimed as a theatrical and musical masterpiece at the time of its debut in 1971, "Jesus Christ Superstar" has since attained the status of theatrical legend. It was the first work by Rice and Webber to be performed and has been produced worldwide continually since its debut.

This entirely new production features Eric Kunze, a Broadway veteran as Jesus, and Carl Anderson as Judas. It is directed by Kevin Moriarty and choreographed by Dana Solimando. It's packed with familiar songs like "I Don't Know How to Love Him" and "Superstar."

For show times and tickets, which range from \$20-\$60, call the Marcus Center box office at (414) 273-7206, or (888) 612-3500. Group rates are also available.

Lunt-Fontanne Estate Ten Chimneys Open for Tours

Genesee Depot – Ten Chimneys, the estate created by theatrical legends Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne which served as the summer home for both them and their many famous theatrical colleagues, has been fully restored and is now open for walking tours. Genesee Depot is about 30 miles west of Milwaukee.

Seventy-five years ago, the most revered acting team in American theatre, Lunt and Fontanne, created Ten Chimneys. From the mid-1920s through the 1960s, it was the spiritual home and retreat of the country's leading actors, playwrights and artists, an important site for artistic creation, discussion and debate. Frequent guests included Helen Hayes, Noel Coward, Alexander Woollcott, Katharine Hepburn, Laurence Olivier and many others.

After the deaths of Lunt and Fontanne, the estate fell into disrepair and was targeted for destruction by developers. But an organized movement of theatre lovers, foundations and some corporations have rescued and restored the 60-acre property to its former glory. New facilities have been built to support public access and programs. It exists today as a historical museum and landmark devoted to the lives and work of Lunt and Fontanne as well as the theatrical arts generally.

Ten Chimneys will be open for tours through October this year (and thereafter from April-October every year). Two-hour tours of the full estate can be scheduled Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Reservations are required. Tours are a very intimate experience, with small groups led through the estate by two tour guides.

The price of admission ranges from \$23 to \$35, depending on the day or length of tour. Admission includes the permanent exhibition and other amenities/activities in the Program Center, along with the opportunity to explore the beautiful grounds and nature trails surrounding Ten Chimneys before or after the formal tour.

For more information, or to make reservations, call (262) 968-4110, or visit: www.tenchimneys.org.

"Layered, Stitched and Assembled" at Madison Art Museum

Madison – "Layered, Stitched and Assembled: Works from the Permanent Collection," an exhibit showing some of the many forms collage and assemblage have taken during the past century, is on display at the Madison Art Center, 211 State St., through August 17.

The works included in "Layered, Stitched and Assembled" – in two- and three dimensions, wall-mounted and free-standing – shed light on the fundamental impulse to combine pieces into a whole. Many of the selections on view tap the expressive potential of paper, with elements that recall kites, quilts and sales.

"Layered, Stitched and Assembled" brings together 25 works from the museum's collection, some which will be on view for the first time. In the hands of such masters as Romare Bearden or Robert Rauschenberg, a startling range of effects result from the simple accumulation or juxtaposition of forms. In one example, the child's blocks that frame Elizabeth Erickson's "Baby Suit" make the chunky relief of Louise Nevelson's monochromatic "End of Day XXVIII" seem at once more imposing and more energetic.

Some artists are represented by multiple works, offering the opportunity to follow the process of discovery. A triptych by Henry Botkin opens a window onto the artist's imagination. Literally ripped from their original context, the torn paper fragments achieve an unexpected coherence and elegance. "Layered, Stitched and Assembled" also features works by some of

the most recognized names in Wisconsin art, from Aaron Bohrod to William Weege.

For more information, call the Art Center at (608) 257-0158.

Su Friedrich's "Odds of Recovery" Screens June 26-27

Milwaukee – Independent lesbian filmmaker Su Friedrich's new film, "The Odds of Recovery," will be screened at two Milwaukee venues in late June: Thursday, June 26 at 7 p.m. at the LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St.; and Friday, June 27 at 7 p.m. at Woodland Pattern Book Center, 720 E. Locust St. Both shows, presented by the UWM Film Department and the Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video festival, cost just \$2.

In "The Odds of Recovery," Friedrich turns her camera on herself in an exploration of a series of health problems and surgeries she endures (knee surgery, breast biopsy, spleen removal, hormone imbalance, etc.). The camera accompanies her into clinics, examining rooms, OR recovery rooms and consultations with physicians about her crises. Along the way, she utilizes vitamin supplements, t'ai chi, herbal remedies, acupuncture and psychological counseling to help relieve her symptoms and anxieties.

The film explores issues of powerlessness and empowerment, relationships and sexuality under stress, medical bureaucracy, fear of advancing age and death, self-improvement strategies, and more – all told through Friedrich's unblinking POV and leavened by her self-deprecating, sometimes mordant humor. Holly Willis of LA Weekly called it "exhilarating filmmaking ... boldly revealing a woman in all her difficult, naked complexity."

For further information about the film or showings, call (414) 229-4758, or email: crlelbog@uwm.edu.

Milwaukee Symphony Offers Classical Music CD

Milwaukee – The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra has issued a new CD featuring selections from Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet" and Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite."

Commemorating Andreas Delfs' 5th season as Music Director, the CD features selections recorded live for radio broadcast at MSO classical concerts in Uihlein Hall of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. "Romeo and Juliet" was performed in the 2001-02 season, and "Nutcracker" was performed in the 2002-03 season. In addition to the MSO, the "Nutcracker" recording includes the Milwaukee Children's Choir, led by Emily Holt Crocker.

"With this CD, we're hoping to entice not only MSO concert-goers but the many people who listen to classical music yet don't attend our live concerts," said Delfs.

The CD, which costs \$12.99, can be purchased at the MSO ticket office at 222 E. Wisconsin Ave., or by calling (414) 291-7605.



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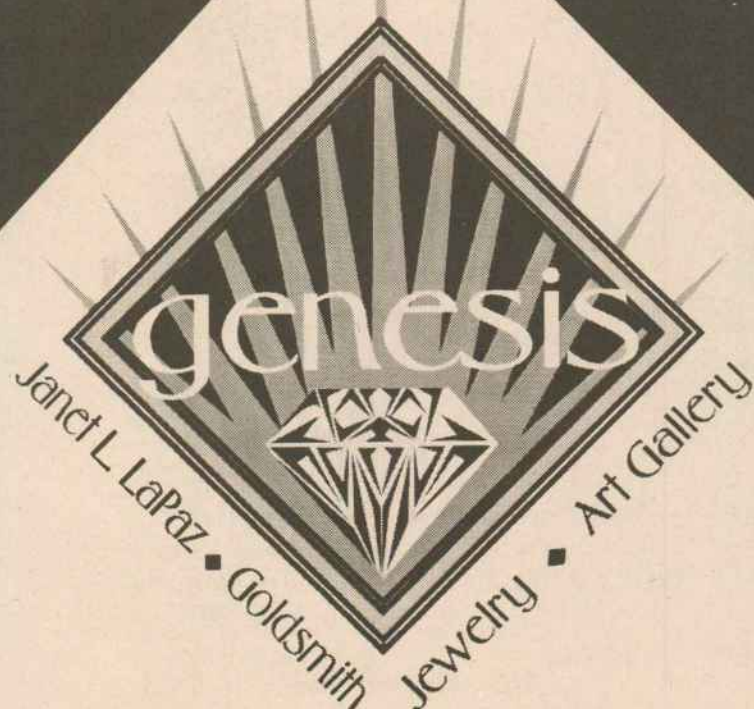


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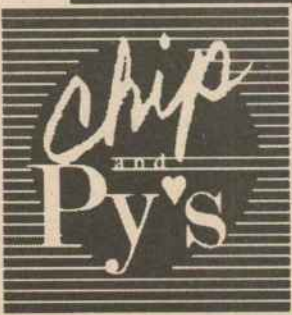


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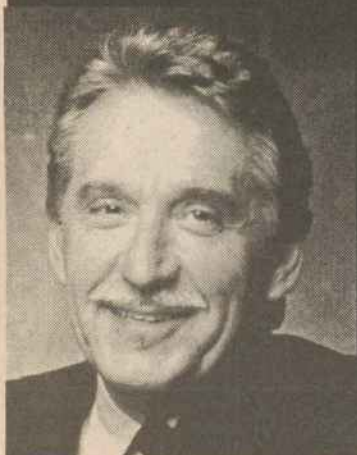
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Lakefront Festival of Arts Moves to the Calatrava June 20-22

Milwaukee – Milwaukee's Lakefront Festival of Arts (LFOA), long regarded as one of the nation's premier art festivals, will be calling a new location "home" June 20-22. The festival, which celebrates its 41st anniversary this summer, is moving to Art Museum Drive directly in front of the Santiago Calatrava-designed Milwaukee Art Museum expansion.

"As we began planning the 2003 festival, we recognized that a better connection needed to be made between the festival itself and the Milwaukee Art Museum," notes Julia DeCicco and Larry Schnuck, 2003 LFOA co-chairs. "With the Calatrava expansion as a backdrop, a work of art itself, and the addition of longer Friday hours, LFOA is poised to draw an even greater number of people." The Lakefront Festival of Arts attracts approximately 65,000 people each year during its three-day run.

Featuring more than 160 jury-selected artists from across the nation – some well known and others newly discovered – LFOA attracts art buffs and entertainment-lovers alike. In addition to the opportunity to purchase original works of art, the festival presents daily lineups of live music ranging from jazz to rhythm and blues. The entertainment schedule also includes dance, performance art, magic and even a strolling fiber-art fashion show featuring works from the festival's exhibiting artists.

LFOA's 2003 festival hours are: Friday, June 20, noon until 9 p.m., Saturday, June 21, 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 22, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Admission is \$8, with children 12 and under admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Special LFOA advance tickets are available for only \$6 at a variety of Milwaukee area locations (until the opening of the festival). Art Museum and Friends of Art (FOA) members receive discounted admission with presentation of their current membership card. LFOA visitors will free admission to the Milwaukee Art Museum during festival hours.

Since 1963, the LFOA has grown from a "nice little art festival in Milwaukee" to become one of the largest outdoor art events in the United States. The secret behind the continuing success of the festival has been the power of its volunteers. This year, a group of 190 volunteers serving on 26 separate committees plans and runs the event. During the three days of LFOA, an additional 900 volunteers are on the grounds to help make sure each visitor has a trouble-free and fun-filled day.

The LFOA is presented annually by the Friends of Art (FOA), the primary volunteer support organization for the Milwaukee Art Museum. Founded in 1957, FOA raises over \$400,000 each year for the Art Museum through events such as the Lakefront Festival of Arts. Money raised at LFOA and other FOA events is contributed to the museum's Art Acquisition and Exhibition Fund. For more information, including advance-ticket locations, visit the LFOA website at www.mam.org/lfoa or call (414) 224-3854.

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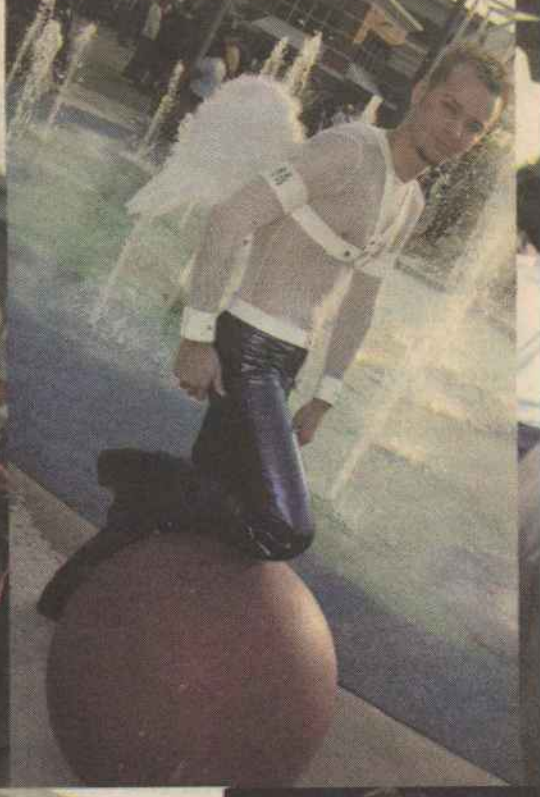
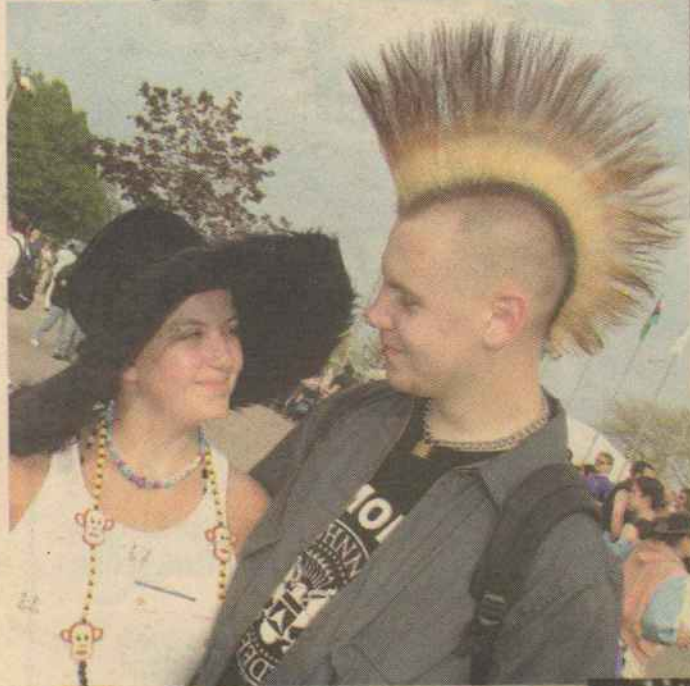
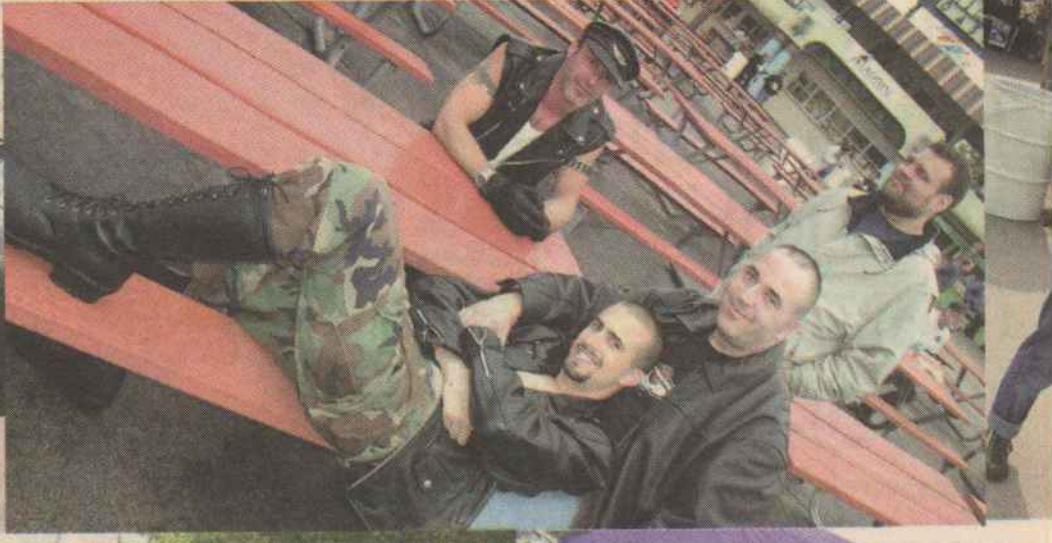
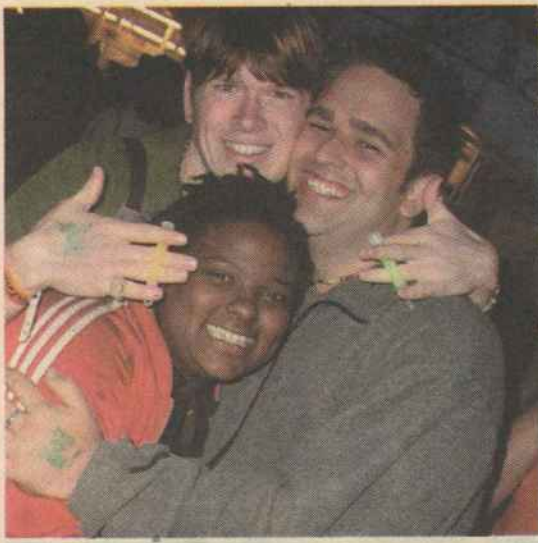
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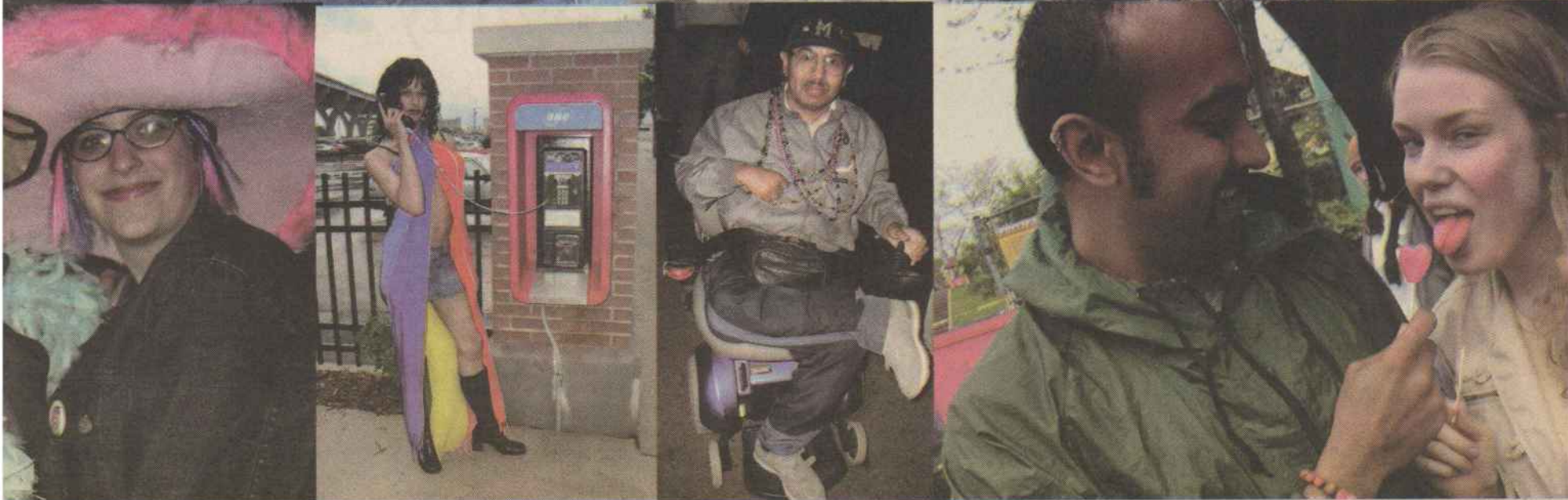
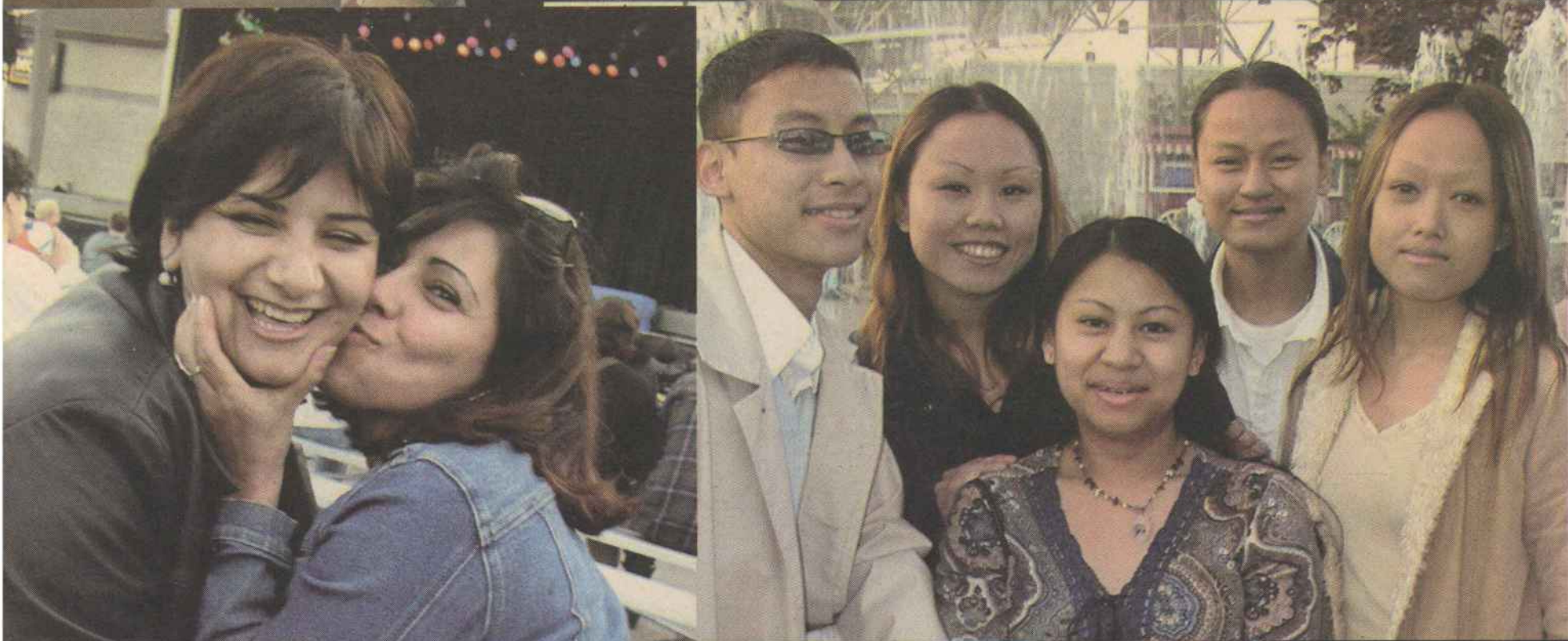
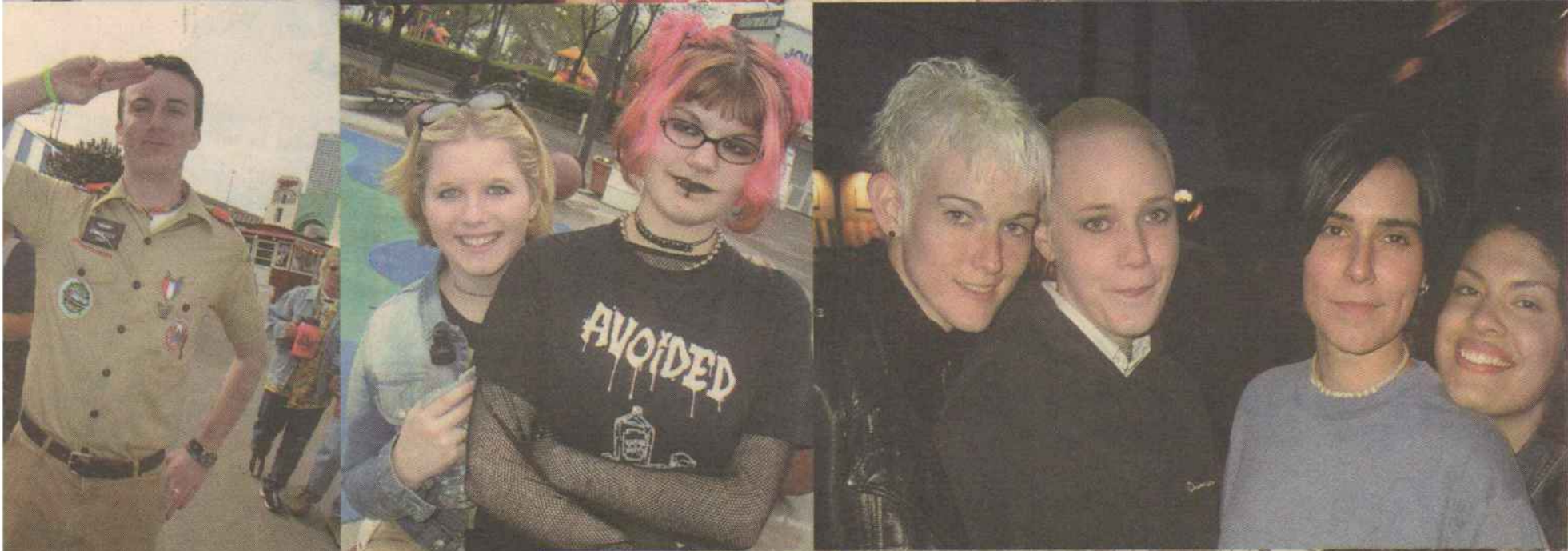
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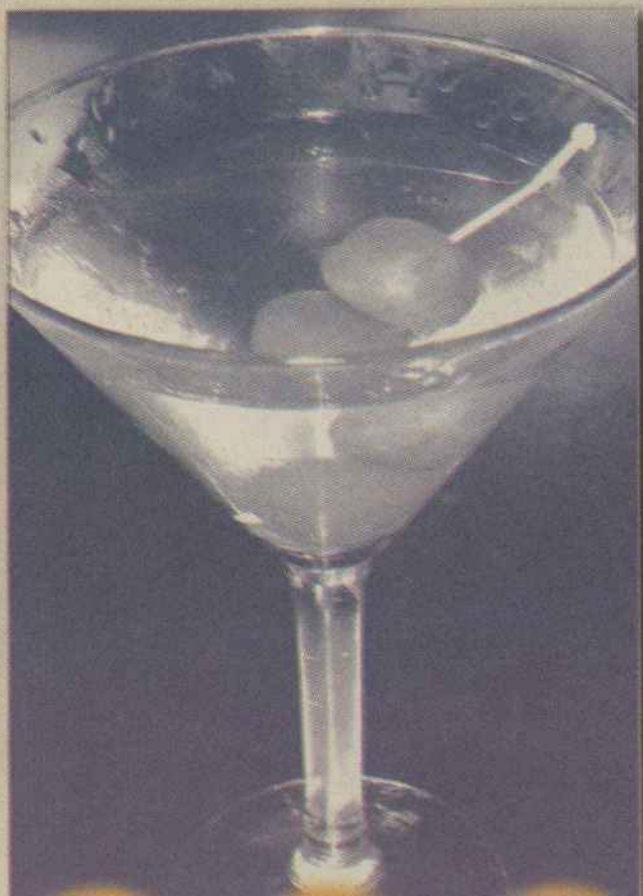


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A PrideFest Diary: Entertain Me

Review & Commentary
By William Duane

Day One: Opening Under Gray Skies

"Welcome to Wisconsin's Largest Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Celebration: PrideFest 2003!" The words blaze from the scrolling sign atop the gate.



Judy Tenuta whoops it up at PrideFest on June 6.

Photo: Armando Gallegos

flashing in rainbow colors to drivers along 7-94. Making my way from the parking lot (\$8!), I see only three protesters have showed up so far, and they look like they regret coming. It's 5:30, raining, and the ground is water-logged. The first fest-goers are slowly making their way inside. PrideFest, entertain me.

I've arrived just in time to catch the opening ceremonies at the Miller Stage. Politicians in damp suits, huddle with activists and the Pride Committee. Mayor John Norquist, County Executive Scott Walker, Sheriff David Clarke, Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, and many more are present. The rain slows to a drizzle, and for a moment we all think we're going to dodge the elements this weekend.

PrideFest Co-Chair Michael Lisowski flubs Norquist's intro, calling him Mayor Maier. A moment of laughter as Norquist slouches to the podium. Lisowski recovers with a quick quip: "They never should've named this park after Maier." Indeed. Summerfest Grounds made a whole lot more sense. Or PrideFest Park? Probably not.

Halfway through Barbara Lawton's wonderful speech about the importance of diversity to Wisconsin's future (let's see if the Doyle administration proves her right), the rain chases me for cover. I make my way to shelter under the airplane hangar of the Dance Pavilion. The DJ is trying valiantly to hold the interest of a few intrepid young people. More on the Dance Pavilion later.

Standing there in the massive empty space, I reflect on how this is a very important year for PrideFest. This once modest event, held to highlight the LGBT presence in and around Milwaukee, has grown into a major happening, with performers sporting national profile: Pat Benatar, Peter Paige from "Queer As Folk," ANT, Judy Tenuta. I look forward to seeing them, and my spirits return. I'm sure things will look up.

6:30 p.m. The rain is steady. Melissa Beasstrom, the first act of the night, performs solo on her keyboard for a small group of faithful fans at the Harley Stage. She offers them a mix of standards, melodic covers, and originals – mostly women's love songs. She tries warming up the listeners, encouraging them to rock back and forth with her as she gently calls out, "Weeee." She reminds them to stick around for her friend, Kimi Hayes.

7 p.m. The rain has subsided a little. A few more brave souls float into the Fest. I am painfully aware that there is no dry place to sit. I should've worn my dungarees rather than khakis – a fool for fashion once again.

Kimi Hayes and Band, a four-piece group from Chicago, rock a sparse crowd with a solid rendition of "When Doves Cry." They're a well-practiced group, made up of Hayes, two guys, and bell-bottomed bassist Paula Marr. Hayes' vocals are in the loud, raspy vein of Melissa Etheridge. They do

mostly covers during the show, including a guitar-strafed version of Guns n' Roses' "Sweet Child of Mine." Not my type of rock, but the crowd is getting into it. I drop by the band's booth to pick up a CD. "Porcupine

Y, the local two-time WAMI winners (Wisconsin's Grammy Awards, sort of). The trio husband and wife Kevin Roberts and Lora Nigro, and bassist Rob McWilliam have a tough job filling a spot when nobody is listening. I've seen them before, and I can appreciate their funky brand of ambient alt-rock, but it doesn't go over with the crowd.

I wish more people in the Milwaukee



"Queer as Folk's" Peter Paige is all smiles at PrideFest.

Photo: Armando Gallegos

Girl" (2001, Happy Mellows Music). It's filled with tough, original song-writing:

"I'm a porcupine girl got no trouble with the world/Keep a safe arms distance from me/I could cut you with my tongue/Leave you slack-jawed and numb/Keep a few long strides ahead of me." They should do more originals in concert.

With ears still buzzing, I wander back to the Miller Stage to discover that "An Evening with Carol Channing," featuring Richard Skipper, had been switched to another stage at the last minute. This was confusing. Skipper won the Manhattan Association of Cabaret award, the Oscars of impersonation. Here's hoping he returns when things are more organized and the weather is a little better for a girl in heels and a boa.

In his place I get to sample Sometimes

LGBT community showed interest in the local alt-music scene. This is one of the best places in the Midwest to catch local talent at locally run clubs. Most mid-level cities have been completely overrun by marketing from the record industry, creating an endless stream of MTV-sponsored non-events that push out local musicians. Summerfest has succumbed. Please, PrideFest, don't go there. There's a thriving local scene – utilize it more!

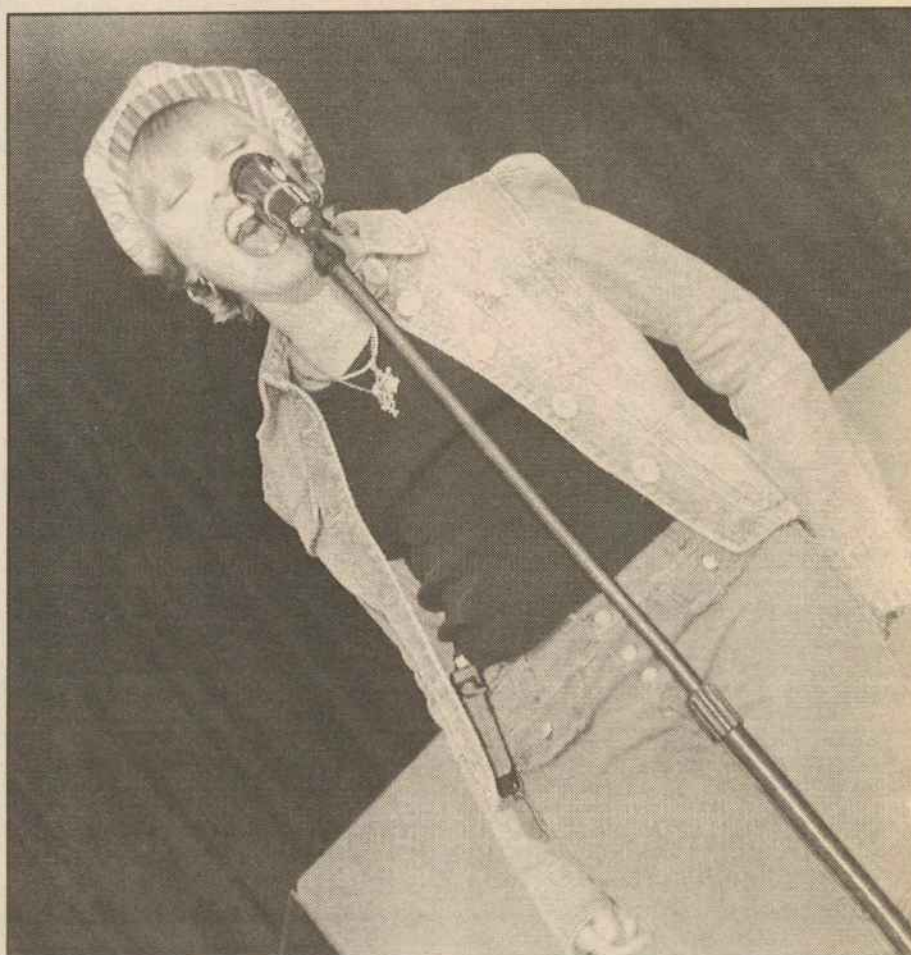
8 p.m. Dance Pavilion. Things are heating up. At least it's warmer in here. I make my way around the floor. What the dancers lack in numbers, they make up for in enthusiasm. Or beer drinking. It's hard to say.

9 p.m. Time for the big show of the evening. I arrive back at the Miller Stage to catch Irene Soderberg priming the audience of a couple thousand shivering people.

My Little Bitch List

Now for my bitch list. I'm not picking on anyone in particular, but there are some things I just have to get off my chest hair.

1. Please stop renaming the stages. Stonewall, Diva, etc. etc. I walked around the grounds a dozen times looking for the right place. I think Stonewall has been commemorated many times, and to better effect.
2. The change-overs between acts are much, much too long. What is the problem? The acts often ran way over each other's scheduled sets. I understand that there are always delays, but it should be a matter of minutes, not hours.
3. Never, ever, ever put a headliner like ANT on stage at any time other than when they are scheduled. It's very bad business, and they go away and share that information with other performers.
4. Where are all the gay crusty boys? I don't know about the women, but from this boy's point of view, PrideFest is woefully under-marketed in the large alternative youth communities in Riverwest and the East Side.
5. I was unclear from PrideFest's advertising about the requirement of a separate ticket for Pat Benatar. It was not prominent in the ads. People need to plan well ahead of time for the cost, even though it was quite reasonable (you can't get a concert ticket for less than \$50 today).
6. Finally, the Dance Pavilion. This simply needs to be an over 21-only venue after about 10 p.m. Presently, it's a bad scene, with fifteen year-olds whooping it up with inebriated adults. What adults do is their own business, but this is inappropriate. And it does not enhance "youth pride" to have twenty-somethings hunting teenagers like it's open season. I could describe it in more detail, but why bother? Besides, the venue could be far more profitable if local promoters were given the chance to hold a "tea dance" there. PrideFest is in the big time now, and a well-promoted event could attract the fest-goers it needs to prosper and go even further.



Pat Benatar hits the crowd with her best shot.

Photo: Armando Gallegos

Soderberg does a super job. Her renditions of show tunes, complete with amazingly long sustains, go over well. Her one-liners begin thawing out the crowd. "I'm a closet anorexic," she laments over her sequined bulk. She finishes big with "C'mon, Get Happy," and it's time for Judy Tenuta!

As beefy leathermen carry her out, the crowd gets to its feet. Even the Goddess of Bondage seems a little unbalanced by the weather at first, but she quickly works into her set, moving rapidly through her celebrity knock-offs. Cher, Martha Stewart, and Holly Hunter, all take hits, as does "Billary" Clinton: "Was that girl just not paying attention? She needs to pick up the white courtesy phone."

One of her favorite targets, Celine Dion, is next. She drags her ankles around the stage to a squeeze box reworking of Celine's Cirque du Soleil-inspired Vegas show. Next, Michael Jackson takes a broadside: "I mean, I'm good with toddlers, but not THAT GOOD!" She spots me in the audience taking down the line and worries aloud about seeing it in print. Don't fret, Goddess, his lawyers are too busy to care.

She invites somebody from the audience on stage. This is a mistake because he is a wee bit more inebriated than she bargained for. He scoops her up by one spandexed leg and tips her like a mop-headed doll until she screams for the pig to release her.

Before departing, she points out her mom and brother who have driven up from Chicago to see the show. They look surprisingly normal. The Goddess exits to a standing ovation. She never had such a grateful audience. The fireworks sizzle in the rain, and Day One is over.

Day Two: Saying Goodbye to Shelter

1 p.m. I think I'm catching a cold from Day One. I park (\$8 again!) and head inside through the jangling of Pride jewelry all around me. The throngs are here today despite the threatening skies.

Pulsation pounds out a bongo beat at the Miller Stage. The lead singer's yellow do bounces like the ball at the bottom of the screen as she cues a group of fans dancing in front of the stage. Pulsation, out of Chicago, describe themselves as a multi-ethnic all-woman band. This is their eighth year at PrideFest.

3 p.m. Harley Stage. For those of you living in Afghanistan for the past decade, "The Vagina Monologues" is author Eve Ensler's award-winning collection of thoughts, reminiscences, and material drawn from her interviews of a broad spectrum of women. A crowd of a thousand has gathered.

The show turns that particular part of the female anatomy into the main character, interspersing the monologues with responses to questions like, "If your vagina could dress up, what would it wear?" It's a wonderful piece of satire blended with some very serious issues: violence against women, sexual shame, racism. But it has also become one of the most over-performed shows out there.

Still, at the PrideFest reading, one of the more humorous monologues stands out for me. It's Ensler's interview of an elderly Jewish woman terribly embarrassed to find herself discussing her "cellar." "It gets wet down there, and things get trapped sometimes – small animals and such." Revealing, funny, and sad. Gay men need something like the Monologues, but it would be too easy to get us to talk about our genitals (and others).

4:30 p.m. After a quick lunch, I sit down to the Upside Groove Coalition. They've got an infectious sound, blending guitar, wild saxophone, and a heavy R&B beat. It's good to see young musicians at PrideFest, and this time the crowd gets into it, especially when they're joined by vocal-



Alvin York at the Leather Fashion Show
Photo: Armando Gallegos

ist Anil Rodee.

After their set, I talk with the band. They tell me they've been together for two years, and some are formerly from the hard progressive group True Heart Suzie. Rodee, their special guest, is in the band Midlife Crisis with K.B., who you might know from Dave & Carol on WKLB.

So I'm curious, I tell them, how does a local band like UGC get booked at PrideFest? It turns out the sax player drives limo and met Pride's new entertainment director, Nick Laurent, on the job. Again, it's nice to see PrideFest fostering area talent.

Lisa Jackson and Girl Friday are next on the Miller Stage. They're a smart, sexy, drag punk band from NYC. The crowd doesn't quite know what to make of Jackson at first, as she belts out riffs in a checkered skirt and knee-high stockings. This is not the cabaret drag of yesteryear, but the leather-clad bassist, Mr. Freeze, is my favorite of the entire Fest. I have a thing for "Mr. Clean" look-alikes.

Jackson gives the bemused crowd one of the most memorable sound bites of the weekend: "I used to pray to be normal, but as much as I prayed, Jesus doesn't really care what you do in your spare time." Milwaukee's LGBTs need to grow a little if you want Queer punk acts and the cute boys that come with them (all puns intended).

6:30 p.m. We jump from punk to Christian contemporary. Jason Warner is on stage with partner, deMarco, and a crowd of several thousand are entranced. It might be their good looks, but their voices are pretty good too. This is the most diverse crowd of the Fest, probably because the common interest is spiritual as well as musical.

I'm not a big fan of Christian music, but Warner is a talented young singer with potential. They finish with "Echoes of Eden," a beautiful song, with the two of them singing into each other's eyes. Warner resides in L.A. and has a CD out, "Songs for the Spirit," and more pop-oriented music in the works.

8 p.m. I go to the Harley Stage to catch some comedians. To my surprise, ANT is already performing. He was scheduled for 9 p.m. This is a major gaffe on the part of somebody at PrideFest. ANT is one of the headliners. He's a Hollywood comedian with a lot of exposure, including a spot on NBC's "Last Comic Standing." But with the time change, most of the people who wanted to see him don't even know he's on. There are only a dozen or so people scattered on the benches, so he abandons his

material and starts interacting. He loves heckling Lesbians. He's funny, smart, and quick, but ANT, dear, stop putting down your weight. Your ex can keep his 18-year-old boyfriend. I'd date you (especially if you get more NBC gigs). Next time, PrideFest, don't put a major act on stage early.

Later in the evening, a chill fog rolls in. I'm at the Youth Pride Village to see Peter Paige of Showtime's "Queer As Folk" host the fashion show. They decide to go ahead with the swim suit part of the show despite the bitter cold. Boys, and I mean boys, strut their stuff in speedos, then Paige reappears. "The last time I saw nipples that hard," he quips, "I was biting them."

Paige is well rehearsed, no doubt armed with material from the show's writers. Many from the cast are making appearances around the country at Pride celebrations

and, of course, Showtime wants everything just so. The weather has dampened the event considerably, though, and only about a hundred people are present. Pepper MaShay tries to keep things moving with her diva style. She sticks around for an autograph signing to benefit Camp Heartland.

The Kinsey Sicks perform to a crowd of thousands later at the Miller Stage. They are a perennial favorite, and if you've never had the pleasure of seeing six-foot-five drag queens in pastel prom gowns, beehives, and rhinestone glasses, do songs like "Rent A Homo for Your Party," you've missed something.

Over in the Dance Pavilion, DJ Tim from LaCage is spinning the crowd into a frenzy. Green laser lights, twirling sheets of silver silk, boys in a slingshot pile tossing a friend into the smoky air. This is the hottest set in the Pavilion, and it is well attended every year. Still, even more on the Pavilion later. The night comes to a disappointing close with the announcement that the fireworks have been cancelled.

Day Three: Pat In Sight

3 p.m. It pours all morning, so I arrive later, and run into the parade. The police direct me in a circle and I wind up trapped downtown, so I decide to watch from the sidewalk. Two dozen people are gathered outside the Pfister. It's coming – I can hear the revving Harley's in the vanguard.

The parade is a source of some friction in the community. Some feel it should be held earlier in the afternoon, say around noon, like it used to be. This criticism usually comes from those who have been attending the Fest since its beginning in Cathedral Square. Others would do away with the parade entirely as an outdated form of protest. Its original purpose was to disrupt goings-on downtown and make people aware of our existence. But who doesn't know LGBT people exist in 2003? If anything, we're a ubiquitous presence in the media, not always portrayed accurately, but certainly present. Like the community, I'm divided.

Marching bands, whistles, rainbow flags. The tight drilling of the Chicago ROTC gets the loudest applause. State Rep. Jon Richards waves from under a wide umbrella, and it's over. More obligatory than usual. Now on to the Fest.

The Orphans get a late start at the Miller Stage. They're a cover band that specializes in classic rock hits: Journey, Jackson Browne, etc. They're obviously versatile musicians, but their set is too pre-

dictable. I hear someone beside me ask a friend, "How much do you want to bet they do a Crosby Stills and Nash song?" Sure enough, the next tune is CSNY. There are too many cover bands here this weekend.

6 p.m. The Dance Pavilion has been converted into a leather space. The Argonauts are hosting the show. The contestants mix well with the audience, and everyone is well behaved. Mr. Northwoods and Mr. Harbor Room, among others, make appearances. Leather drag princess Stephanie Michaels, now a student at MATC, represents the technical school's new LGBT organization, MATC Rainbow. The levi/leather organizations of Wisconsin are honored for their work in the local leather community and with charities. They parade their colors: Argonauts of Wisconsin, Castaways Motorcycle Club of Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee Knights. The show breaks up, the DJ takes control, and they dance into the night. Nice job, guys.

6:30 p.m. Ronnie Nyles dominates a large audience at the Miller Stage. The Orphans and her own percussionist back her up. Loyal fans and others are on their feet stage-front. The crowd is mostly female, but a surprising number of the boys have shown up. She's playful with her bandmates, and she works the audience better than any performer I've seen so far. She toasts them, and then, reminded by "the little man behind the curtain," she plugs Miller Lite, again and again and again.

Musically, Nyles is very talented. I close my eyes during her rendition of "Wake Up Maggie" and (I mean this as a deep compliment) I could swear I'm hearing Rod Stewart. Her original material is even better. Her new CD, "January Weather," is available on the net, and she has one out with ChixMix called "Chix Ahoy."

Time to head to the area around the Harley Stage gated off for the Big Finale, Pat Benatar and husband Neil Giraldo. I have a hard time getting in, despite my press pass. Why do they even issue these? I get in to see Shann Carr warming up the crowd of about three thousand. She's one of the most recognizable and well liked of LGBT comedians, for good reason. With twenty years of experience, the last few aboard Atlantis gay cruises, she is worth the wait for Pat. Her bit about her trip with her girlfriend to Key West's Women's Fest is priceless. Stung by jellyfish, hounded by gay men – "those bitches!" – their odyssey makes for a hilarious cautionary tale in gay travel. And don't forget to pack the meat tenderizer (you know if you were there).

After her acrobatic finale, Carr introduces Pat and the crowd gets to its feet. False alarm. The band hasn't done its sound check yet. A rather embarrassing miscue, and not the first this weekend. But the setting sun breaks through, miraculously, and Pat and Neil are soon on-stage. "Looks like it's going to be a beautiful evening after all," Neil comments. For the next hour-and-twenty minutes, the crowd eats up the show. The married duo and their very well practiced band have been doing this for a long time, and they don't disappoint. Giraldo, tanned and tattooed, even comes down into the audience with his cordless guitar, continuing a solo as he makes his way along the first row, getting hugs and piles of beads around his neck.

Pat mentions the death of her younger gay brother last year and thanks the audience. There are cheers. There are also the familiar hits, including, of course, "Hit Me With Your Best Shot," and two encores, because the crowd, rained on and put out all weekend, just won't let them go. If you want more, their new CD, "GO," comes out in the fall. The fireworks go bang and that was PrideFest 2003. Come again.



Sundays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Juice drinks only \$3. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Top beer \$1.40.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Open at 3 p.m. with \$1.50 bottle and top beer and soda.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Tacos & Beer with Alvin!

Boom (Milw.): Open at 11 a.m. Packer games at scheduled times. "Queer as Folk," 8-10 p.m.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): Beer Bash, 4-8 p.m. \$6. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Beer Bash 3 to 8 p.m. \$6. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75; \$1 off all other until 8 p.m. Live shows at 10:30 p.m.

Club 219 (Milw.): \$1 tappers, \$2 rail drinks, \$2 bottled beer. Two shows: 8:30 p.m. - no cover - and 11:30 p.m.

Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Pints of Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers & Greyhounds - \$2.50! Shirtless men half price anytime.

LaCage (Milw.): Open at noon featuring a Bloody Mary Buffet. Packers Games on 25 screens! Free shot with every Packer TD! Half-time food and fun.

M&M Club (Milw.): Brunch from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Joyce or Ginni at the Piano on Monday nights.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Bar-B-Q, 1-4 p.m.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Coronas, \$1.75, Domestic Beer, \$1.25, Mini-pitchers, \$1.75.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Patio bar open at 2 p.m. Beer Bash from 2 to 8 p.m. Open volleyball. Food available from 2 to 6 p.m. 2/4/1 10 p.m. to close

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 3 p.m. Beer Bust, \$5 from 9-midnite.

Switch (Milw.): Service Industry Night. Plus, Switch (Milw.): "Queer as Folk" Take in your favorite soap and with every drink purchase you get one valuable ticket. The Grand Prize: round-trip trip to Toronto where "Q.A.F." is filmed. Starting at 9 p.m.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): \$8 pitcher of Lite & pizza, \$4 rail Bloody Marys, both from Noon to 6 p.m. Open from Noon to midnite.

Woody's (Milw.): Open at 2 p.m., Beer Bust from 2-6 p.m.

Mondays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 2 p.m. to close.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Bud Nite! All Budweiser products, \$1.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Pizza & Beer Bust, only \$4, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.!

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Packer games at scheduled times. Jack night! Half price drinks - jock required.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. 3-4-1 drinks for those men in just underwear. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m.. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others ALL NIGHT LONG, \$2 shot specials.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half price anytime. Bartenders, waiters, owners \$1 off drinks 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktail hour at 5 p.m. "Shake a Drink" all nite. Aces's Free — sixes 1/2 price.

M&M Club (Milw.): Cocktail hour with Trixie at the Piano!

The Nut Hut (Milw.): 4 to 6 p.m. Crabby Hour Pull tabs!

Pulse (Milw.): Import night. \$2.50 imports.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. \$3.50 and under drinks over \$3.50 get \$1 off.

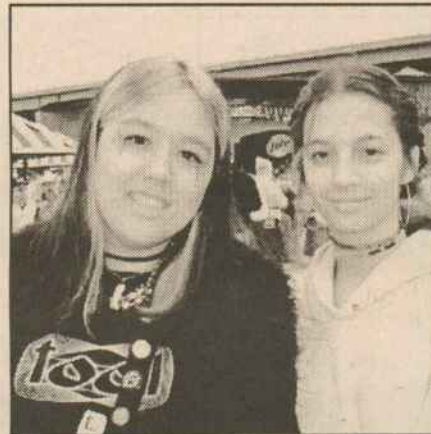
South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-9 p.m., with \$1 off drinks.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. - Absolut and anything, \$2.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Closed.

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 rails.

Tuesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour: 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., Pull tabs, drinks as low as 25-cents.

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. "Tini Tuesday. Let us shake for you.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Vodka Nite! All vodka drinks, \$1.50 and Call Brands only \$2.50 with free, hot Klement's pizza!

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Shirts Off! Show us what you've got! Take it off for half price rail, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off all drinks. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. Underage night begins at 9 p.m., 50¢ off all drinks, \$2 shot specials.

Club 219 (Milw.): Amateur Strip Nite! No cover. \$1 top beer, \$2 rails and bottled beer.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Nipple ring nite - gentle tug on yours, 2nd drink free! Shirtless men half price anytime.

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktail hour at 5 p.m. "Prize Nite." Win \$100 cash — no cover.

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Half price locker.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): 7-9 p.m. Pull Tabs.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Bud Products \$1.50. The Trading Company (Eau Claire): 2 for \$2. Domestic bottles and rail mixes all night.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): All coffee drinks - \$2.

Pulse (Milw.): Two for Tuesday. Two American beers for \$2 from 9pm to 1 a.m.

Rainbow Room (Madison): \$1 off rail and domestic.



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Free pool with drink purchase from 9 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-9 p.m., \$1 off drinks. "Tini Tuesday" from 8 to close, \$1.50 off martinis. Cheers!

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks!

Walker's Pint (Milw.): \$2 Tuesdays \$2 Rail Mixers, Pints, Cold Shots

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 rails.

Wednesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): \$2 Doctors and Top Beer only \$1.40 all nite.

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Pull tabs!

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink specials.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Rail drinks only \$1.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off all taps and rails, \$2.50 Coronas and shots of Drs. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. Male Dancers at 11 p.m., 50¢ off all taps and rails, \$2.50 Coronas and shots of Drs. \$2 shot specials.

Fluid (Milw.): Happy Hour, 2-4-1 drinks, 5-8 p.m. \$2 Coronas and \$2 shots of Jose Cuervo, 8 p.m. to close.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Leather Nite! Men in leather, 2-4-1 drinks, 7 p.m.-close. Shirtless men half price anytime.

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktail hour at 5 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks all night! PLUS: '80s dance music!

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Half price rooms.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): 2-4-1, 6-9 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): Leather Night and Mailbox Wednesday. \$2 Miller products and shots of Dr. and Puckers.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. \$1.50 Dr. or Schnapps with drink 9 p.m. to close.

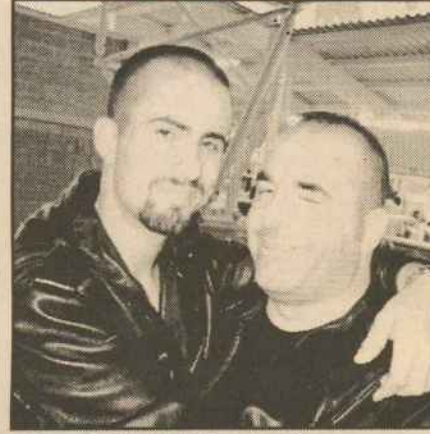
South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8



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PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos

p.m. 2-4-1 cocktails all day.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m., with \$1 off all drinks. Balloon Bust starts at 8 p.m. Throw darts to pop balloons and win cash prizes!

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. Super Beer Bust - All U Can Drink! \$5 domestic, \$7 premium.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Happy Hour, 2-4-1 rails and bottles, 4:30-7:30 p.m. \$4 Long islands, \$4 pitchers of Lite, 7:30 p.m. to close.

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 rails. NTN Million \$ Match Night.

Thursdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Pull tabs, drinks as low as 25-cents.

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. 2-4-1 all night.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink specials.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Karaoke Night, 11:45 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others all night long. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others all night long! "Will & Grace" at 8 p.m. Karaoke at 8:30 p.m. Women's night with Toni at 10 p.m. with free pool in foxhole, \$2 shot specials.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are 1/2 price from 5 to 8 p.m.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half price anytime. 10oz. Cosmopolitans \$4.50, 6-11 p.m.

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktail hour at 5 p.m. "Super Bust" — no cover.

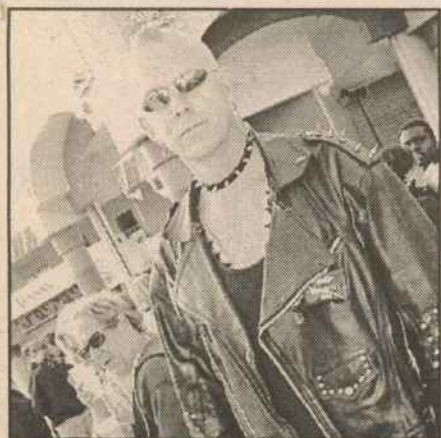
M&M Club (Milw.): Happy Hour from 5 p.m. to close!

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Crazy 8 rooms and lockers. \$1 locker with college ID.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Domestic beer, \$1.25, 4-6 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): Throw down Thursdays. Purchase any well drink of beer for \$1 after paying \$5 start. DJ spins at 9pm

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.



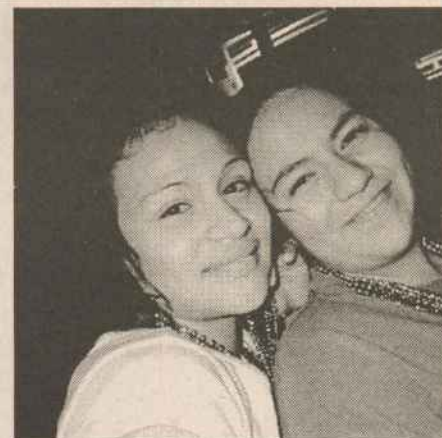
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PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos



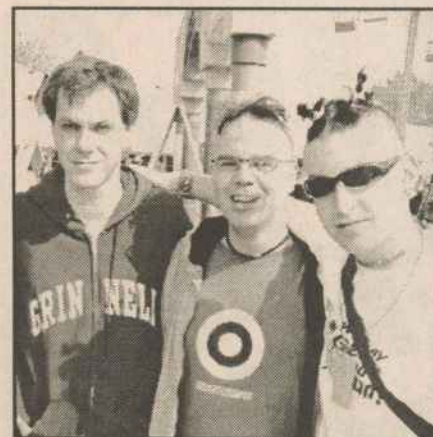
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Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-9 p.m., \$1 off drinks. Karaoke Contest: Win prize \$, from 8:30-close, after "Will & Grace." Patio Open.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. \$6 Rail Bust!

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Happy Hour, 2-4-1 rails and bottles, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Import Night, all imports just \$2.50, 7:30 p.m. to close.

Woody's (Milw.): Double Bubble all day, all night.

Fridays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served!

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Music Videos and Cock-tails.

Boot Camp (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Strippers! Enjoy local boyz! 11:30 p.m. No cover.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off for men in leather and uniforms. Additional 50¢ off if you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others.

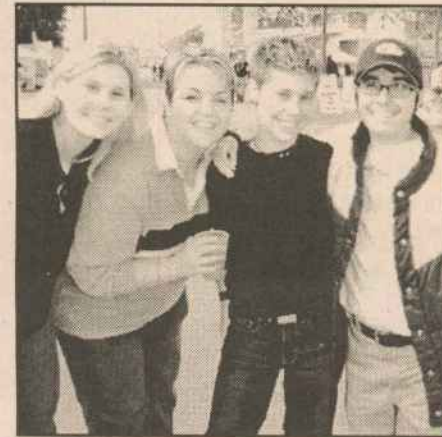
The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half price anytime. 10oz. coll Martinis \$5, 6-11 p.m.

M&M Club (Milw.): All you can eat Fish Fry and other great specials.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Party night!



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PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT!

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Ginni

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Melissa Beastrom



Check Out M&M's Newly Redecorated Patio. Enjoy the Great Outdoors for Lunch, Dinner or for a Refreshing Cocktail!

2-4-1
HAPPY HOUR
ON THURSDAYS IT
GOES ALL NIGHT!



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COCKTAIL HOUR:
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SPECIALS!

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Pull tabs, 5 to 7 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): 3-9pm, Ultra-fabulous pulsing prime time happy hour 1/2 price Upper Shelf.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 6-9 p.m., with Michael Johnson (aka K.V.), \$1 off drinks, 80's music, fun, and "games!" Patio Open.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! \$3 Margaritas from open to close.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Happy Hour, 2-4-1 rails and bottles, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 rails.

Saturdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$3, and \$1.40 mugs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Barracks (Madison): Levi/Leather/Uniform Night! 50¢ off all drinks if dressed in L/L/U. Bartender's discretion.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Female Impersonators with Big Mama at 11:30 p.m. No cover.

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Music Videos and Cock-tails.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off for men in leather and uniforms. Additional 50¢ off if you are shirtless.

Clubs/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others.

Fluid (Milw.): 50¢ mugs & 75¢ pints of Miller Lite & MGD, 5-8 p.m.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys! Shirtless men half price anytime. Pitchers of beer, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., \$4.50 domestic & \$6.50 Harbor Room's own brew!

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Beer Bust, \$7, 4-6 p.m.

LaCage (Milw.): Open at 9 p.m. Where Milwaukee Dances!

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Bar-B-Q, 1-4 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): \$2 Bud Products noon till 9 p.m. \$2.50 small pitchers, \$4 large pitchers 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Hot DJ starts at 9:30 p.m.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Live DJ 9 p.m. to close. Men's Room (Levi/Leather) 7 p.m. to close. 50¢ off all drinks with card. Progressive Happy Hour from 7 to 10 p.m.



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos



PrideFest 2003. Photo by A. Gallegos

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 3 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Open at 6 p.m., featuring current dance music, DJ spin. Patio Open

Walker's Pint (Milw.): \$5 Redbull rail vodka — all night!

Woody's (Milw.): Open at 2 p.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 19 – July 2, 2003

ACTIVITIES

Thursday, June 19

Briarpatch (Madison): Group for middle school LGBT kids, middle school kids of LGBT families, and friends, 6 p.m., 512 E. Washington Ave. FMI: (608) 251-6211.

"Living with Pride: Ruth Ellis at 100" (Milw.): Movie about the fascinating life of Ruth Ellis, an out lesbian for most of her 100+ years, and her legacy to the LGBT community in Detroit, 7 p.m. LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Friday, June 20

SAGE Program (Milw.): SAGE social worker Jan Singer will train individuals interested in volunteering for the Telephone Companion Program and Friendly Visitor Program, 6:30 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 224-0517.

"The Sum of Us" (Madison): Stage Q offers a comedy-drama about a father's all-too-accepting relationship with his gay son, thru June 28, Evjue Stage, Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin St. FMI: (608) 204-0306.

Saturday, June 21

Lakefront Festival of Arts (Milw.): New location near Calatrava addition on North Art Museum Dr. Lots of art in all media, entertainment, food, games for kids, more, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, June 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., S8. FMI: www.mam.org/lfoa <http://www.mam.org/lfoa> or call (414) 224-3854.

Sunday, June 22

Bette Davis Bowling League (Madison): Bowling for gays and lesbians, 5-person team format, 3 p.m., Bowl-a-Vard Lanes, 2121 E. Springs Dr. FMI: (608) 273-8275 or 837-8889.

Gay/Bi Fathers Group (Madison): Group meets at 5 p.m. FMI: (608) 274-5821.

Walk for Peace & Justice Celebration (Milw.): Welcome peace walkers from Madison as they enter Milw., 12 noon join walkers at 12th & Wisconsin Ave. and walk to Veterans Park for 1 p.m. celebration with food song and fun, sponsored by peace Action. FMI: (414) 964-5158.

Monday, June 23

Living As a Gay Man (Madison): Drop-in discussion group for gay men, 5:30 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-8582.

Madcap Squares (Madison): New Square dance group welcomes all! 6:30 to 8 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1021 Spaight St. First three

classes free. FMI: (608) 347-7974.

Tuesday, June 24

Womansong (Madison): Madison's feminist community choir rehearses, 7-9 p.m., women of all ages and backgrounds welcome, Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound St. FMI: (608) 643-0673.

Project Q (Milw.): Drop-in for LGBTQ youth ages 14-24, 4:30-9 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 223-3220, or visit: www.projectq.org.

Wednesday, June 25

Wisconsin Haverim (Milw.): First meeting of Wisconsin Haverim, a Jewish GLBT and allies social group for people in the greater Milwaukee area, 7-9 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 277-7671, or: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WisconsinHaverim.

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys (Madison): Smoke-free, all welcome, beginning and advanced dance lessons for couple, line and folk dances, 7 p.m., S3, 1007 Stewart St. FMI: (608) 255-9131, email: rrl-tilmer@facstaff.wisc.edu.

Thursday, June 26

"The Odds of Recovery" (Milw.): New film by independent lesbian filmmaker Su Friedrich about her health crises and dealing with the medical establishment and seeking alternative therapies, S2, 7 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

The BIG BANG! Fireworks on Milwaukee's lakefront for the opening of Summerfest 2003.

Friday, June 27

School's Out 4 Summer Dance (Milw.): Summer dance for LGBT youth, with surprise guests, S5 cover, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 223-3220.

Saturday, June 28

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers (Madison): 3K to 10K run or walk, 9 a.m., Lake Wingra Park, Knickerbocker and Arbor Dr. FMI: (608) 663-6463.

Community Brainstorming Forum (Milw.): Topic: "Consent Searches and Other Police Practices: Are They Fair and Effective?" with panel including Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke and Chris Ahmuty of the ACLU of Wisconsin, breakfast at 8 a.m., forum at 9 a.m., St. Matthew's CME Church, 2944 N. 9th St.

Chicago Pride Fest (Chicago): Noon to 8 p.m. at intersection of N. Halsted and Waveland in Boystown, donation of \$5 requested. Music, mer-

chants, food and drink! FMI: (773) 868-3010.

Sunday, June 29

Cream City Squares (Milw.): LGBT square dance club holds weekly dance every Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m., Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave. FMI: (414) 445-8080.

Chicago Pride Parade (Chicago): 34th annual Pride Parade steps off at Noon from the corner of N. Halsted and Belmont, proceeding north on Halsted to Broadway, south on Broadway to Diversey, east on Diversey to Lincoln Park. See 200 floats, queers, decorated cars, more queers, marching contingents, politicians and celebrities! FMI: www.chicago-pride.com.

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus (Madison): Weekly rehearsal, new members welcome! 7-9 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington Ave. FMI: info@perfectharmonychorus.org.

Monday, June 30

GAY DAY at Six Flags! C'mon down!

Frontiers Film Circle (Madison): Featuring "The Tailors and the Wayfarers," a tender coming out drama, 7:30 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

(READ CAREFULLY. Some meetings occur the same day weekly, others the same day bi-weekly or monthly. Groups: please send us updated info.)

THURSDAYS

AIDS Network (Madison): Meditation and Wellness, 6-7:30 p.m., 300 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 252-6540, ext. 26.

Disabilities Support Group (Milw.): Support group for LGBTs with disabilities meets final Thursday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 201, Independence First, 600 W. Virginia St. Contact is Leslie Myers. FMI: V/TTY - (414) 291-7520, ext. 325.

Diversity G/L Resource Center (Rockford, IL): Located at 610 E State St. Open from 4 to 9 p.m. Teen Drop-in Hours. FMI: call (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA - "Living Sober" (Milw.): Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA Open Meetings (Appleton & Green Bay): There are five open AA Meetings for the gay and lesbian community each week in Appleton and Green Bay. FMI: & Locations call (920) 336-2868 or (920) 954-9169.

Gay AA/Gay AA-Anon, 12-Step Meetings (Kenosha): These recovery groups meet every Thursday at St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th Ave., at 7:30 p.m. FMI: call Bill or Art at (414) 694-0115.

Gay/Lesbian AA Closed Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 1609 University Ave. FMI: call (608) 222-8989.

Grief Support Group for Lesbians (Madison): Drop-in group for lesbians grieving the death of a life partner, family member or friend. Meets first Thursday of every month, 6-7:30 p.m., Anderson HospiceCare Center, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway. FMI: (608) 276-4660.

HIV/AIDS Support Group & Hotline (Upper Peninsula, MI): These projects serve Dickinson, Iron, & Menominee Counties. For information on the support group in Iron Mountain, Michigan on the first Thursday of each month, call the HIV/AIDS Hotline at (906) 779-2904.

HIV Self-Help Group Monthly Meeting (Baraboo): This group sponsored by persons living with HIV, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital & the AIDS Network meets every 3rd Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Baraboo. Refreshments are served, transportation assistance is available. FMI: (608) 643-7241 or (608) 643-7583.

HIV Testing (Milw.): ARCW provides free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing every Thursday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Village Church, 130 E. Juneau Ave. Walk-ins welcome. FMI: (414) 225-1535 or 271-HOMO.

Lavender Salon (Fox Valley): Reading and discussion group for gays and lesbians in the Fox Valley area, meets 3rd Thursday of each month, locations vary between Appleton, Green Bay and Oshkosh. Call for details. FMI: (920) 738-0497.

LGBT Community Center Lesbian Singles Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Ongoing discussion about unique challenges and rewards of being single, open to all lesbians. The group picks a different topic each month. FMI: call (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center Rainbow U Lecture Series (Milw.): Every 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. Series encourages awareness, discussion of issues important to the LGBT Community. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Campus Center - Boy-Oh-Boy Gay/Bi Men's Group (Madison): This weekly group provides outlet for gay/bi students at UWM. Social outings, great discussion. Hosted by University Health Services and Sex Out Loud, Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m., LGBT Campus Center, second floor, UW-Madison Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St.

Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital (Baraboo): HIV/AIDS support group meets third Thursdays in Baraboo area. FMI: toll-free (877) 744-0677.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting every Thursday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 299-0755.

Big Gig

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Gotcha!

By Billy Masters

"We've been in the tabloids for many different things. You just have to learn, unfortunately, to cope with whatever comes at you. It's an inappropriate comment." — **Gay Clay Aiken** when asked how he felt about the speculation over his sexuality.

Welcome to showbiz, Miss Aiken! And, he's handling these questions with such aplomb (I once did it with aplomb, but it gets messy). At the post-AI-finale press conference, a reporter from one of those nationwide gay publications said to Clay, "A lot of your fan base thinks you're gay. Any comment on that?" Being the forthright man that he is, Aiken looked out at the press corps and proudly stated two words that will go down in history - "Next question." Every time Clay addresses the issue of his sexuality, I find it quite amusing - or, as we say in French, très amusant! Now, Clay honey, if you really wanna keep people guessing, stay off gay.com when you're horny!

A new season of "The Amazing Race" debuted last month, and I have a good reason to plug it — there's a cute guy on the show who's not only gay but also sweet. The latest gay couple on CBS is **Reichen and Chip**. I recently got the chance to meet Reichen through mutual friends and discovered that the hunky heartthrob has a few secrets (ya gotta love someone whose official CBS bio says that he's "very into being physically fit," while his "husband" Chip's bio says that "he is in great physical shape"). He sheepishly admitted to me that his goal is to be on a soap opera. I told him that with his looks and personality, why not? Say it loud - say it proud! And once I

lowered his defenses, I surreptitiously tried to find out who won "The Amazing Race". "Billy, you're a wily one, but I can't tell you that. We're all sworn to secrecy - that includes me and my ex-boyfriend, Chip." Uh, excuse me - did you say ex? "Oops!" Two secrets down, one to go.

In more reality news, **Norm Korpi** ("Real World" - season one) had a party celebrating the VHS/DVD release of his mockumentary, "The Wedding Video." You can order this flick at www.tlareleasing.com (hitting the streets June 10, making it the perfect gay pride gift). At the party, I got to catch up with pals **Gary and Larry Lane** (from "Fear Factor"), **Oryon** (from Gary and Larry's house — and a sexy singer), and **Michael Cunio** (from "The Fluffer" and this column — and soon to be seen nationwide touring in "Hairspray"), along with **Warren Cuccurullo** and his fiancée, the lovely **Donna**. Warren told me that he will be back on the road with **Dale Bozio** this summer once again performing under the "Missing Persons" banner. Wanna take any bets how long this reunion lasts?

We interrupt this column to send out happy birthday wishes to our very own **Anderson Cooper**. Coop (that's what we call him) celebrated his 36th birthday last week and was surprised when mom **Gloria Vanderbilt** (identified only as "Anderson's Mom") arrived on the set at the end of his CNN broadcast to give him a birthday cake emblazoned with thirty-seven candles (one for good luck). Thank God it wasn't Glo's birthday, or the cake would have set off the building's sprinkler system.

If I were to ever write a personals ad, it would simply say "Wanted: **Sam Harris**"



"Gay" Clay Aiken

—period. I can't think of another man who would be more perfect (OK, aside from **Hugh Jackman** — but he's straight, and I have enough trouble snaring men who sleep with other men voluntarily). Harris is wildly talented, funny, intelligent, adorable, has a hot little body, great taste, and an amazing voice. Last week, I went to see his new show, "SAM," at the Coronet Theatre here in LA. I've always been a fan of Sam, and this show only reinforces my belief that he can do virtually anything he wants. What often gets overlooked in the presence of his formidable vocal ability is that he's a naturally gifted actor who knows how to tell a story. He's totally at home in his own skin but, of course, I knew that after seeing him naked in "Hair" last year (OK, I'll post those penis pics again — sorry, Sam). At the time, I felt I was witnessing the perfect person in the perfect role under the perfect conditions (well, not as perfect as Steven Weber who had a fluffer!). Sam continues to grow by leaps and bounds and is constantly taking chances. I cannot stress strongly enough that you MUST go to see this show if you are within driving distance - and I don't care how far you have to drive. Just drive - then you can thank me later. At this point, "SAM," is open (so to speak) until June 29th. All of Sam's information can be found at www.samharris.com. I'd like to say that our upcoming nuptials will be announced there, but Sam's already got a hubby. Damn, he IS perfect!

Could it be that Billy was at Gay Day Disney in Orlando? Nope, but I did the next best thing — I read "Queens in the Kingdom - The Ultimate Gay & Lesbian Guide to the Disney Theme Parks." Now, I'm not one to pick up a guidebooks for some casual reading, but the authors (**Jeffrey Epstein** and **Eddie Shapiro**) have put together a volume that is not only



Sam Harris

informative but also fun — makes sense, since they're friends of mine. If you have ever wanted to touch a dwarf, steal the Witch's apple, or peek under Tarzan's loincloth, then this is the book for you. And how perfect — Gay Day 2 (founded by La Epstein) takes place at Disneyland in Anaheim on October 3-5 (and I will likely attend). So, start boning up on your Disney now. More details can be found at www.gayday2.com.

Could it be that a certain diminutive lad has more in common with Billy than just his roots? Not if he can help it. In fact, he's fighting it tooth and nail and ready to leap into a real marriage any day now. Of course, this isn't the first time he's gotten this close to a commitment with a female, but somehow those previous relationships never crystallized (perhaps the babes were just wise). I'm told that he really wants this to work out - professional appearances, you understand. Another hint? He also has a close connection to Beverly Hills and Santa Monica Blvd. And, come to think of it, he'd make the perfect mate for Anderson Cooper — but that requires some number crunching.

When my blind items are starting to sound like word problems, then it's definitely time to end yet another column. On the subject of books, I have quite a collection coming east with me to the Filth2Go Beachhouse in Provincetown on July 2nd. I'll give you more details on my reading material next week. In the interim, I can always count on the fans to keep me busy with letters - and sometimes photos, too! If you have anything you'd like to share with me, or perhaps something you'd like to ask, just drop a note to my e-mail address of Billy@filth2go.com and I promise to get back to you before I get a job as Sam's fluffer! So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

ERNIE VON SCHLEDORN

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- Having to follow rigid or complex routines while doing everyday activities
- Being bothered a lot when things aren't even or in their place

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To learn more, contact:

Ruth McLean, RN - Study Coordinator
Rogers Memorial Hospital - Milwaukee
11101 West Lincoln Avenue, West Allis, WI 53227

414-328-3710 or toll free at 877-676-6600

South Madison Health & Family Center (Madison): Free, anonymous walk-in HIV testing from 5 to 7:45 p.m. at 2202 South Park St. FMI: call (608) 261-9270.

Triangle Coalition - LGB Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meet to establish and explore friendships & relationships. Discuss a variety of topics every Thursdays at 8 p.m. FMI: call (319) 583-1834.

Wisconsin Gender Organization (statewide): A support, education, and activism network whose primary function is to help transsexual individuals to succeed and grow before, during, and after their gender transition. Meets the fourth Saturday of each month. For location and more information: www.wisgen.org.

Women's Consciousness Raising Group (Madison): Meets weekly at 5:30 p.m. at 122 State St. Suite 403. FMI: call (608) 250-6775.

Unitarian Universalist Church - Lesbian Support/Discussion Group (Rockford, IL): The group meets weekly from 7-8 p.m. at 4848 Turner Rd. FMI: call (815) 636-7298.

FRIDAYS

Frontiers Dining Out (Madison): Madison-area Gay/Bi men meet at the Shamrock Bar around 6 p.m. Decide where to go to eat. FMI: (608) 274-5821.

Gay AA (Milw.): Sixty Minutes Group, topic meeting. Meets every Friday at 5:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 794, select A topic/as Bill Sees It. Meets every Friday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

High Tea & Talk - Men's Group (Madison): High Tea & Talk is an opportunity for men of all ages, who enjoy the company of other men, to chat and graze at Monty's Blue Plate Diner, 3 p.m., 2089 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 257-9751.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. and Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Drop-in nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Youth Group Meeting (Kenosha): This group meets the first & third Fridays of the month from 7 to 10 p.m. at the ARCW Offices, 1212-57th St. FMI: call (800) 924-6601.

Madison Transgender Group (Madison): A support and advocacy group for transsexuals (M-T-F and F-T-M), cross-dressers and their friends, families and significant others. Confidentiality assured. Meets second & fourth Fridays of the month from 7-9 p.m. at Outreach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 235-0512 or emailwistgroup@charter.net.

MGLO & MGLPO - Red Light Night (Marshfield): Every Friday night from 10:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m., 130 S. Central Ave., above the Thimbleberry Bookstore. Meet local LGBT people, enjoy Videos and Dancing. Everyone is welcome. FMI: Jim (715) 384-6731 or Vic (715) 387-2068.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Weekly HIV/AIDS Social Group (Duluth, MN): The group meets from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple opera Block, Suite 309. An opportunity for men with HIV/AIDS to socialize and find support. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

OUTCARE Sexual Health Clinic (Milw.): A satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood inside the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. Walk-ins Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370.

SAGE, Senior Action in a Gay Environment (Milw.): For older gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transsexuals. Offers alternating game nights, movie nights, guest speakers and discussions every Friday, 6:30 p.m., LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 224-0517.

True Colors LGBT Youth Coffee Chats (Milw.): 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7-9 p.m. Open discussion and free beverages. Call for location. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

SATURDAYS

AIDS Network - HIV/AIDS Support Group (Madison): Meets from 10 a.m. to noon at UW Hospital, 600 Highland Ave. in K6/Rm. 280, 2nd floor. FMI: (608) 252-6540 or (800) 486-6276.

BESTD Clinic - Positively Social (Milw.): Drop-in HIV+ men's gathering -

no structure! No preaching! Videos and music, refreshments but no alcohol please. 8 p.m. to midnight, last Saturdays of the month, 1240 E. Brady St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Black & White Men Together (Milw.): Meetings are the third Saturday of the month, 7-9 p.m., at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: Milw4BWMT@aol.com.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 1094, topic meeting. Meets every Saturday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

GLB AA - Open Meeting (Madison): Every Saturday at 6 p.m. at Outreach, 14 W. Mifflin, Suite 103. FMI: call (608) 255-8582.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Social Night (Duluth, MN): Meets every Saturday. Activities include games, videos and other social events from 6-9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple Opera Block, Suite 309. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

Portluck/Social Gathering (Sheboygan): For gays and lesbians in the Sheboygan area, second Saturday of the month. Call for location and more information (920) 208-8695.

Transsexual Support Group (Madison): Offering support, direction, and social assistance to transsexuals who are pre-op, post-op, M-F, F-M, 18 or older. Seeks to help transsexuals in every aspect of their transition and journey. Confidentiality assured. Group meetings free. Meets third Saturday of the month at Outreach, 600 Williamson St., FMI: (608) 235-0512, or emailwistgroup@charter.net.

SUNDAYS

AA Rainbow Group (Kenosha): Meets at 7 p.m. every Sunday at St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th St. (west entrance). FMI: (262) 694-8951.

AA for GLBTs (Fond du Lac): 6:30 p.m., Fond du Lac County Health Care Center, 459 E. 1st St. FMI: Gay AA Hotline at (888) 492-3439.

Angels of Hope MCC - Religious Services (Allouez and Appleton): Services are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. at 3607 Libal St. in Allouez, and 5 p.m. at 815 N. Richmond St. in Appleton. FMI: (920) 991-0128.

Cream City Squares (Milw.): LGBT square dance club holds weekly dance every Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m., Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave. FMI: (414) 445-8080.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 394, step/topic meeting. Meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 1394, Big Book meeting. Meets every Sunday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 94, step/topic meeting. Meets every Sunday at 6 p.m., All Saints Cathedral, 816 E. Juneau Ave. FMI: (262) 790-0197.

Gay Al-Anon (Milw.): Papillon group, topic meeting. Meets every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay Al-Anon (Milw.): Group 94-1/2, step/topic/slogan meeting. Meets every Sunday at 6 p.m., All Saints Cathedral, 816 E. Juneau Ave. FMI: (262) 790-0197.

Gay Men's Discussion Group - Monthly Meeting (Milw.): The group meets at the Counseling Center of Milw., 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., every second Sunday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Topics range from relationships, dating and HIV/AIDS to spirituality and mental health. FMI: Bill Hanel at (414) 271-2565.

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church - Worship Service (Madison): Services at 9 and 11 a.m. at 2146 E. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 242-8887.

LGBT Catholics (Milw.): Monthly discussion group for LGBT Catholics meets from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at Holy Trinity/Guadalupe School, 613 S. 4th St. FMI: (414) 481-8543.

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus (Madison): Perfect Harmony is Madison's all-inclusive chorus for gay, bisexual, transgendered and gay-friendly/allied men. We are a non-audition chorus. We rehearse Sunday evenings from 7-9 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington St. FMI: (608) 221-9599.

Seeking Sobriety - Non-Religious Recovery Group (Milw.): This recovery group meets at 6 p.m. every Sunday at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St.

(use side door). FMI: Danny at (414) 540-0961 or Richard at (414) 442-1132.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting every Sunday at 6 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 299-0755.

Silver Space - Older Lesbian Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets on the third Sunday of the month at the Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., from 6 to 8 p.m. \$3 donation. FMI: (414) 271-2565.

University Congregational Church - Worship Service (Madison): Weekly services are at 10 a.m. at 1127 University Ave. FMI: (608) 256-2353.

MONDAYS

BGLASS - Weekly Meeting (Appleton): The Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Society meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 109 of Coleman Hall at Lawrence University Memorial Union, 615 E. College Ave. FMI: Irene (920) 722-7572 or Bernie (920) 982-0220.

Gay AA (Milw.): "Come to Believe" group — spirituality in the AA program Meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA/Gay Al-Anon - 12-Step Meetings (Racine): These recovery groups meet every Monday at 625 College Ave. at 8 p.m. FMI: Art at (414) 694-0115.

Gay/Bi Men's AA - Closed Meeting (Madison): Meets at 8 p.m. at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave. FMI: (608) 222-8989.

LGBT Youth Pride Support Group - New Meeting (Green Bay): This group will be available to youth every Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Counseling Center, 311 Jefferson St. FMI: (920) 437-4325.

OUTCARE Sexual Health Clinic (Milw.): A satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood inside the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. Walk-ins Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370.

True Colors LGBT Youth Activity Nights (Milw.): 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave., 1st Floor Conference room. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

Two Spirit Society (Milw.): Cultural and social support group for indigenous LGBT people, with tribal origins from North, Central and South America. Monthly events, LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 985-5151.

WISH - Generic AA 12-Step Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 6 p.m. at the Atwood Community Ctr., 2425 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 249-5096.

UWM Rainbow Alliance (Milw.): University LGBT group meets at 7:30 p.m. in Student Union Room E307. FMI: (414) 229-6555.

TUESDAYS

Gay AA (Milw.): The Over and Under 40 group. Topic meeting, everyone is welcome. Meets every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Meeting every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite #201. FMI call (414) 276-6936.

Gay Narcotics Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting. Basic Text. Meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

HIV/AIDS Support Group - Fox Cities (Menasha): Free, confidential and open to any person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Family Resource Assn. of Fox Valley, Midway Rd., 1488 Kenwood Drive. FMI: (920) 739-4226 or Sylvia at (920) 675-9400.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. Drop-in nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Madison Community Health Ctr. - HIV Testing (Madison): Free, anonymous, walk-in HIV testing from 3 to 5:45 p.m. at 1133 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-0704.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Open Discussion Group (Duluth, MN): Meets weekly from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Tem-

ple Opera Block, Suite 309. Topics include coming out issues, support & resources. No age limits. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

OUTCARE Sexual Health Clinic (Milw.): A satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood inside the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. Walk-ins Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370. PFLAG Milw. Open Office (Milw.): A representative of Milwaukee PFLAG will be available to speak to parents, youth or anyone who wants to stop and say hello each Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Radical Faerie Heart Circle (Madison): 9 p.m., Martha's Co-op, 225 E. Lakelawn, near McTaggart's. FMI: (608) 442-1695.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting. "The Blue Group" meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Sober Seniors AA Meeting (Milw.): This meeting is focused on the unique recovery needs of elders, and meets every Tuesday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 3200 W. Highland Blvd. FMI: ElderLink (414) 289-6874.

UHS Counseling & Consultation Services Sex Out Loud (Madison): This discussion group for Gay/Bi students meets in the Memorial Union at 12 Noon every Tuesday. FMI: (608) 265-4901.

Womansong Rehearsal (Madison): This women's chorale meets at the Beth Israel Center at 7 p.m. FMI: (608) 222-2987.

Yoga Spirit Free Classes (Milw.): Every Tuesday there are free classes for all people living with HIV. Among other things you can reduce stress and ease neuropathy & joint pain. Classes are held at 301 N. Water St., Suite 410 at 3:30 p.m. FMI: (414) 289-9660.

WEDNESDAYS

Diversity G/L Resource Ctr. Coming Out Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meets every Wednesday at 610 E. State St. from 7 to 8 p.m. FMI: (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 494, 12 Steps/12 Traditions. Meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay/Bi Men's Al Anon Group (Madison): Meets at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave., every Wednesday at 6 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-4107 or (608) 846-2860.

HIV/AIDS Support Group (Milw.): Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon and 7-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave.

HIV/AIDS Support Group (Green Bay): Free, confidential and open to any person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. Meetings take place at Renaissance Healing Arts Ctr., 311 S. Jefferson from 7:30 to 9 p.m. FMI: (920) 437-4325 or Sylvia at (800) 675-9400.

HIV Testing (Milw.): ARCW provides free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing every Wednesday from 4-7 p.m., Milwaukee LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 225-1535 or 271-HOMO.

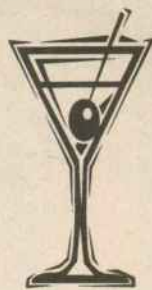
LGBT Campus Center Les/Bi Curious Women's Group (Madison): This weekly group, open specifically to lesbian, bisexual and curious women who are UWM students, meets every Wednesday night, 8 p.m. at the LGBT Campus Center on the second floor of the UWM Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St.

Madison Vet Center GLB Veterans Meeting (Madison): The group meets every Wednesday at 147 S. Butler at 5 p.m. FMI: (608) 262-7084 or (608) 264-5342.

Queer Chicks Social Group (Madison): Meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at 219 N. Hamilton St. FMI: (608) 265-3344.

True Colors LGBT Youth (Milw.): ARCW's youth group holds drop-in activity nights every second and fourth Wednesday at 820 N. Plankinton Ave. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

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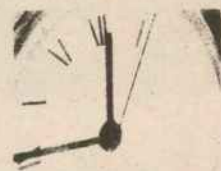
THURS. • Pull Tabs, drinks as low as 25-cents

FRIDAY Hors D'ouves • **SAT. & SUN.** • Juice Drinks \$3 11am-6pm, \$1.40 mugs

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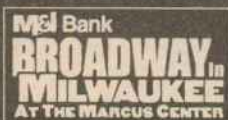
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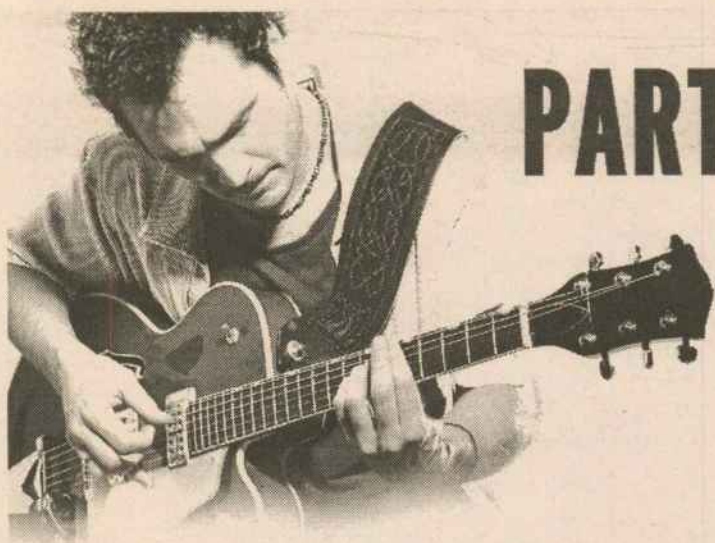
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Marcus Amphitheater

June 26	7:00 PM	Peter Gabriel/Sevara Nazarkhan
June 27	7:30 PM	Ben Harper & the Innocent Criminals/Jack Johnson
June 28	7:30 PM	Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers
June 29	8:00 PM	Fleetwood Mac
June 30	7:30 PM	Foo Fighters/Pete Yorn
July 1	5:30 PM	The Dead with special guest Willie Nelson & Family
July 2	7:30 PM	Toby Keith/Blake Shelton
July 3	7:30 PM	BoDeans/Guster
July 4	7:30 PM	Santana/Angelique Kidjo
July 5	7:30 PM	Kenny Chesney/Keith Urban/Deana Carter
July 6	7:30 PM	Good Charlotte/Hoobastank

Briggs & Stratton Big Backyard with Miller High Life

June 26	11:00 PM	The Neville Brothers
June 27	10:00 PM	LL Cool J
June 28	10:00 PM	Little Richard
June 29	8:00 PM	Pete Francis
	10:00 PM	Blues Traveler
June 30	10:00 PM	The Moody Blues
July 1	10:00 PM	The Fabulous Thunderbirds
July 2	8:00 PM	Jessica Andrews
	10:00 PM	Phil Vassar
July 3	10:00 PM	Michelle Branch
July 4	10:00 PM	The Funk Brothers
July 5	5:00 PM	Jimmy Stewart
	8:00 PM	David Benoit
	10:00 PM	Rick Braun
July 6	10:00 PM	The Love Monkeys

Harley-Davidson Roadhouse with Miller Genuine Draft

June 26	11:00 PM	CCR (Creedence Clearwater Revisited)
June 27	10:00 PM	Buddy Guy
June 28	10:00 PM	Sum 41
June 29	7:30 PM	Dark Star Orchestra
June 30	10:00 PM	Joe Cocker
July 1	8:00 PM	Vonyse
	10:00 PM	India.Arie
July 2	8:00 PM	Wishbone Ash
	10:00 PM	Savoy Brown featuring Kim Simmonds
July 3	10:00 PM	George Thorogood & The Destroyers
July 4	8:00 PM	Arrested Development
	10:00 PM	Black Eyed Peas
July 5	10:00 PM	Morris Day & The Time
July 6	10:00 PM	Evanescence

Miller Lite Oasis

June 26	9:00 & 10:45 PM	Eddie Butts Band
June 27	10:00 PM	Default
June 28	10:00 PM	Everclear
June 29	10:00 PM	Eve 6
June 30	8:45 & 10:45 PM	The Love Monkeys
July 1	8:45 & 10:45 PM	Dirty Dozen Brass Band
July 2	10:00 PM	Reverend Horton Heat
July 3	10:00 PM	Jonny Lang
July 4	10:00 PM	Collective Soul
July 5	10:00 PM	David Lee Roth
July 6	10:00 PM	Dennis De Young (former singer of Styx)

Mountain Dew Rock Stage with Miller Lite & Lazer 103

June 26	11:00 PM	Local H
June 27	10:00 PM	RA
June 28	10:00 PM	Sevendust
June 29	10:00 PM	Powerman 5000
June 30	10:00 PM	Andrew W.K.
July 1	10:00 PM	Taproot
July 2	10:00 PM	Mudvayne
July 3	8:00 PM	Seether
	10:00 PM	Trapt
July 4	10:00 PM	Quiet Riot
July 5	6:30 PM	Theory of a Deadman
	8:00 PM	Blindside
	10:00 PM	(hed) P.E.
July 6	10:00 PM	Saliva

Piggly Wiggly MusicMarket with Leinenkugel's & CBS 58 Milwaukee

June 26	11:00 PM	Steel Pulse
June 27	10:00 PM	Willy Porter Band
June 28	10:00 PM	Arturo Sandoval
June 29	10:00 PM	Spyro Gryra
June 30	10:00 PM	Fleadh Festival:
	3:30 PM	Eileen Ivers
	5:30 PM	Black 47
	7:30 PM	Hothouse Flowers
	10:00 PM	The Saw Doctors
July 1	10:00 PM	Rusted Root
July 2	10:00 PM	Ben Folds
July 3	10:00 PM	O.A.R.
July 4	10:00 PM	John Hiatt
July 5	10:00 PM	Common
July 6	10:00 PM	The Jayhawks

Potawatomi Bingo Casino Stage with Sprecher Brewery

June 26	8:30 PM	Sweetbottom
	11:00 PM	Blind Boys of Alabama
June 27	10:00 PM	funky Meters
June 28	10:00 PM	Tito Nieves & Orquesta
June 29	7:30 PM	Aswah Gregori
	10:00 PM	Lucky Dube
June 30	5:30 PM	Michelle Shocked
	8:30 PM	The Radiators
July 1	10:00 PM	Buckwheat Zydeco
July 2	7:30 PM	Donna the Buffalo
	10:00 PM	Jerry Jeff Walker
July 3	8:00 PM	John Mayall & The Bluesbreakers
	10:00 PM	Potawatomi Legends Show
July 4	3:30 PM	Sonny Landreth
	8:00 PM	Larry McCray
	10:00 PM	Dickey Betts & Great Southern
July 5	4:00 PM	Bowzer's Rock & Roll Party
	8:00 PM	Johnny Rawls
	10:00 PM	Shemekia Copeland
July 6	7:30 PM	Daryl Steurmer
	10:00 PM	Los Lobos

North Shore Bank Landing with Miller Lite

June 26	11:00 PM	"Weird Al" Yankovic
June 27	10:00 PM	Steve Winwood
June 28	10:00 PM	Nitty Gritty Dirt Band
June 29	10:00 PM	Cheap Trick
June 30	8:00 PM	Brave Combo
	10:00 PM	the Big Wu
July 1	3:30 PM	Galactic
	10:00 PM	Paul Cebar & The Milwaukeeans
July 2	10:00 PM	Reel Big Fish
July 3	8:00 PM	Fountains of Wayne
	10:00 PM	Wilco
July 4	8:30 PM	DJ Set by BT
	10:00 PM	DJ Set by The Crystal Method
July 5	10:00 PM	The Boogie Men
July 6	10:00 PM	The Wallflowers

Hyundai Big Easy Club with 94.5 WTKI and Miller Lite

June 26	6:00 PM	Terrance Simien
June 27	5:00 & 7:00 PM	Sean Morey
June 28	6:00 PM	Cowboy Mouth
June 29	6:00 PM	Bryan Lee
June 30	5:00 & 7:00 PM	Lewis Black
July 1	5:00 & 7:00 PM	Will Durst
July 2	6:00 PM	Geno Delafosse & French Rockin' Boogie
July 3	6:00 PM	Chubby Carrier & The Bayou Swamp Band
July 4	6:00 PM	Robert Randolph & the Family Band
July 5	6:00 PM	The Iguanas
July 6	6:00 PM	Marcia Ball

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JUNE 26 ▶ JULY 6



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STAGE

Elaine Stritch

By Carl M. Szatmary

Prior to the 2002 Tony Awards, Elaine Stritch was hardly a household name. Despite appearances in a handful of movies. Sure, theatre aficionados and regular Broadway audiences would surely remember this feisty performer from such musicals as Stephen Sondheim's "Company" and Noel Coward's "Sail Away" as well as such straight plays as "Bus Stop" and "A Delicate Balance."

All that changed last year when her one-woman show, "Elaine Stritch at Liberty" won a Tony for 2002 Special Theatrical Event. Producers for the awards show, doggedly determined to keep within CBS's time restraints, unceremoniously hustled Ms. Stritch off-stage before this Broadway legend had even a chance to catch her breath and collect her thoughts.

The ensuing uproar was unprecedented, nearly rivaling that caused by Bud Selig's decision to end last year's Major League Baseball All-Star game as a tie.

Well, almost.

After a successful run on Broadway and in London last fall, Elaine Stritch has hit the road, bringing "Elaine Stritch at Liberty" to Chicago's Shubert Theatre earlier this month.

For the nearly capacity crowd on closing night, this was, quite simply, an absolute love affair. Starkly set against the theatre's bare brick wall, Ms. Stritch enters clad in only a white shirt and a pair of black rehearsal tights. For 78, she looks sensational. When the thunderous

applause dies down, she takes a moment to stare straight at the audience. Then, with her usual gravelly drawl, she perfectly sets the tone for the evening, "Yeah, well, it's like the prostitute once said - it's not the work, it's the stairs."

While this opening line might not quite match Margo Channing's "Fasten your seat belts, it's going to be a bumpy night" from "All About Eve," audiences immediately clue in that this isn't going to be a sugar-coated spin on Stritch's lengthy career.

What follows is a cleverly constructed (by theatre critic John Lahr) and re-constructed (by Elaine Stritch) pastiche of songs and anecdotes. The show blends songs into a very human context, balancing professional joys, achievements and yes, failures with examples of her well-known temper, bouts of loneliness and her lifelong battle with the bottle. Only during the second act does "Elaine Stritch at Liberty" flirt briefly with hints of maudlin sentimentality.

Not surprisingly, the emphasis is on the songs of Sondheim and Coward, with Stritch in good form with a rousing "Why Do the Wrong People Travel," "Broadway Baby," "I'm Still Here" and, of course, her signature song, "The Ladies Who Lunch."

Some of her stories are hilarious. Her reminiscences of Ethel Merman while understudying the great lady on "Call Me Madam" are priceless and alone worth the price of admission. Equally entertaining are stories of losing a starring role on television's "Golden Girls" as well as the misadventures experienced during an ill-fated revival of "The Women" with Gloria Swanson.

The personal stuff is very personal

indeed. After a fiasco dating Marlon Brando and later Gig Young, she describes her two-year relationship with actor Ben Gazzara. Eventually she rejects Ben Gazzara in favour of Rock Hudson, and as Elaine quips, "And we all know what a bum decision that turned out to be!"

She pauses, and then with wry, self-deprecating humor ponders, "Maybe if I had a Diet Coke or two along the way, I might have made some grown-up decisions."

"Elaine Stritch at Liberty" proves to be a memorable punctuation on the life and career of one singularly extraordinary performer.

Bat Boy:
The Musical

By Carl M. Szatmary

The subjects for popular musicals have rarely been culled from the pages of supermarket tabloids but such is the case with Bialystock & Bloom's latest guilty pleasure, "Bat Boy: The Musical."

Although not usually an avid reader of such fine journalist endeavors, even I can recall, some years back, a screaming headline that proclaimed the existence of a strange creature, half-bat, half-human. Curious material for a musical? Perhaps. Then again, who would have thought that "Cats" would turn into the theatrical phenomenon that it proved to be.

Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming's book begins with the discovery of the so-called Bat Boy (Matthew Michael) in a rural West Virginia cave, outside the ironically named Hope Falls. As is so often the case with such strange and astonishing discoveries, someone immediately suggests that the best thing to do is to kill it, especially since it did bite one young woman.

Instead, the town's Sheriff (Karl Miller) decides to leave it, metaphorically speaking, on the doorstep of the town veterinarian, Dr. Parker (Bryce Lord). Our humane Vet seems fine with that course of action

but his wife, Meredith (Laura Monagle), stops him. In fact, she is quite adamant. She is very adamant, indeed, singing to the poor creature the lovely, "A Home for You."

Soon the Bat Boy, christened Edgar, has become a part of the Parker household. A bright lad, he begins to learn English from some BBC audio tapes. Soon Edgar sounds as if he stumbled off some episode of Masterpiece Theatre. He and the Parker's daughter Shelly (Logan Adams) become quite attached. The future is looking mighty rosy for Edgar.

Or is it?

There is, of course, at least one fly in the proverbial ointment. For one thing, our poor protagonist continues to need blood to survive. Worse, the townsfolk still want him dead.

Director Paula Suozzi has assembled a terrific cast of singers and dancers, most of whom play more than one part, and all who seem to exude energy and enthusiasm. Still, this doubling up of roles leads to some awkward scene transitions. On more than one occasional one character dies, only to have the actor quickly don some slight costume change, pop up, and speak as another character.

Suozzi keeps the proceedings going at a crackling pace, leaving the audience little time to ponder the veracity of the on-stage goings-on. Only during the orgasmic "Children, Children" number does this production's slim grasp of reality begin to quaver.

From top to bottom, the entire cast enlivens "Bat Boy." Central is Matthew Miller's extraordinary performance as Edgar, the Bat Boy. Beginning as a convincing crouching and drooling creature, Miller's Edgar quickly emerges as a sympathetic young man. Laura Monagle is terrific as Edgar's doting mother while Karl Miller's inept Sheriff and Ron Lee's cigar-smoking Mama Taylor provide plenty of laughs.

Leaving the theatre, this critic overheard another from the audience declare, "It was the strangest musical I've ever seen but I loved it." Well, that pretty much says it all.

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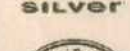
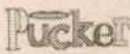
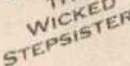
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7-10pm Welcome to MN Party
Location: Minneapolis Eagle

FRIDAY, JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY

6-9pm Contestant Registration
Meet the Contestants Beer Bust
Location: Trikkx, St. Paul
10pm Taste of MN - Fireworks!
Location: Mississippi River, St. Paul

SATURDAY, JULY 5

10am Morning Rodeo Events Begin
Noon • Grand Entry
1-5pm Afternoon Rodeo Events
5-7pm North Star Cookout
7-11pm Dance under the Big Tent
Location: Dead Broke Arena

SUNDAY, JULY 6 - FAMILY DAY!

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Noon • Grand Entry
1-5pm Afternoon Rodeo Events
Location: Dead Broke Arena
7pm Awards Dinner
8pm Awards Ceremony
9pm-1am Country Western Dancing
Location: Gay 90's Minneapolis

MONDAY, JULY 7

7-10pm Rodeo Cool Down Party
Location: Saloon, Minneapolis

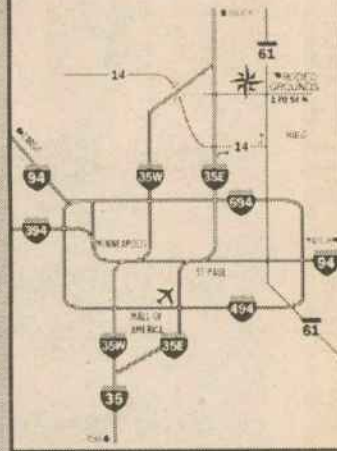
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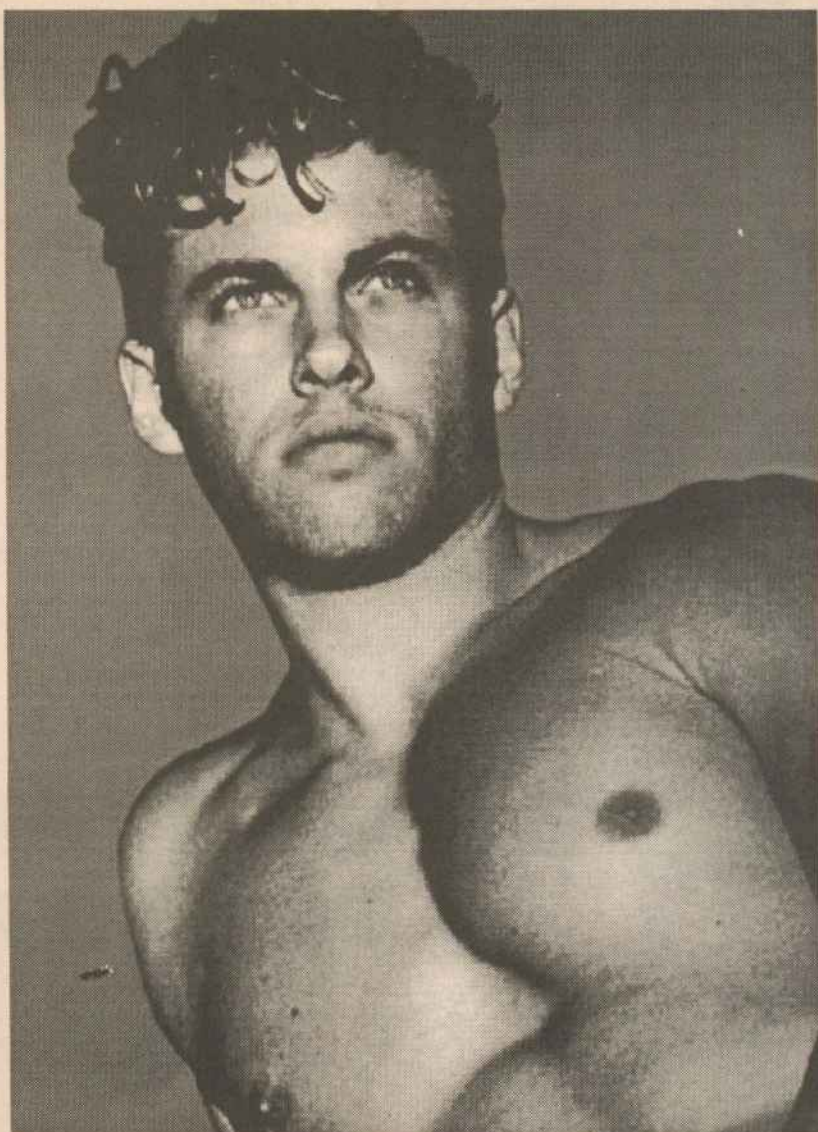
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Dear Ruthie



Hello friends! I'm comin' to ya via the Woldorf in New York City! Pearl and I snatched invites to the party of the

year — the Olson twins turned 17!

As creepy old men across America wait for Mary Kate and Ashley to reach the age of consent, the dynamic duo threw themselves a party in the Big Apple. (And if you don't believe me about the old men, just check out Web sites such as www.chasebrown.com/olson.htm.)

The party was interesting to say the least. There was plenty of Olson memorabilia scattered about and "Full House" episodes played on projection televisions throughout the ballroom. Anyone who is anyone was there, but I hooked up with a hot and hairy midget that the Olson's use for stunt work. Pearl spent most of her evening chasing after John Stamos, or should I say she spent the evening chasing someone she thought was John Stamos. The swarthy-looking guy turned out to be a dishwasher at Chi-Chi's. Poor Pearl didn't realize this until she woke up beneath him the next morning, but she did steal one of his hairnets as a remembrance.

The party was going well, until the group in the ballroom next to ours crashed the Olson's event. It turns out that Steve-O from "Jackass" shares a birthday with the angelic Olsons. (For those of you who are cable-impaired, "Jackass" is an MTV show about skuzzy-looking straight guys who are obsessed with throwing things at one another's genitalia.)

Those bastards streaked through the birthday party and started playing Pin The Tail On Justin Timberlake's Ass. Justin went screaming out of the ballroom. "I'll get you silly bastards!" he cried through tears.

I saw Steve-O trying to fasten a shock collar on the kid from "Malcolm in the Middle" while the boys from 98

Degrees were busy dodging a drunk Johnny Knoxville, who was aiming a fire extinguisher at them. (Of course, Knoxville was naked at the time with cloths pins pinching his nipples.)

It was at this point that I decided to call it a night. The little stuntman I met wanted me to lube him from head to toe and use him like a loofa sponge. Besides, Steve-O was trying to break wind on the laps of the "American Idol" losers and Clay's screams were deafening.

My little buddy and I headed back to my room where he punched my dance card like a champ. The next morning, we found this letter under my door, so I thought I'd answer it here. Enjoy.

Dear Ruthie—

My husband is a liar and a cheater. He has cheated on me with other women for as long as I can remember. When I confront him, he denies everything. What's worse is that everyone knows that he cheats on me. It is so humiliating and upsetting.

Since he lost his job a few years ago, he hasn't even looked for a new one. All he does is sit around the house while I work to make ends meet. And since our daughter went away to college he doesn't even pretend to have any interest in me. What should I do?

Clueless

Dear Clueless,

Dump him. You're a New York senator now. You don't need him.

Okay...okay...this "letter" was a cheap shot using a joke many of you may have heard already, but I simply HAD to use it. Sorry.

If you have a question or comment you'd like to see in my column, why not drop me a line? Send your queries, problems and dirty photos to dearruthie@instepnews.com.

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SAGE/Milwaukee

(Senior Action in a Gay Environment)

Serving older gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transsexuals.

Friday, June 20

SAGE social worker, Jan Singer, will have a training session for those volunteering for SAGE's Telephone Companion and Friendly Visitor programs. Please call for more info.

P.O. Box 510492

Milwaukee, WI 53203-0091

(414) 224-0517

www.sagemilwaukee.com

THE GUIDE

Listings in Wisconsin IN Step's Guide are free of charge. e-mail them to: guide@instepnews.com

Statewide

Action Wisconsin: Congress for Human Rights, Inc.
1202 Williamson St., Madison 53703(608) 441-0143
E-mail: info@actionwisconsin.org
Website: www.actionwisconsin.org

AIDS Action Wisconsin
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (800) 359-9272
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (414) 273-1991
.....(800) 359-9272

BiNet USA (National bisexual political organization)
(<http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/binet.html>)
.....(202) 882-4384

Continental Pageant System
Appleton, WI (920) 832-0492 (Neely)
Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline (Fri/Sat Eves 7pm-11pm)
GAY-YOUTH Milwaukee Metro(414) 272-TEEN

Wisconsin IN Step (Wisconsin's LGBT Newspaper)
1661 N. Water St., Suite 411, Milwaukee, 53202
.....(414) 278-7840
FAX only(414) 278-5868
Website: www.instepnews.com

Log Cabin Republicans/Wisconsin(414) 299-9443
P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201

New Beginnings PENPALS (Mo. newsletter)
Box 25, Westby 54667

OutBound (Monthly Entertainment Guide)
P. O. Box 1461, Brookfield 53008(414) 915-3806
Website: outbound@media2go.com

Pride in Wisconsin Government (LGBT public employees)
c/o OutReach, P.O. Box 310
Madison, WI 53701(608) 255-8582

Quest (bi-weekly G/L Bar/Entertainment publication)
PO Box 1961, Green Bay, 54301
.....(414) 433-9821

Rainbow Families Wisconsin (LGBT-Family Support)
600 Williamson St., Suite 1P, Madison 53703-3588
.....(608) 270-1024

Website: www.geocities.com/rainbowfamilieswisconsin/
USofA Wisconsin Pageants
405 West Walnut St., Green Bay, WI 54303
.....(920) 655-0611

.....(800) 578-3785
Wisconsin AIDS Library(414) 225-1539
arcwlib@execpc.com(800) 359-9272

Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymos)
.....(414) 273-AIDS
.....(800) 334-AIDS

WI Conference of Churches
(AIDS Caring Community)(608) 244-0894

Wisconsin DHFS HIV/AIDS Program
Drug Reimbursement Program
Health Insurance Premium Subsidy Program
1 W. Wilson St., Rm. 318

P.O. Box 2659, Madison 53701-2659(800) 991-5532
WI Legislative Hotline(800) 362-WISC

Fox Cities/NE (920)

BARS

Crossroads (Wm, F)
1042 W. Wisconsin Ave.,
Appleton, WI 54911830-1927

Rascals Bar & Grill (MW, F)
702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton 54911954-9262

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals)731-4331

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
120 N. Morrison St., Suite 201, 54911733-2068
Website: www.arcw.org

Gay, Lesbian, Other, Whatever (GLOW)
Lawrence University, 207 South Meade,
Appleton832-7051
Web: www.lawrence.edu/sorg/glow

GSA at UW-Fox Valley
1478 Midway Road, Menasha832-2671
jkuemper@uwfc.edu

GLBT & Q Youth Partnership (Youth support group)
Meets Tuesdays 6-8 pm731-4847

HIV+ Support Groups Northeast733-2068

Lavender Reading Salon (Book Club)832-6184
2611 N. Summit St., 54914-2120
Website: www.lavendersalon.org

The Network (LGBT Awareness)
Ripon College, 300 Seward Street PO Box 248
Ripon 54971-0248745-7455

Hoell@ripion.edu

PFLAG Fox Cities
Box 75, Little Chute, 54140749-1629

Web: www.pflagfoxcities.org
Rainbow Alliance for HOPE (UW-O group)
Reeve Memorial Union, 748 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh
54901, HOPE@uwosh.edu

Web: www.uwosh.edu/organizations/hope
Rainbow Over Wisconsin
703 E. Wisconsin Ave., 54911-4830

Web: www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org
TSON (Transgender Support) Appleton
.....733-1883
.....788-4797

Religious

Angels of Hope (MCC Church)
815 N. Richmond991-0128

Green Bay (920)

Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2600 E. Philip Lane Appleton731-0849
vuuf@focol.org Web: www.focol.org/vuuf

Prarie Lakes UU Society745-2446
P.O. Box 574 Ripon, WI 54971-0574
Meeting address: 315 Eureka St., Ripon

Green Bay/NE

ACCOMMODATIONS

Chanticleer Guest House
4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234 ... 746-0334
BlackSmith Inn Bed & Breakfast
Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202839-9222

Prince Edward B&B(715) 526-2805
203 West 5th Street, Shawano 54166

BARS

AJ's on Broadway (Mw)436-9970
301 S. Broadway, 54303

Brandys II (MW)437-3917
1126 Main Street, Greeng Bay, 54301

Buddies (MW)437-9256
1264 Main Street, Green Bay, 54301

Club XS (MW, G/S, DJ, V)
1106 Main, 54301884-2949

Napalese Lounge (MW, DJ, F)
515 S. Broadway 54303432-9646

SASS (Wm, DJ) 437-7727
840 S. Broadway, 54304

Sorry, We're Closed (MW)884-2835
715 S. Broadway, 54304

Za's Historic West Theatre (Mw, G/S, DJ, V, F)
405 W. Walnut St., 54303435-1057

MEDICAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
824 S. Broadway, 54304920-437-7400
.....800-675-9400

Web: www.arcw.org

Eastport Chiropractic (Mory Werner D. C.)
Eastport Center, Suite 242, 54301362-5057

HIV+ Support Groups Northeast437-7400

Indepent Assesment & Counseling (Kenneth Sahn)
130 E. Walnut, #406 54301438-8141

Marriage and Family Therapy Center (Gerald Wellens)
735 E. Walnut, #406, 54301432-8777

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals)731-4331

Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club)
PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305-2096

Entertainers Against AIDS (Brandon)
.....437-7400 X. 103
P. O. Box 2040, Green Bay 54306-2040

Katrina Kaye Productions (USofA preliminaries)
Green Bay435-4107

PFLAG Door County (Sandy)743-8146
Meetings: Hope Church, 12th & Michigan, Sturgeon Bay

Positive Voice (Gay and Lesbian Support)
P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305435-4404
Web: www.positivevoice.org or PVnew4glbt@aol.com

Rainbow Alliance (St. Norbert College)
100 Grant Street DePere 54115-2099
www.snc.edu/rainbow/index.htm or rainbow@snc.edu

Straight & Gay Alliance (SAGA)
UW-GB(Brian)465-2343
Web: www.uwgb.edu/tenpcnt

Religious

Angels of Hope (MCC Church)
3607 Libal Street, 54301983-7453

Green Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2201 S. Oneida, Green Bay 54304499-2344
Web: www.greenbayuu.org

Union Congregational Church-UCC
716 S. Madison St, Green Bay 54301437-9266

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County
269 Koessl Lane, Sister Bay 54234854-7235
P.O. Box 859, Sister Bay, WI 54234-0859

Madison (608)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Prairie Garden B&B
W13172 Hwy 188, Lodi, 53555 (800) 380-8427

MEDICAL

AIDS Network (HIV/AIDS Service Organization)
600 Williamson St, 53701252-6540

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
222 State St., 53701258-9103
.....(800) 518-9910

Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday)
1552 University Avenue 53705262-7330

Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital (HIV Counseling/Testing)
80 1st St., Prairie du Sac, 53578643-7583

BARS

CE's (Wm)
2415 Winnebago St., 53704241-5042

Club 5 (MW, DJ, V, F)
Includes: The Barracks (Mw, L/L), The Foxhole(W),
(Planet Q (MW),
5 Applegate Court, 53713277-9700

Web: www.club-5.com

Club Majestic (MW, G/S, DJ, V)
115 King St. 53701251-2582
Web: www.clubmajestic.net

Shamrock (GS, MW, F, D)
117 W. Main St. 53703255-5029

Greenbush (G/S, M/W, F)
914 Regent, 53715257-BUSH

Rainbow Room (MW)
121 West Main St., 53703258-5838

ORGANIZATIONS

Briarpatch
512 E. Washington St. 53703257-0394
Web: www.brpatch.org

Brew City Bears
P.O. Box 8815, 53708-8815, Milw.299-0401
E-mail: bcbears@aol.com

Campus Womens Center
710 University Ave, #202, 53715 262-8093

Different Spokes G/LB Bicycling Club241-8184
18-21 Yr Old Social Group256-2667

Flaming Dykasaurus241-7020
E-mail: dykasaur@aol.com

Frontiers (Gay/Bi Mens Activities Organ.)
600 Williamson St, 53703274-5959

Gay/Bi Father's Group
600 Williamson St, 53703255-8582

Gay/Lesbian Information Recording
(ask for tape #3333)263-3100

Gay Mens Video Club
P.O. Box 8234, 53708244-8675

GLBT Phone Line (Outreach)255-4297

Jewish Lesbians256-8883
E-mail: catherine-odette@juno.com

Kissing Girls Productions (Lesbian Events) 266-9997
E-Mail: kgpgirlz@hotmail.com

Lavender (Lesbian Domestic Violence Support Group)
.....255-7447

LesBiGay Issues Committee (UW Advisory Comm.)
Dean of Students Office,
75 Bascom Hall, Madison 53706263-5700

LesBiGay Campus Center (Office, Lounge,
Resource Center) UW Union265-3344

LesBiGay Teen Support Group251-1126
(Briarpatch & Picada) or246-7606

Lesbian, Gay and Bi Law Student Union
UW Law School, Bascom Mall, Madison 53706

Lesbian Health Issues Task Force242-6256
E-mail: sievert@co.dane.wi.us

Lizzards (Lesbians 30 and over)586-4499
E-mail: cannon@maqs.net

Madison Area Gay/Lesbian History Society 839-4060
E-mail: dbergren@facstaff.wisc.edu

Mad City Bears225-8582
c/o OutReach, 600 Williamson, Madison 53706

Madison LGBT Business Alliance245-1611
www.lgballiance.org

Madison Volleyball Group (Jeff)251-8716

Madison Wrestling Club
P.O. Box 8234, 53708244-8675

MAGIC Picnic Committee c/o Outreach 255-8582

Mens Alanon255-8582

New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation)
P.O. Box 1786, 53701

OutReach, Inc.
600 Williamson St, 53703255-8582
email: outreachinc.com, web: www.outreachinc.com

Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
P.O. Box 1722, 53701

Perfect Harmony Chorus831-3609
P.O. Box 14706, 53714-4706

Rainbow Community Collective (L/G/B/T Social Org)
Wil-Mar Neighborhood Ctr. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
953 Jenifer Street (Lira)(608) 238-9150

Rural Dykes Association (social)767-3150

SAGE/Madison-Dane255-8582

Scrawl (Women's Open Mic, Music)245-9681

<http://www.checkpages.com/brainiacs/allgirlscrawl>

Shake It Up! (L/G/B/T Social Org)240-0504
<http://www.aplaceforus.org/shakeitup.htm>

Stage Q (Theater Group)663-6463
<http://www.stageq.com>

10% Society (student organization)
<http://tps.storg.wisc.edu>, e-mail:
P.O. Box 260394, 53726262-7365

Unicorns of Madison (L/L club)
P.O. Box 536, 53701

UW LesBiGay Alumni Council262-2551

Womonsong (Women's Choral Group)246-2681

RELIGIOUS

Affirmation (L/G United Methodists)
University Church, 1127 Univ. Ave, 53705
256-2353

Church of the Holy Spirit (Inclusive)
2144 E. Johnson St., (meeting at James Reeb)
.....661-4462

Coming Out, Coming Together (Interfaith)
.....249-1537
E-mail: cwolfe@mailbag.com

First Congregational UCC Church233-9751
1609 University Ave., 53705
Web: www.firstcongmadison.org

Integrity/Dignity
P.O. Box 730, 53701836-8886

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church
2146 E. Johnson, 53704242-8887

Services

Victoria Hewett Cazel (Attorney)
6701 Seybold Rd., Suite 103270-1709

KMA Systems of Madison (Computer Consultants)
4702 Dutch Mill Road #14222-9128

Retail

Border's Books
3416 University Ave., 53705232-2600

Rubin's
317 E. Wilson St. 53704255-8998

Milwaukee (414)

Organizations

Aeon Group (Interactive Fiction Gaming)
P.O. Box 93953, 53203-0953291-0530

Alcoholics Anonymous
(Request gay meetings)771-9119

Bi Definition (Bisexual community events)
315 W. Court St., Suite 101299-9612
E-mail: bidef@hotmail.com

Brew City Bears299-0401
P.O. Box 1035, 53201
E-mail: brewcitybears@aol.com, www.brewcitybears.org

BWMT-Milwaukee(414) 540-9437, ext. 3
P.O. Box 091475, Milwaukee, 53209
bwmtmilwaukee@aol.com

Castaways M.C. (Levi/Leather club), P.O. Box 1697, 53202

Counseling Center (LGB support & discussion groups)
2038 N. Bartlett, 53202271-2565

Cream City Chorus
315 W. Court, 53212276-8787

Cream City Foundation (CCF)

Log Cabin Republicans (Gay Republicans)
P.O. Box 199, 53201299-9443
MGALA (Marquette U. GL Alumni)
P.O. Box 92722, 53202
Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance
Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233288-6873
Men's Voices Milwaukee
315 W. Court St., 53212765-9198
Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Brian)704-1688
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center271-2656
315 W. Court, 53212
.....www.mklgbt.org

Milwaukee Symphony Chorus
Auditions/Info414-559-9330
.....www.milwaukesymphony.org
Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.)800-711-6375
Orgullo Latino/a Latin Pride
(c/o Murguia) 1532 N. Astor St. 53202276-8546
Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group963-9833
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
907 S. 1st St., 53204299-9198
Pathfinders (youth counseling, shelter)
1614 E. Kane Place, 53202271-1560
PrideFest (annual Pride festival)
907 S. 1st St., 53204645-FEST
Web Site: www.pridefest.com
Project Q (Youth Program of the Milwaukee LGBT Center)
315 W. Court, 53212, www.projectq.org223-3220
The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)
PO Box 090441, 53209265-8500

Rainbow Alliance at UWM
Box 122, 2200 E. Kenwood 53211229-6555
Web: www.uwm.edu/studentorg/glbcl
Riverwest Rainbow Association
1001 E. Keefe Ave., 53212225-1645
SAGE Milwaukee (for older LGBTs)
P.O. Box 510492, 53203-0091224-0517
Saturday SoftBall League (SSBL)
P.O. Box 92605, 53203-0091454-9204
Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA)299-0755
Shoreline (country dancing, instruction)
P.O. Box 510283, 53203-0051747-0388
Silver Space (for older lesbians)
c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett271-2565
Two Spirit Society (Indigenous LGBT People of America)
315 W. Court St., 53212985-5151
Wisconsin Outdoor Women (outdoor sporting events)
P.O. Box 94, Hales Corners, 53130427-2082

RELIGIOUS

All Saints' Episcopal Church
818 E. Juneau Ave., 53202271-7719
.....www.ascatherdral.org
ARCW Spiritual Care
P.O. Box 92487, 53202 225-1565
Central United Methodist Church
639 N. 25th St., 53233
Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
1821 N. 16th St., 53205 344-1746
Dignity (G/L Catholic Church)
P.O. Box 597, 53201873-9591
First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist)
1342 N. Astor St., 53202273-5257
Lake Park Lutheran Church
2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211962-9190
Lutherans Concerned

P.O. Box 1676, 53201372-9663
Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church
(U/MCC) 1239 W. Mineral St., 53204
Adm. Office: 170 S. 2nd St., 53204383-1100
Pentecost Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
5226 W. Burleigh St., 53210445-2696
Pilgrim Christian Church
15400 W. North Ave., Brookfield 53005 (262) 782-6440
Plymouth Church-UCC (Open & Affirming)
2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211964-1513
The Sanctuary (Ecumenical, nondenominational)
1636 W. National Ave., 53204672-4434
St. Ann's Church
5933 W. National Ave., 53214259-1229
St. James Episcopal Church
833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233271-1340
Village Church (Reconciled in Christ)
130 E. Juneau Ave., 53202273-7617

Medical

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
820 Plankinton Ave., 53203273-1991
.....(800) 359-9272
Mark Behar, PA-C (Family/ Primary Care)
Family Care Center, 1834 W. WI, 53233933-3600
BESTD (Brady East STD Clinic) (STD/HIV diagnosis/treatment)
www.bestd.org; bestd@execpc.org
1240 E. Brady St., 53202272-2144
Health Options (Holistic Health Services)
823 N. 2nd Street, #811, 53202225-9303
Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms)
4311 W. Vliet, 53208342-4333
Positive Health Clinic
Medical Center Specialties Clinic
945 N 12, 53233219-7908
STD Specialties Clinic
3251 N. Holton, 53212264-8800

Bars

1 Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F)
196 S. 2nd St., 53204273-7474
4 Boom (Mw, D, V)
625 S. 2nd St., 53204277-5040
2 Boot Camp (M, L/L)
209 E. National Ave., 53204643-6900
3 C'est La Vie (Mw, D)
231 S. 2nd St., 53204291-9600
3 Club 219 (MW, DJ, V)
219 S. 2nd St., 53204271-3732
3 Dish (Wm, DJ)
235 S. 2nd St., 53204273-DISH
6 Fluid (Mw)
819 S. 2nd St., 53204645-8330
6 Harbor Room (L/L, Mw)
117 E. Greenfield Ave., 53204672-7988
22 Nut Hut (WM, G/S, F, D)
1500 W. Scott 53201647-2673
7 La Cage (Mw, DJ, V)
801 S. 2nd St., 53204383-8330
10 M&M Club (MW, F)
124 N. Water 53202347-1962
13 South Water Street Docks
354 E. National Ave., 53204225-9676
20 Off The Tracks (Wm, D)
1534 W. Grant 53215384-5680
5 Pulse (Mw, D, F)
200 E. Washington St., 53204649-9547
14 Switch (Mw)

124 W. National Ave., 53204220-4340
15 This Is It (M)
418 E. Wells 53202278-9192
16 Triangle (M, V)
135 E. National 53204383-9412
31 Woody's (Mw, D)
1579 S. 2nd St., 53204672-0806
32 Walker's Pint (Wm)
818 S. 2nd St., 53204643-7468

Restaurants

Azteca
816 South 5th St., 53202383-8816
Bella's Caffé (Coffee House)
189 N. Milwaukee St., 53204273-5620
Cafe Knickerbocker
1030 East Juneau, 53202272-0011
Cempazuchi
1205 E. Brady St., 53202291-5233
Chip and Pys
1340 W. Towne Square Rd., Mequon,241-9589
Cielito Lindo
733 South 2nd St., 53204649-0401
Harry's Bar and Grill
3539 N. Oakland Ave, 53211694-6800
10 M&M/Glass Menagerie (lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch)
124 N. Water 53202347-1962
North Shore Bistro
Riverpoint Village, I-43 & Brown Deer351-6100
Silver Dollar Cafe
831 South 16th Street, 53204645-8860

Help Lines

The Force
(referrals to GBLT counselors)276-8487
Gay People's Union645-0585
Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline (Fri/Sat Eves 7pm-11pm)
.....(866) GAY-YOUTH
Milwaukee Metro(414) 272-TEEN
Helpline (Crisis Counseling)271-3123
Pathfinders (24-hour youth counseling)271-1560
Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous)(414) 273-AIDS
.....(800) 334-AIDS

Services

Affiliated Mortgage453-6700
1233 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, 53218
A&J Promotions (Promotional Products)
aandjpromotions@aol.com332-9584
Bay Tax Service, Paul Rathjen332-9584
Frank J. Berger, (Real Estate)(414) 213-5842
B&G Construction405-7843
Sean Buckley (Individual Psychotherapy)562-2403
Bill Buresh (Real Estate)529-0500
Calyx Counseling Center (Kate Weishaar, Ph.D.)
1840 N. Farwell Ave.,276-4664
Carnival Travel, 611 E. Wells St.276-3388
Clarity (Writing and Research)276-6935
Creative Home Concepts (Home/Remodel)766-1066
Downtown Autobody (Car Repair)
3425 N. Holton Ave.964-7170
Roland E. Daneau, CPA (Accountant)962-1400
Discovery & Recovery Clinic (Counseling)
6510 W. Layton Ave, 53215282-6160
Diva Plumbing Co.324-6698
Residential & Commercial, divaplumbers@aol.com
Dykeman Family Heating (heating/cooling)
1023 E. Brady St., 53202273-7500
Theodore I. Friedmap, PhD (Psychotherapist)

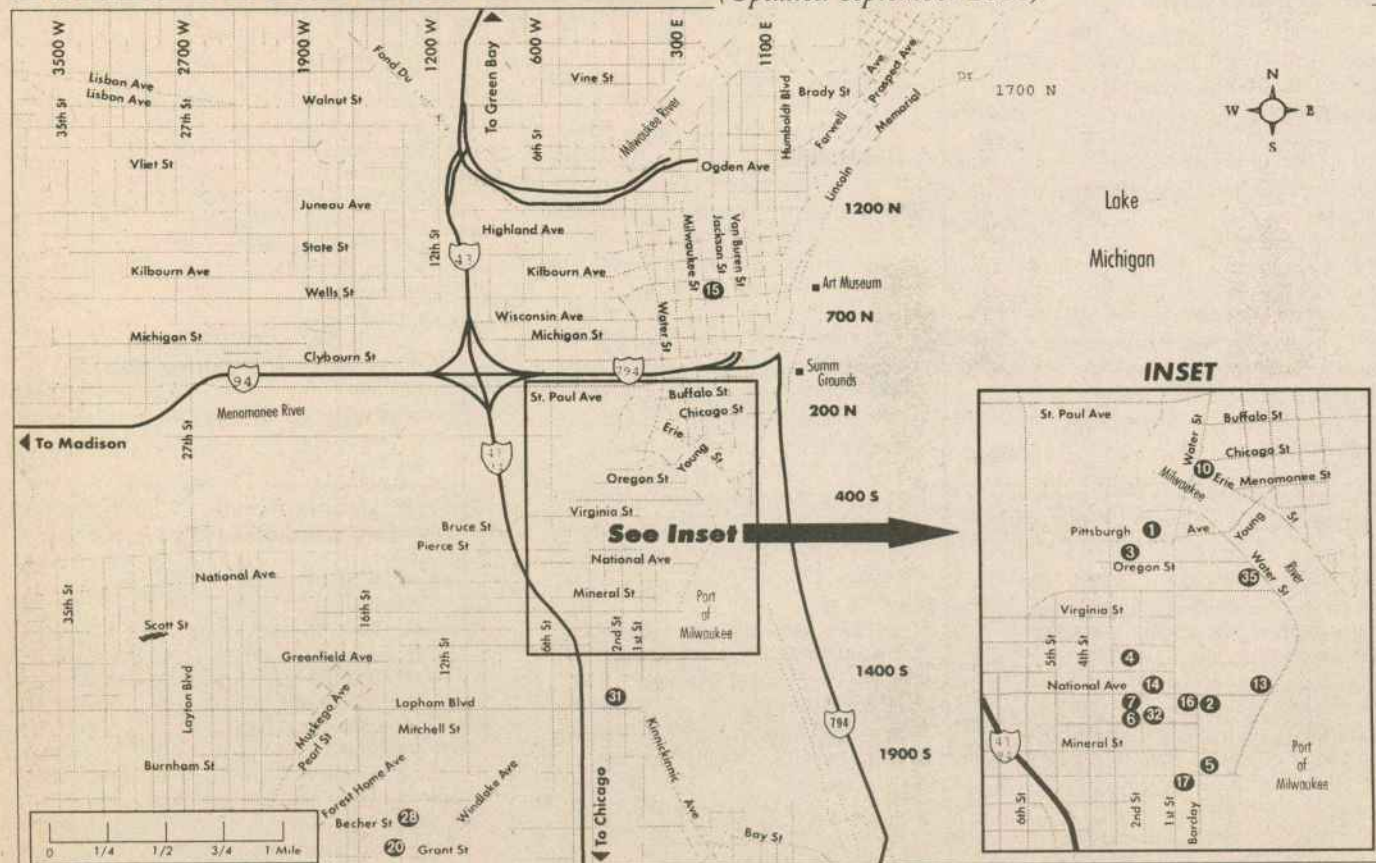
2266 N. Prospect, Suite 206 53202272-2427
Full Moon Productions (Women's Music Promoters)
N235 Co Hwy W, Campbellsport, 53010
The Garden Room (Garden Design)963-1657
Hairys Hair Bar
2385 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.486-9299
Horizon Travel (Member IGTA)
N81 W15028 Appleton, Men. Falls 53051255-0704
Hume, Attorney Kathleen
5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners, 53130529-2129
Bill Hanel, msw (Counseling, Psychotherapy)276-7626
Denis Jackson, PhD. (Relational training,
hypnosis, HIV & Vocational Counseling)276-8669
Klaus & Meyers (attorneys)
5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners 53130529-2800
C.A. Klein (Accounting Services)384-1640
Linda Jo Martin (Psychotherapist)276-8676
Randy Mickelson, (Ernie Von Schledorn, auto sales)
Saukville/Port Washington800-648-6789
Scott Perkins (Realtor)476-9070, ext. 461
.....cell: 801-1356
Red Tail Painting & Restoration607-1180
e-mail: redtail@execpc.com
Reiki Master/Wm Jacobs
(energy balancing)668-8860
Side by Side (performers)961-2135
Diane Bloom/Sandy Lewis
Jeanie Simpkins, (MS), (counseling)282-6160
Jack Smith (Realtor)962-4413
home/voice mail224-1452
Special Touch Massage536-8232
Streff Advertising/Sandy Lewis771-8300
7600 Harwood Ave., Wauwatosa, 53213
The Right Angle (carpentry)390-0909
Third Coast Courier (delivery)562-0935
Travel Directions (Travel Agency)
515 Glenview, Wauwatosa, 53213774-2174
Travel Experience (Travel Agency)744-6020
Wauker Photography (Portraits, Commitments)
by appointment only383-0740
Wells Ink, Advertising & Design (Advertising, PR)
1661 N. Water St., Suite 411, 53202272-2116

Retail

2Burn (Ventless Fireplaces, Gifts)
11708 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa607-7000
Absolute Furniture
5520 W. North Ave875-8326
Body Ritual (Body Piercing, Jewelry, Gifts)
2010 N. Farwell Ave., 53202273-3777
Avante Garde (Body Piercing)
7219 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, 53214607-4068
Clinton Street Antiques
1110 South First Street647-1773
Constant Reader Bookshop
1627 E. Irving Pl., 53202291-0452
Eyez Unique (optical)
2238 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.481-0868
Forever Yours (flowers, fresh cut, dried)
2201 E. Capitol Dr., 53211963-1006
Genesis (custom jeweler, goldsmith)
6011 W. Layton Ave.281-1022
Great Frame Up
507 E. Silver Spring Dr.962-4889
Frank Gentile (Auto Dealer)
Hwy 20, Racine886-5111
Grava Gallery (framing)
1209 E. Brady St., 53202277-8228
Mega Discount Nursery
1901 E. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek 53154571-6565
Miss Groove (gifts)
1225 E. Brady St., 53202298-9185
Out of Solitude Jewelry
918 E. Brady St., 53202223-3101
Outpost Natural Foods
100 E. Capitol Dr., 53212964-7789
exchange@execpc.com
Outwards (LGBT Books and espresso bar)
2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211963-9089
exchange@execpc.com
Popular News (adult books, videos)
225 N. Water St., 53202278-0636
Rosebud Cinema and Drafthouse
6833 W. North Ave.607-9672
Rubin's
224 E. Chicago St. 53202278-8100
Spartan 2 (motorcycles)
7221 S. 13th St.764-2800
Video Adventures (video/dvd sales/rentals)
1418 E. Brady St, 53202272-6768
Wishful Things (Antiques)
207 E. Buffalo, 53202964-9799

Health Clubs

Midtowne Spa (Gay Health and Recreational Facility)
315 S. Water St., 53204278-8989
Central (715)
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
1105 Grand Ave., #3, Schofield, 54476(800) 551-3311
Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance
P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54481
.....(715) 592-6245,
ext. 5920200
Joseph T. Chojnacki, PH.D. (Psychologist)
Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449387-5442
The Edgewater - Inn & Resort
Eagle River, 545211-888-334-3987
http://www.edgewinn.com
G&L Society/Wausau848-0608

MILWAUKEE (Updated September 2001)

Mega Discount Nursery	
1901 E. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek 53154	571-6565
Miss Groove (gifts)	
1225 E. Brady St., 53202	298-9185
Out of Solitude Jewelry	
918 E. Brady St., 53202	223-3101
Outpost Natural Foods	
100 E. Capitol Dr., 53212	964-7789
exchange@exepc.com	
Outwards (LGBT Books and espresso bar)	
2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211	963-9089
exchange@exepc.com	
Popular News (adult books, videos)	
225 N. Water St., 53202	278-0636
Rosebud Cinema and Drafthouse	
6833 W. North Ave.	607-9672
Rubin's	
224 E. Chicago St. 53202	278-8100
Sportland 2 (motorcycles)	
7221 S. 13th St.	764-2800
Video Adventures (video/dvd sales/rentals)	
1418 E. Brady St., 53202	272-6768
Wishful Things (Antiques)	
207 E. Buffalo, 53202	964-9799
Health Clubs	
Midtowne Spa (Gay Health and Recreational Facility)	
315 S. Water St., 53204	278-8989

Central (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin	
1105 Grand Ave., #3, Schofield, 54476	(800) 551-3311
Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance	
P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54481	(715) 592-6245,
ext. 5920200	
Joseph T. Chojnacki, Ph.D. (Psychologist)	
Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449	387-5442
The Edgewater - Inn & Resort	
Eagle River, 54521	1-888-334-3987
http://www.edgeinn.com	
G&L Society/Wausau	848-0608
UWSP 10% Society	
Campus Activities Complex, Box 68	
UWSP, Stevens Point, 54481	346-4366
LDS Brotherhood (Gay Mormons)	
P.O. Box 152, Wausau, 54402	848-0343
Oz (MW, DJ, V)	
320 Washington, Wausau 54401	842-3225
HIV/AIDS Spiritual Support & Education	
2108 4th Ave., Stevens Point 54481	345-6500
Marshfield Gay Lesbian Organ. (MGL)	
c/o 130 S. Central Ave., #3 Marshfield, 54449	
Vic: (715) 387-2068 Jim: (715) 384-6731	
Prince Edward B&B	
203 W 5th, Shawano 54166	526-2805
Wausau Narcotics Anonymous	
(ask for Gay meetings)	536-LIFE
Women's Resource Center UWSP	
336 Nelson Hall, Stevens Pt. 54481	346-4851

North Cent. (715)

Gay/Lesbian Support Group	
Box 247A, 1411 Ellis Ave. Ashland 54806	
Northern WI Lambda Society	
P.O. Box 802, Rhinelander 54501	362-4242
SHEM (Support, Heal, Educate) for Parents, Family, Friends of Gays/Lesbians/Bis	359-7432
Out Up North (G/L Social/Info/Network)	
P.O. Box 695, Washburn, 54891	682-2890

Sheboygan (920)

Blue Lite (MW) 1029 N. 8th, 53081	457-1636
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians	
Shirley: 458-2506 Carolyn: 467-0422	
Wesley United Methodist Church	
823 Union Avenue, Sheboygan	458-4889

Racine/Kenosha

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin	
1212 57th St., Kenosha, 53140	657-6644
	(800) 924-6601
Club 94 (MW, DJ)	857-9958
9001 120th Ave (Hwy C&T I-94) Kenosha 53140	
Frank Gentile (Auto Dealer)	
Hwy 20 Racine 53403	886-5111
JoDee's (MW, DJ)	634-9804
2139 Racine St (Hwy 32) Racine 53403	
What About Me? (WM)	
600 6th St. Racine 53403	632-0171
Gay AA (Group 294 Meeting)	554-6611
Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine	
625 College, Racine 53403	634-0659
UW-Parkside G/L Organization	595-2244
900 Wood Rd., Box 200, Kenosha 53141	
PFLAG Kenosha/Racine	(262) 649-2729
P.O. Box 580058, Pleasant Prairie, 53158	
e-mail: pflagkenosha@aol.com	
UW-Whitewater G/L Student Union	472-5738
309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190	
Wychwolde (Jewelry & Gifts)	843-4209
8321 Antioch Rd (Hwy 83), Salem 53168	



By Michael Johnston

Happy almost-Summer, I trust you all had a great Father's Day Weekend and prior to that a memorable PrideFest Weekend. Though the weather wasn't necessarily on our side this time we still managed to look for the "Rainbow."

My PrideFest started on the Thursday before when, by a fluke on my way to my car, I got introduced to the phenomenal **Judy Tenuta**! What a fierce force to be reckoned with! **Nick**, the master coordinator of all the A-List entertainment, took the jaunty Judy to our very own "Sardi's" - The M&M Club - for divine din-din. As they were exiting the parking lot the cherished pleasantries were exchanged. And she loves flowers - pink ones...

Flying on the wings of Ms. Tenuta, it was off to the newly refurbished **Fluid** to celebrate the life and times of **Jim Frank**. Jim's life partner Jim hosted a "Celebration of Jim's Life," a great chance to meet with all parts of Jim's life - and the special people that filled it: **Jim, Jeanine, Robin**, aka Birdie, **Bill Wardlow & Chris Francis**, **Brian** bartending, **Dee** and **Matt**, newly graduated from MITAD, came in to do the second shift. Many family and friends gathered to remember... A regal buffet from The King & I. A tasteful, dignified evening, just like the man. "Jim, sure made me happy..." Seemed to be the theme.

Friday night seemed to be the most popular night for PrideFest. **Judy Tenuta, Thelma Houston, Maxine Nightengale** - in spite of the weather, audiences were turning out and on!

Saturday, after a pretty picnic at Passion Patty's commemorating **Garret's** Homecoming & Birthday, **Jay** and I were off to the lakefront. I volunteered for the Unitarian Church's Beer/Wine Tent, a different kind of Spirit(s). **Michael & Tim, Jay** and a fun group making sure no one went thirsty and watching all the parties. I snuck away midway through to see **Marcus's** highly successful "Fashion Show." **Peter Paige**, Emmett of "Queer As Folk," emceed. He was quite impressive with his knowledge and humor of the great state of Wisconsin. **Corona** did hair and make-up, improving if possible the stunning runway-ers. The bars, traffic jams and parking situations scared me home, so no chance to hob-knob at the local drinkeries.

The Localities shining PROUDLY I spotted were: **Dame David Howser, Ginger, Princess Debbie, Michael Jonas** of the Hunger Task Force was thrilled at the record-breaking generosity of PrideFest attendees bringing contributions to ensure the nutrition and basic diets of sooo many. The **LaCage Girls** or is it Show Stoppers? **Nova D'Vine** and **Sasha Mitchell**, PFLAG-Milwaukee's Grand Dame **Brigitte** with her dear cohorts **Elna, Georgia** and **Susan** doing so much for community relations and acceptance. **Jerry Johnson**, doing his continuing outstanding contribution of the History Tent, **Pat Prudlow** and **Bill 87 Gans, Dan Taylor & Bill Budelman, Switch's Craig, Joel, Tom, Dan Musha** and **Dan Petry**, ARCW's **Paul Milakovich** who stayed intact this year and **David Sagura, Andy Cicero, Mark Hagen & Todd Richards, Legs & Susan, Boom's Lee, Tod, Jeff B. and Jeff G., Bill Attewell & Jorge Cabal**, MVM's GM **Bill Schumacher, Count Jerry** and **Brett, Terri & Neal**, the marvelous **Molly Herrington, Joe Pabst** wearing the most fetching ensem.

On the topic of fashion, I loved the "I Got Poked At PrideFest" Campaign. I did AND got a faboo T-Shirt. Keep up the good work guys! **Jody, Dr. Beto & DJ Tim** - who also impressed my ear with his spin ability. **Jeffrey**, The HIT Worker Bees and the Gurls of the Washington Park Rainbow Association, a natural beauty, each and every one of them. Now, that was just in the first hour I was there!

Seriously, I returned the next day at noontime to add a little levity to the MVM booth. It was here that I realized just how many out-of-towners were here! Impressive! Like every other person, was NOT from Wisconsin. What a compliment! I had to see the parade - let it never be said "It Passed Me By..." Lots of bars and church groups predominated, showing their love and acceptance. What a great rebuttal to all those toothless, hate-mongering hypocrites MIS-quoting the Good Book. Loved the **Sport Float** and the **Club 219 Beauty Float** - You rocked ladies! **Woody's, Fluid, Walker's Pint, The Harbor Room** with Miss Carol Channing - I think they had the BIGgest, the LONGest, the most participants. **Mr. Alvin York**: darling, you never looked HOTTER!

Congratulations to **Eldon Murray** in his well-earned place as Grand Marshall. Due to the crummy weather Count Jerry, Brett and I went running to the shelter of Boom and their bedeviled Bloody Mary(s). Even though the sun did appear to provide a pleasant climax to PrideFest 2003, it was home again, home again for me. I had to catch the **Barbara Walters** interview with Sen. **Hillary Rodham Clinton**. I thought they made quite a couple... Who knows? Then it was The Tony Awards! The Gay-est one, ever! "HairSpray" lacquered its way to a well-deserved victory.

You all know by now how I love the Theater! The best thing that could happen is when New York comes to you, instead of you to it... Last week my dear Sisters of Fun - **Rona, Charlotte Lorraine, ChiChi** and **Baby Jane Hudson** - made sure I got to Chicago to see the Broadway Baby herself: **Miss Elaine Stritch** in "At Liberty." Extraordinary! The Shubert Theater has a special place in my heart, it's where I saw **Dame Julie Andrews** in "Victor/Victoria."

I was fortunate to hear the audio of "At Liberty," seen/read interviews, profiles... But to sit and see for almost three solid hours Miss Stritch reliving the magic of the Great White Way for the past 50-odd years was simply beyond description. Some people like roller coasters (Great America just held their yearly "Gay Day") but give me a show-stopper like "Here's To The Ladies Who Lunch" and there's my butterflies. The Gentry-Downtown was our bar away from bar, and Richard as well as his regulars made for charming ambassadors. The field trip to the Windy City was in honor of my Birthday, and what a way to celebrate! Thank You! **Evileen** made sure we had the proper Milwaukee send off...

The next day was "Dining Out For Life." **Camp Heartland's** highly successful Fund-raiser. I opted for a quiet dinner (still exhausted from the night before) at Botanias. So many diners, contributors that the ambassador didn't even have the chance to come to our table and have us fill out the necessary paper work. **Paul Milakovich** and **David Sagura** were the Ambassadors at **The Boulevard Inn**. They had a ball and made it to every table! Ending the night, hosting a table of dozen or so for the last one to be held at the much revered Boulevard.

CORDIALLY YOURS

Craig and Scotty of Switch thrilled me with a "Surprise" Birthday Party on Friday, June 13 - full moon and all! It was marvelous to see the return of **Debi Vance**! She looks great and can rival any Super Model! **Cindy O., Dan Musha, Dan Petry, Miss Rona**, his gal pal: **Holl-Doll, Laura Jean, Dame David Howser, Michael Jonas, Princess Debbie, Michael & Tim**, the return of **Donna, Boom's David & Tim, Jerry Skals, Jeff L., Bill Attewell, Taylor's** very own **Dan, Andy Cicero, Paul Milakovich, David Sagura, The Colonel** with the awesome abs... My favorite thespian **Dear Ruthie, Tippy Tobias, Gino** celebrating his day, the next day, the girls of Volley Ball, Special Guest Bartendress **Miss Loie**! She truly knows how to wow the boys and dear, dear, special ones who dropped in, making me feel so dear and special. Simply allow me to say: Thank You!

Jim Balistreri is having the time of it with his new gig in the new **ETC**. Downstairs at **La Cage** with **Cory, Sharon Dixon, David Rogers, Wayne** and crew making a new niche in the Cream City. Also his special man, the special Steve, is now also a cocktail maker of note at the 2nd and National institution. Does this make them the "First Couple of the Bars"? West Bend to Bay View - a long way to Waldo, where's Waldo?

Speaking of Summerfest 2003, this year the bars of the Walker's Point area will have an exclusively gay bus taking folks to and fro. Yes, **Switch, Boom, Triangle, LaCage** among others will be your way to the Big Gig.

Also that day, if you miss the bus, please don't miss "Art Pop!" **Taylor's on Jefferson & Wells**, 2:30-5 p.m. A contribution of \$20 at the door, and you get a sticker to place on your favorite art piece. First come, first serve! If there is a work that you particularly enjoy you can pay an extra \$10 to put a permanent hold on that particular piece. A completer cocktail too! The proceeds of this afternoon will go to AIDS Walk Wisconsin 2003 (Sunday, September 28).

Sunday, June 22, is also the season finale of "Queer As Folk." **Switch** will be awarding a trip to Canada where the show is actually filmed! So be there with your tickets from the entire season and win your free vacation!

Boom will be hosting their Hump Night Party Wednesday, June 25, the last Wednesday of the month. I don't know what's going to happen... How could anyone top **Logan Reed**? Right **Lee**? Tune in, show up and take part...

The following Saturday, June 28, The White Party makes its debut at Boom. So don yourself in virginal white and see what happens... It is after Memorial Day, after all.

Loved meeting (or is it meeting?) **Chad 11" Hunt** and **Drew Peters** at Boom's last "Underwear Party." However, our very own local lad **Alvin York** held his own, or perhaps that was someone else's hand... Hot time in the town this Summer... sizzling!

Congrats to **Ric Correa & Peter Konrath** on 14 years together!

Remember, it's the glamour, not the grammar... Enjoy your Summer Season, as I remain "Cordially Yours,"

Contact Michael Johnston at
cordiallyyours@instepnews.com

3rd Annual

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RAINBOW



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Ticket Information

Advanced Purchase: \$12.00
Day of Event (Boulevard Theater): \$15.00
rain or shine

Ticket Outlets

Hairy's Hair Bar
2385 S. Kinnickinnic Ave

South Shore Gallery
2627 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

M&M Club
124 N. Water Street, Milwaukee

North Shore Bank
1900 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Milwaukee
8706 W. North Avenue, Wauwatosa

Outpost Natural Foods
7000 W. State Street, Wauwatosa
100 E. Capitol Drive, Milwaukee

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
315 W. Court Street, Milwaukee

Order by phone
Tickets & Information Hotline:
(414) 271-2656

Saturday, June 28, 2003
10 am – 4:00 pm

featuring

Bay View

Check-in Location:

Boulevard Theater
2250 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue

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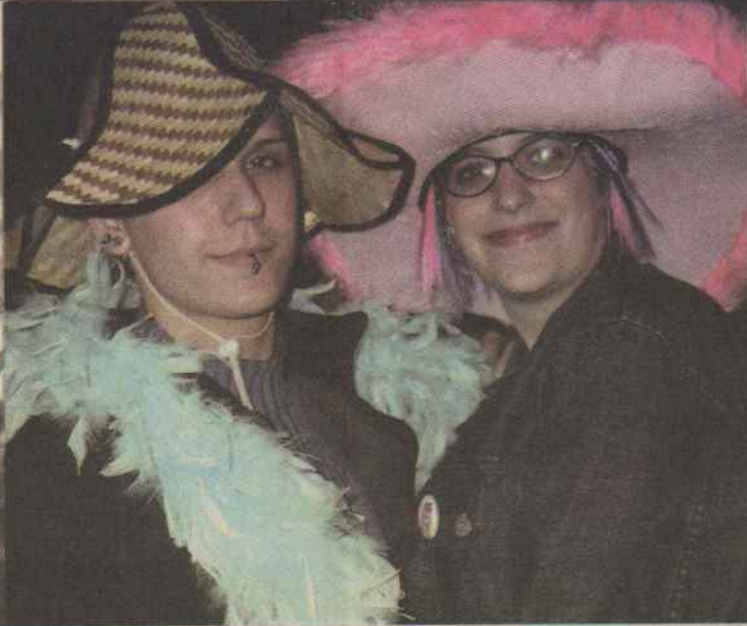
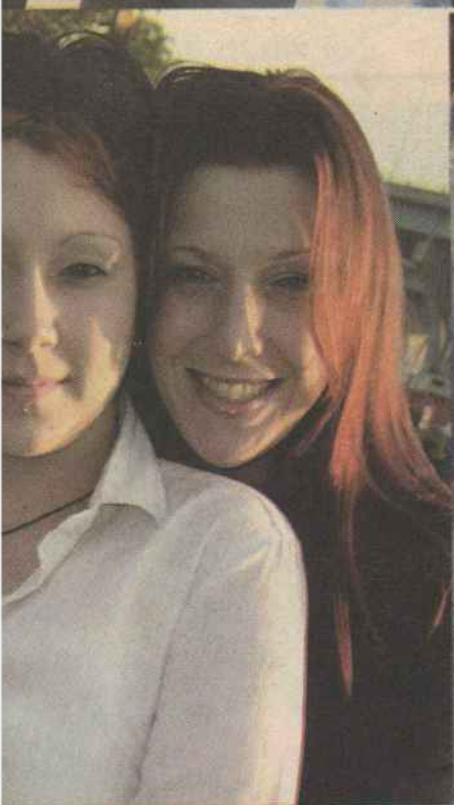
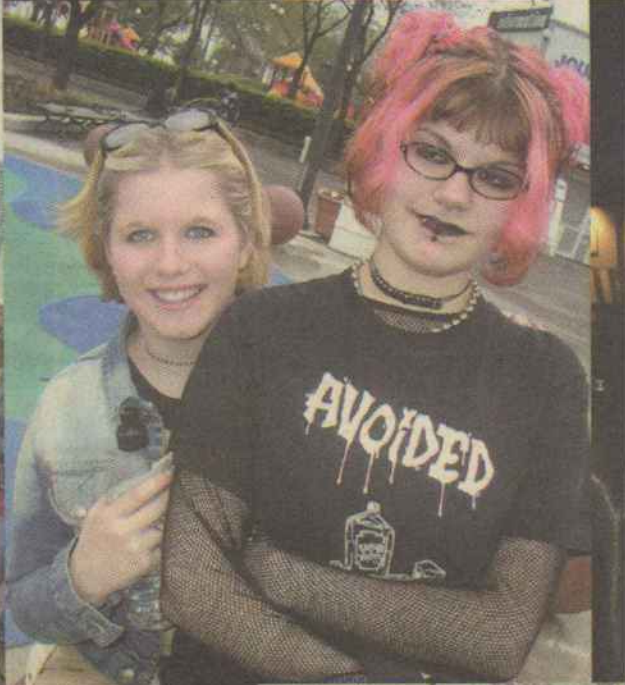
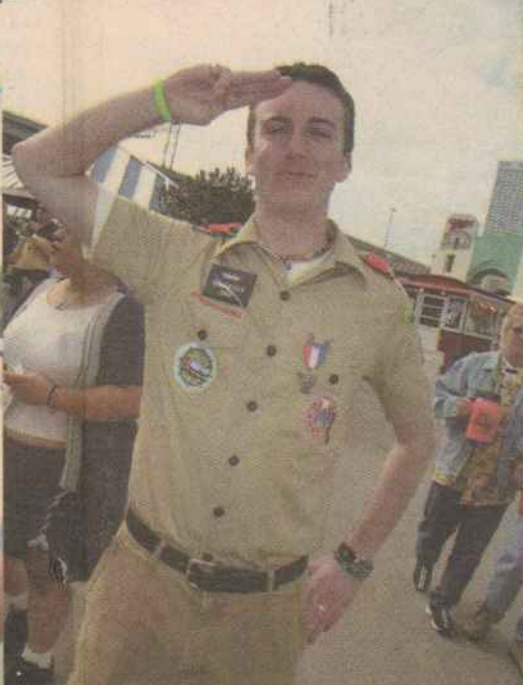
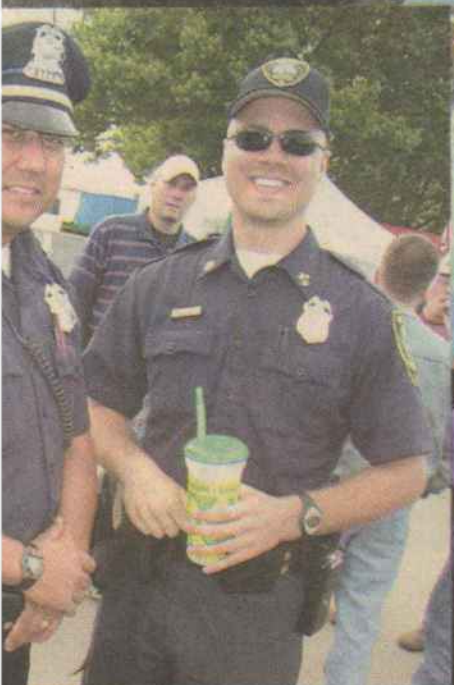
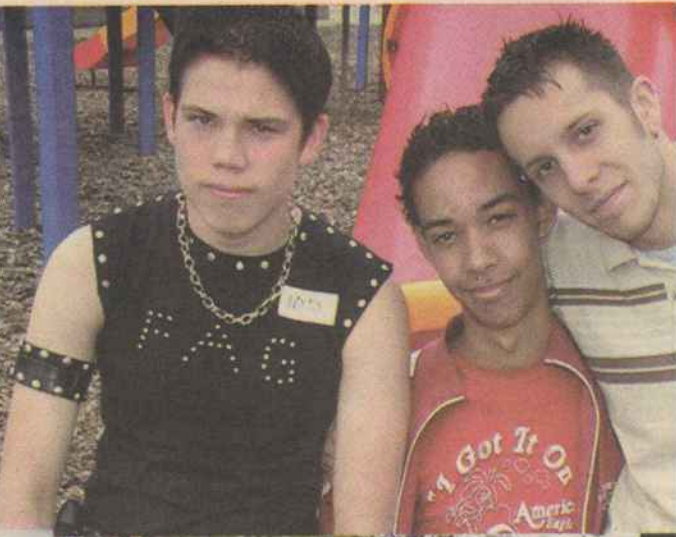
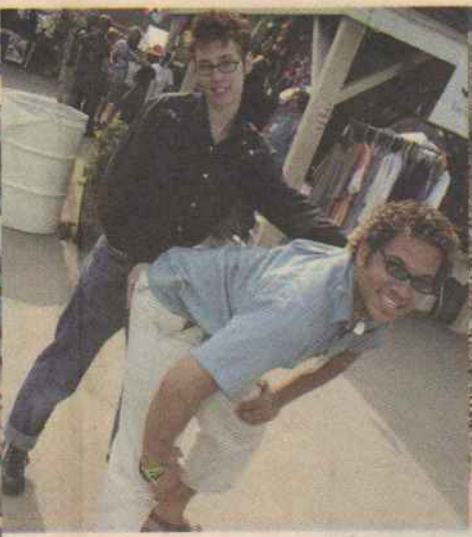
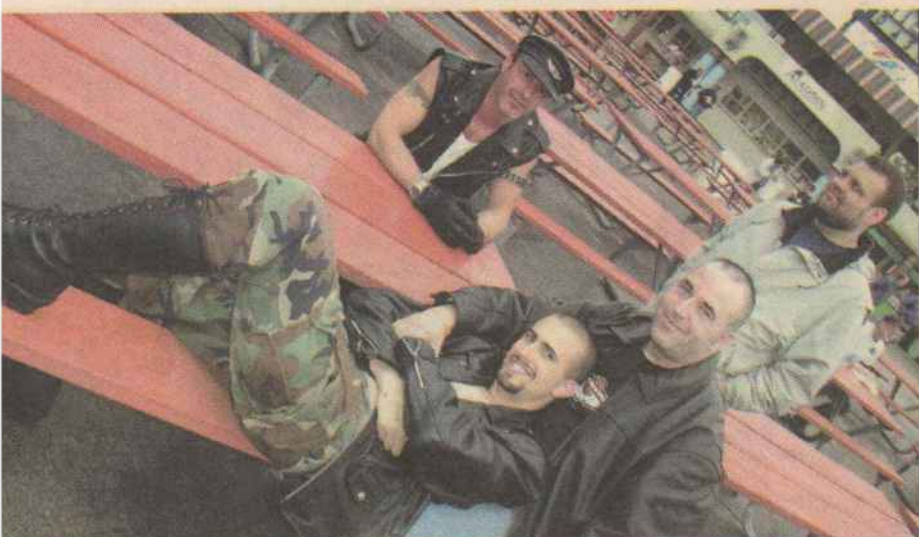
IN Step



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