Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

# V The Wisconsin Light

#### Madison Approves Domestic Partners Legislation

[Madison]- Madison has become the first city in Wisconsin and one of few in the U.S. to provide for registration of domestic partners at City Hall.

On Tuesday, June 5, 1990, the Madison Common Council voted 16-4 to adopt two ordinances proposed by openly Gay Alderpersons, Jim McFarland and Ricardo Gonzalez, Mayor Paul Soglin and seven other Alderpersons. One ordinance provides for registration at the City Clerk's Office of domestic partners. Domestic Partners who register will receive a certificate attesting to their status from the City Clerk. In adopting this provision, the City of Madison has recognized that these relationships are just as valid and committed as those of married persons.

The other ordinance makes it illegal for public accommodations to discriminate against domestic partnerships when they provide family memberships.

According to Ald. McFarland, West Hollywood, CA is the only other city he is aware of the provides for registration of domestic partnerships.

A measure similar to Madison's was adopted in San Francisco last year, but was narrowly repealed when right-wing Christian groups and others forced a referendum. Elsewhere in California, Santa Cruz and Berkeley provide for registration of domestic partners who are city workers to enable them to obtain health insurance for their partners, but do not provide for registration that is open to the general public as is Madison's.

McFarland stated his hope that members of the Lesbian and Gay community who are in committed relationships will take advantage of the recognition they have received.

"Nothing could be worse than to have pushed for this for so long then then have no one register," said McFarland. "Many Council members would question the need for this registration if no one uses it," McFarland said.

Domestic partners can register by TURN TO MADISON, PAGE 15

## Significant Progress Being Made Towards AIDS Vaccine



During Milwaukee's June 16 Pride Parade representatives of the Milwaukee AIDS Project marched down Wisconsin Avenue

## U.S. Health Care System Teeters On Edge In Face Of AIDS Epidemic

[Milwaukee]- "In New York City alone, there are some 5,000 people with AIDS who are homeless," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). Nelson was speaking at an interview in Milwaukee's M&M Club shortly after his return from the Sixth International Conference on AIDS held in San Francisco in the third week in June.

Nelson said that New York was a "gross example," but that this situation existed at all and in other cities as well in the U.S., was due to the the U.S. health care system's lack of readiness and ability to respond to the AIDS epidemic.

At the Democratic National Convention in 1988, Dr. Mathilde Krim, a leader in the fight against AIDS, told an audience of Gay/Lesbian delegates that AIDS would bring about "a collapse and revolution" in the American health care

Nelson said that the only reason that this hasn't happened so far is because of "community-based organizations like MAP."

In the first decade of the AIDS epidemic, Nelson said, it has been "the Gay/Lesbian community that has rescued the U.S. health care system by creating such care organizations as MAP.

He pointed out that the Federal Government does not: 1. fund HIV/AIDS prevention work; 2. does not fund family-based care in the home ("family" in the domestic partner sense as well as the usual meaning of the word) and 3. does not fund mental health and emotional support services. These come entirely from private contributions and efforts administered through AIDS care agencies like MAP located nation-wide. Without these efforts and contributions, Nelson emphasized, that Krim's prediction would have come true.

But having said that, Nelson noted the need for a national policy on AIDS patient care which, he said, America does not now have. "We are like an orchestra without a conductor," he said and called the American concern for patient care in the AIDS epidemic, "one of our greatest failures."

Nelson said that funding for AIDS care was similarly "a disaster." To receive even limited benefits and "very limited TURN TO HEALTH,, PAGE 15 [Milwaukee]- "The message from San Francisco is that there is hope, hope in the struggle against AIDS," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). Nelson was speaking in an interview held at Milwaukee's M&M Club shortly after he returned from the Sixth International Conference on AIDS held the third week in June in San Francisco.

"The scientific progress on vaccine development," Nelson said, "is unexpected and significant."

Nelson said that scientists now "clearly understand the life cycle of HIV. It's a frail virus that will respond to biological weaponry. We must choose the weapons."

"Within the next six months," Nelson said, treatment will involve four drugs. These are, he said, "AZT, DDI, DDC and Interferon. These drugs will be used together, but alternating them, one week at a time. Combining them like this, Nelson said, will lower the toxic reaction and make each more effective for a longer period of time.

Nelson pointed out strongly that there is no reason for anyone in Wisconsin not being able to afford AIDS drugs. He said people should call MAP for information.

Nelson cited the work in vaccine development being done by Dr. Jonas Salk who developed the Polio vaccine.

For the last two and a half years, Salk has been working with 85 men in California all of whom were HIV positive. Most were asymptomatic; some were on AZT; some had KS. Salk used injections of de-activated HIV on these people. Though Salk admits that he did not use a control group, the results have been encouraging.

Among the 85 who Salk has followed for the two and a half years, there was in increase in antibodies and in T-Cell count and only three have gone on to come down with full- blown AIDS. For all participants in the experiment, Nelson said, "there was a positive immuniological response.

Salk has concluded that there will not be one vaccine, but 2 or 3 or 4 that will be taken throughout life with boosters.

AIDS therefore, will become a chronic disease much as diabetes is now. This will happen Nelson predicted "in several years" as a vaccine is developed for HIV positives that will stop the replication of the virus.

Nelson spoke of the fact that there are more and more "long-term survivors." "A 12-year survival rate (for those with HIV infection) is possible," he said. He pointed out that currently 25% of 10 year survivors are healthy.

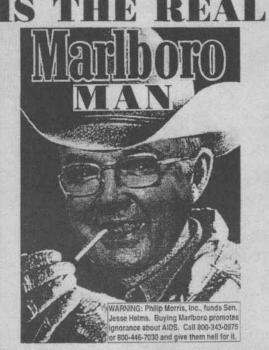
Over and over again, Nelson spoke of hope in the struggle against AIDS and spoke of the coming of a prevention vaccine. He quoted the Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of California-San Francisco as saying, "We have begun to see the horizon and we know we will get there."

## **Boycott of Marlboro Cigarettes Growing Across The Country**

[Washington, D.C.]- Gay bars in Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, Georgia have pulled Marlboros from their cigarette vending machines. This added momentum boosts the boycott of Marlboro cigarettes called by

cigarette vending machines. This added noted how momentum boosts the boycott of has Phi maximum

JESSE HELMS elections of the property of the



**BOYCOTT MARLBORO!** 

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ACT-UP/D.C. in April. The boycott was called because of Philip Morris Cos., Inc. support of the re-election campaign of noted homophobe, Jesse Helms. Not only has Philip Morris given Helms the maximum campaign contribution allowed

under federal law in all past elections, but they are also providing significant funding for the "Jesse Helms Citizenship Center," a museum to memorialize the AIDSphobic

The boycotting bars are leaving the former Marlboro slots empty and placing "Boycott Marlboro" stickers inside the window of the machines. Boycott organizer Lee Bush stated, "With businesses pulling Marlboro from their establishments, there is increased pressure for Philip Morris to cease funding of the Helms re-election campaign and the museum."

A growing number of activists, community leaders, Lesbian and Gay organizations, artists groups and individuals have added their support to the boycott.

Non- smokers are reminded that they can support the boycott by calling Philip Morris's toll free numbers: (800) 446-7030 (retailers order line), (800) 343-0975 (Smoker's Advocate line) and (800) 552-2222 (Bill of Rights order line).

## **Educating Public To Practice Safe Sex Is On-Going Battle**

[Milwaukee]- The struggle to prevent HIV infection and to educate the public about HIV/AIDS is on-going and a major concern, said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). Nelson was speaking in an interview at Milwaukee's M&M Club shortly after returning from the Sixth International Conference on AIDS held the third week in June in San Francisco.

Part of the problem is the fact that some Gay and bisexual men are returning to unsafe sex practices. Nelson said that recent data reported at the Conference indicated that over a five year period, "20 % of Gay and bisexual men surveyed had returned to unsafe sex."

Teens and adolescents (18-24 year-old age group) are at "great risk," he said. In a study done in California and released this year, 46% of those surveyed in this age group had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse.

Among all teens, Gay and straight, 25 % reported using a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse. But, a full 50% reported that they had never used a condom in intercourse.

The conclusions reported at the Conference, Nelson said, were that: 1. many young Gays and bisexual men seem

TURN TO HIV, PAGE 15

#### NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

#### Lesbian Attorney Wins Judgeship

[San Francisco, CA]- Attorney Donna Hitchens scored a come-from-behind victory on June 5 to become the first openly Lesbian judge to sit on the California Superior Court bench, according to the San Francisco Sentinel. Judge Hitchens is now the highest ranking openly Lesbian judge in the entire United States.

Hitchens, an attorney for 13 years, worked as staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union and Equal Rights Advocates. She is also a founder of the Lesbian Rights Project. Her opponent was endorsed by the major San Francisco newspapers, but grass-roots support, including the endorsements of many ethnic organizations, the Democratic Party and Gay political clubs helped her to victory.

#### San Francisco Approves Project 10

[San Francisco, CA]- After weeks of angry debate between Gay activists and Fundamentalists, the San Francisco Board of Education has voted unanimously in favor of enacting a special counseling program for Gay and Lesbian students.

Modeled after "Project 10" in the Los Angeles School District, the San Francisco program will provide a part-time counselor to serve Gay and Lesbian identified students. It calls for the provision of Gay-sensitive literature and family counseling to assist both students and their families. The program will be funded through health grants and will begin this September.

#### **Harvey Gantt Challenging Helms**

[Charlotte, NC]- Harvey Gantt, who served two terms as Mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina, won his state's Democratic Senatorial primary and will face right-wing Sen. Jesse Helms in the November election.

Helms, known for his anti-Gay and anti-AIDS crusading, is seeking his fourth 6-year term in the US Senate. Local activists and national Gay groups will be pouring money and energy into Gantt's campaign in hopes of defeating Helms.

Gantt, 47, is an architect who was raised in poverty in South Carolina. He became the first African-American to attend Clemson University, to serve as Mayor of Charlotte (75 percent white and largely Republican) and, now, to run for the Senate from North Carolina.

Gantt says that he and Helms have very different visions of America: "In Jesse's vision of America, I would never have had the chance to attend Clemson. In his vision of America, I wouldn't even have been allowed to vote." Gantt plans to focus on issues relevant to working people: health care, public education and the environment.

#### **Ohio State Closes Dorm Wing**

[Columbus, Ohio]- School officials closed down an entire dormitory wing at Ohio State University (OSU) in May following the repeated harassment of two Gay roommates living in the dorm. The Gay students received telephone death threats and "Die Fags" was scrawled on their dormitory door.

OSU officials moved the two Gay sophomores to off- campus housing at University expense, while 32 other residents were transferred to other dorms and fraternity houses. The evicted students protested the action and expressed further hostility against the Gays.

William Hall, OSU Director of Housing, said it was "the right decision, ethically and morally. Silence says we support these kinds of thing...It's late in the academic year, but this is also part of their education. I really hope they learn and grow from this."

#### Gay Murders Increase In Atlanta

[Atlanta, GA]- The recent indictment of a murder suspect has brought attention to an epidemic of Gay-related homicides in the Atlanta area, reports Gay Community News. Fourteen Gay men have been murdered in the last year and a half, eight of them since January.

Cathy Woolard of Atlanta's Lesbian and Gay Police Advisory Board said the murders have occurred under similar circumstances: the victim has invited someone home from a bar and been murdered by that person.

Henry Eugene Hodges, 23, of Nashville was indicted for the May strangling of Michael Whisnant, a Gay man attending a convention in Atlanta. The murder occurred in Whisnant's hotel room.

Hodges may be responsible for the deaths of five other Gays in the Atlanta area.

Only a week after Whisnant's murder, Michael Everett, a resident of Atlanta's midtown Gay neighborhood, was beaten and stabbed to death by a man he brought home from a bar.

#### 80,000 View Mapplethorpe Art

[Cincinnati, OH]- Nearly 4,000 people crowded Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Center on the last day of the Robert Mapplethorpe exhibit, raising total attendance to almost 80,000, a record for the Center. The Mapplethorpe show will now move on to Boston.

Cincinnati police raided the Arts Center on opening day to videotape the exhibit which the County Prosecutor called "obscene" because of some sexually graphic images (5 of the 175 photos). The Center's Director, Dennis Barrie, still faces trial on misdemeanor obscenity charges for sponsoring the Gay photographer's work.

#### **Curriculum Leaders Support Gays**

[Philadelphia, PA]- Philadelphia Gay News reports that a national group of educational administrators and curriculum specialists, the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), has unanimously supported special services aimed at Gay and Lesbian students.

Its resolution reads, in part: "Schools should demonstrate respect for the dignity and worth of all students... ASCD urges its members to develop policies, curriculum materials and teaching strategies that do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. ASCD encourages schools to provide staff development training and materials to enable educators to better work with this at risk population."

With this action, the ASCD joins the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association in advocating special support services for Gay and Lesbian students.

#### **Charge Card Allegedly Discriminates**

[Rochester, NY]-The Washinton Blade reports that Discover Card has canceled its business contract with a Gay-owned leather goods store after the credit card company learned, through a mail order catalogue, that the store serves a predominantly Gay clientele.

Charles Antonelli, co-owner of Rochester Leather Goods, was told by a spokesman for Discover Card's Merchant Investigation Division that his contract was canceled because of "irregular sales." But another representative of Discover Card said that it was Antonelli's patrons and products that were deemed "irregular."

Because the leather goods business is less than a year old, it lacks the financial resources to pursue litigation. Antonelli encourages other Gay businesses and individuals to cancel their accounts with Discover.

News Briefs are compiled by Jamakaya from mainstream newspapers and wire services, organizational press releases and Gay and Lesbian papers from across the U.S.

#### College Association Seeks Changes In Pentagon Discrimination Policy

[Washington, D.C.]- Four national college associations, which represent virtually all the colleges and universities in the US, have written Defense Secretary Richard Cheney urging that the Pentagon scrap its policy of banning homosexuals from the military.

The letter read, in part, "Sexual orientation appears to be the only basis on which discrimination is condoned within ROTC or similar programs. Denial of equal opportunity on the grounds of race, gender, religion, nationality or political affiliation, among other possible criteria, has long since been barred. Discrimination based on sexual orientation thus remains a curious anomaly."

The groups represented in the letter are the American Council on Education, the Association of American Universities, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. They requested a meeting with Secretary Cheney to discuss the issue further.

In a news conference May 24, University of Wisconsin System President Kenneth Shaw said the letter was partly the result of discussions UW-Madison Chancellor Donna Shalala conducted with the associations. Earlier this year, the UW Board of Regents voted to retain ROTC programs on UW campuses, but pledged to become involved in lobbying to change the Pentagon's anti-Gay policy.

Meanwhile, the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents voted unanimously for an end to the ban on homosexuals in ROTC programs on its campuses, joining a growing list of schools to challenge the Pentagon.

In May, faculty members at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) also voted overwhelmingly against the military's ban on Gays. Their statement said, "If the Department of Defense does not show substantial signs of reconsideration and change, it would be necessary for MIT to ask ROTC to leave this campus."

The stand by MIT faculty is particularly significant and lends additional clout to the cause because MIT has very close ties with the government and military establishment — in terms of personnel, research grants, new technology, etc.



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Milwaukee: 273-AIDS

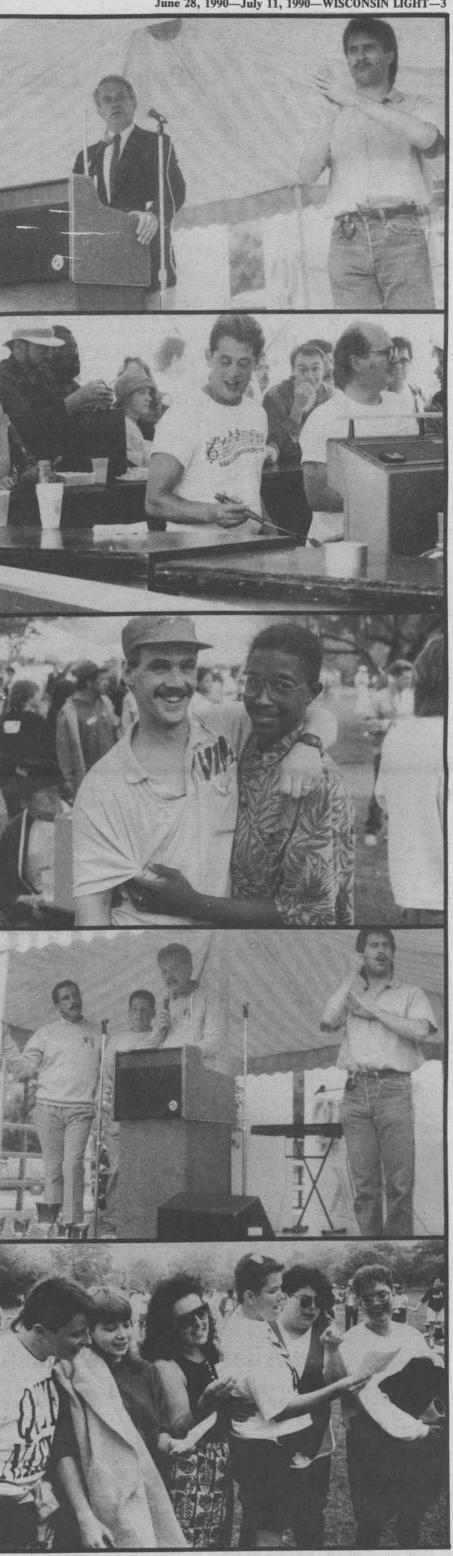
The Milwaukee AIDS Project
We support learning.
We promote living.



# Pride Week Rally June 16, 1990

Photos by Jerry Johnson and Peggy Morsch





Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

# The Wisconsin Light



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#### **EDITORIAL**

#### National Endowment Art Grants Must Be Unrestrictive

Congress is currently debating the future of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Right wing forces led by Sen. Jesse Helms and White House Chief of Staff, John Sununu, are determined to cripple and control the grant-giving agency.

The NEA was established in 1965 to provide federal funds to assist local and regional artistic endeavors. Thousands of dance troupes, art museums, theatrical companies, singers, writers and painters have received financial support from NEA. Its original legislative mandate was to fund the widest possible diversity of American art and culture.

Last year, Sen. Helms attacked the NEA for helping to sponsor a national exhibit by Gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe. He succeeded in placing restrictions on the use of NEA funds, prohibiting their disbursement for any work deemed "obscene," and specifically for work reflecting "homoeroticism."

The controversy unleashed by the infamous Helms Amendment has escalated, frequently pitting artists and civil libertarians against Christian Fundamentalists. In Cincinnati, the Contemporary Arts Center showing Mapplethorpe's work was raided by police. The Center's director was arrested and faces obscenity charges. Helms has also called for the investigation of three Lesbian writers who were named as recipients of NEA grants.

This Summer, Congress was scheduled to reauthorize the NEA for a five year period, but amendments and restrictions by Helms threaten to gut the bill and permanently weaken the agency. President Bush has reneged on his earlier commitment to support the NEA without restrictions, and his right hand man, Sununu, is proposing a "compromise" to placate the right-wing. This "compromise" calls for only a one year renewal of NEA with numerous restrictions attached.

This will not be a compromise, but a clear victory for those who want to restrict freedom of expression in this country. The **Wisconsin Light** encourages readers to contact their Senators and Congressional representatives as well as President Bush. We need to speak up for the five year reauthorization of NEA without any content restrictions.

If radical Fundamentalists succeed in controlling NEA, they will be emboldened to pursue further campaigns against freedom of speech and expression. History shows that such freedoms are destroyed incrementally. The battle over the NEA may be part of a much longer campaign ahead. Please contact your representatives now!

#### From the Editor's Desk

Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade and Rally went off without a hitch—almost. The skys were heavy and there was rain, but that did nothing to dampen the heady excitement of the marchers. There is no greater high, none, at least that I can think of, to compare with being in the middle of all the spirit and jubilation that came flooding in on waves from every side.

By police estimates, there were some 3,000 people at the March and Rally. The major media placed the numbers somewhat lower, but even so, all agreed that the event had doubled in size from last year.

Such a thing doesn't just happen. It takes hundreds of hours of work by dedicated people; people like those in the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee (MLGPC). They were few in number, but ones willing to give unstintingly of themselves — often thanklessly — to do the work. They deserve the heartiest thanks of us all.

So also, thanks should go to all those who built the floats; who served as marshals or did other yeoman service in one capacity or another.

Thanks too to officials like State Representative David Clarenbach, Mayor John Norquist; to County Executive Dave Schulz; to County Supervisors Dorothy Dean and Elizabeth Coggs-Jones; to idealists like Karen Lamb and MAP's Doug Nelson for their proclamations and letters giving voice to their concern for equal rights for all.

Equal rights is, in the end, I think, what Gay/Lesbian Pride Week and its

I am offended by 900 Talk Line ad's in

your magazine. It seems ironic to have

these ad's in a pro Gay magazine when

they hurt Gay men so badly. It is

frustrating to The Wisconsin Light

support the talk line industry, because I

think it is very harmful especially to Gay

of Gay males is the fear and alienation

they feel. Out of this comes addictive

behaviors to cover up the wounds. I often

see men looking for sex in a park in

Madison where my men's group meets. It

hurts to see these men in great pain really.

degrading themselves by acting in a way

that I assume leaves them feeling very

ashamed. Being Gay is not wrong or a

reason to be shamed, but the being out of

control in sexually addictive ways is. It is

much like an alcoholic who has stopped

drinking and doesn't want to, but the

urge is too great and they drink again

The 900 Talk Line ad's are very

addictive. I am a straight male and I am a

until they start looking at the issues.

In my opinion one of the deepest hurts

**LETTERS** 

900 Lines

TO THE EDITOR:

attendant events is all about. The Pride Parade and Rally are an assertion that American democracy is most formidable as an example to the world when the rights and well-being of all its citizens; of all its minorities are protected and upheld.

James Madison writing in the "Federalist Papers" said that the crucial test of America society would be found in how well the majority respects minority rights. That is, I think, America's glory; the equality of diversities — and that equality is what we Lesbians and Gays are claiming.

As Jan Parshall told Jerry Johnson at the Rally, "You must be very proud today," Indeed we were and are.

There is tremendous energy in community building at events like Pride Week and this energy reached culmination in Chicago's 21st Annual Gay/Lesbian Pride March and Rally. I'd never been to it before and, as I'd been told, it was spectacular. There were, according to Parade organizers, 100,000 people there and over 150 units and the rainbow flag flying high and proud everywhere you looked. It was truly a wonderful event and a great feeling being there. I didn't march, but nevertheless, my feet gave out long before the Parade was over. Still, it was worth it, very worth it.

As I write, Pride Week '90 is over — but not forgotten. Such an exhilaration of feeling will be long remembered. All I can say is that if you missed it this year, make every effort to attend Pride '91. You will not regret it.

recovering sex addict. When I was acting

out in my addiction it was phone sex and

pornography. I lived in the pain and

alienation. The worst part of calling those

numbers is that you are alone at home and

puts you further into your addiction. I am

now in S.A.A. which is a 12 step program

and I am also in therapy and it has

Please print this letter so that other

men who live in pain know they are not

alone. I would also like to request you

seriously consider stop printing the ad's,

drastically changed my life.

"misconception" (misinterpretation) of Gays, which supports the doctrine of the Fundamentalists' beliefs.

For centuries our cause was hidden. For centuries religion taught the misinterpretations of what was considered to be related to the creation of us. Stories from the Bible, such as Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19: 4-11), led our culture to accept the "validity" of the stereotype that began the persecution of the Gay population.

The Fundamentalists are not to blame for their beliefs. We are not different from them: all of us possess hearts, minds and souls. Our differences exist in the execution of ethical logic. We fail to consider the true essence of our struggle and the true means for which we shall triumph:

Laws, doctrines, and policies do not just change; People change.

Thus, are we then attacking "things"? Or are we seeking strategies to alter the attitudes of the majority (the straights)?

It is time that we realize the consequences of our actions. Each time we utilize the power of a written word or public action, we must make our points indisputable; else, our efforts can contribute to the strength of the stereotype we are trying to destroy. We must appeal to the common sense of people by understanding and acting accordingly. In this nation majority consensus rules our government; thus, when we finally change the attitudes of the majority, our government will rapidly change. The decision is ours — as a unified group.

-Tonya L. Morke Janesville, WI

#### **Pride Week**

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing this letter the day after Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian Parade and Rally, and the anti-Gay protest at MECCA on Friday, June 15.

It was nice to see 150 persons from our community stand up and be counted at the protest against these brain-washing Fundamentalist Christians. It proves that some members do care, and fight for our rights against bigotry and discrimination that have plagued us for many years. One day in the future, if more straight people and Christian Fundamentalists look at us, and accept us for the people we are, they will notice that we pose no threat to the residents of the City of Milwaukee or the rest of this nation.

At the Rally and Parade, an estimated 3,000 people showed up at Juneau Park and "Looked To The Future."

I would like to congratulate Jim English, Scott Gunkel and other members of the MLGPC for putting on one of the best events around. These people worked very hard.

The only negative thing I have to say about the Parade/Rally is the lack of participation by Milwaukee's bars like: Club 219, Partners, C'est La Vie. Wreck Room, Boot Camp, Mint II, This Is It, Phoenix and M&M. I'm hoping these clubs will participate in the 1991 event next summer.

I would like to thank the visitors from Chicago, Minneapolis, Madison, Eau Claire, Oshkosh, Green Bay, Appleton, Cleveland, Ohio, Plymouth and my hometown of Sheboygan for helping make Pride 90 an even better success. I'm hoping that we can get the number up to 6,000 persons in '91 as we still fight for our equal rights with the straight community.

One final thank you from me goes to: Miriam Ben-Shalom, former Governor Tony Earl, Mayor John O. Norquist and County Exec. David Schulz for the proclamations. I love you all!

> —Tim Hanson Milwaukee

Editor's Note: The writer is in error. The Boot Camp and Partners were represented in the Parade.

and do more to encourage healthy sex.

Always go for the integrity in the heart it will always manifest if we pray for it.

—Ron Kapman

Madison

#### **Creating Facts**

TO THE EDITOR:

It disturbs me when we practice emotional logic instead of ethical logic. Writing that Fundamentalists create facts to support their beliefs is an extreme oversight on behalf of the author of "Christian Fundamentalists Ignore Reality; Create Facts" (May 31-June 13, 1990, p.4). Age-old theology supports the

LETTER POLICY

Wisconsin Light actively solicits Letters to the Editor on any subject. However all such letters must be signed and contain the writer's address although the address is never printed and the name will be withheld upon request. All unsigned letters, notes and stuff scribbled on the sides of clipped columns will serve as cat box liner.

#### 1990 Pride Week Celebration In Review

By Jamakaya

I thought I'd write some random observations about this year's Lesbian/Gay Pride celebration.

The picket line Friday night at the Fundies' so-called "pro-family" rally was fantastic! More than 100 of us "militant homosexuals" greeting the hopeless homophobes — it was exhilarating!

Someone designed an excellent little leaflet we handed out. All it said was: "It's really simple: A. I want to live in a world where all peoples' rights are protected, or B. I don't. The choice is yours!" Great leaflet!

There was some disgruntlement expressed about the Lesbian Alliance's lack of participation at the counter- picket. It was not political naivete or a desire to obstruct that guided LAMM's judgment.

The men's community needs to understand that we women have been fighting these Fundamentalists since the 1960s before abortion was legalized, through the 1970s when our campaign to ratify ERA, and once again in the '80s and '90s on reproductive choice and lifestyle issues. Having dealt with these people for years, many of us feel that it is fruitless to constantly react to them. We've come to believe our energy is better spent building and organizing our own community.

At any rate, the combination of morning press conference with representatives of the Interfaith Conference, Planned Parenthood and NOW decrying anti-Gay bigotry and the evening picket got us good media attention. The fact that Journal reporter Marie Rohde only managed to see and write about one picketer with pierced nipples says more about poor Marie than about our successful mobilization that night!

The parade on Saturday was quite respectable considering the drizzly weather. It gave us the opportunity to parade our pride, assert our rights, and meet lots of new friends who came in from Chicago or around the state. I have a few suggestions for the Pride Committee

The rally site desperately needs another alternative food vendor like Outpost Co-op or Beans and Barley. Half the crowd was simply unable to eat the greasy burgers, fries and onion rings offered. Many of us Gays and Lesbians are health conscious and would have appreciated some juices, fruit, yogurt and salads for a refresher. (This smart Lezzie came prepared with her own water and granola bars.)

An effort could be made to attract more merchants and craftspeople to display and sell their wares. This would attract more people, give participants more to do and see, and create more of a festival atmosphere. The women's craft fairs held occasionally in this city have drawn hundreds of people. Maybe the list of those women - painters, weavers, jewelers, woodworkers - can be provided to the Committee for next year.



Finally, organizers need to make marchers more earth conscious. The amount of refuse strewn along the parade route was shameful. The hundreds of plastic cups carelessly tossed aside by beer drinkers in the park was truly obnoxious. More garbage containers are a

It was inspiring to see the large turnout for the premiere of "Longtime Companion." I have rarely seen the Oriental Theatre that full - and with such a queer, er, er, quality crowd.

'Circus of a Queer Nature' was true to its promise of presenting original Lesbian/Gay performance art. Most outstanding were the dance routines of New Yorker Amy Pivar and the extended acrobatics and stilt-walking hijinx of hometown artists Debbie Davis, Tom Thoreson and David Figueroa in their piece, "Circ & Stances."

In another Pride Week event, cartoonist Alison Bechdel presented her "Dykes to Watch Out For" slideshow to an appreciative crowd of over 200. She shared a little of her creative process and traced the development of some of her regular characters like Mo and Lois. It was fun to see the men in the audience enjoying and relating to the characters as much as the Lesbians present.

I've warned my editor and publisher that I encouraged those present to request that the Light carry the "Dykes" strip. I hope you all write or call. It would add a consistent Lesbian feature and would be a pleasant counter-balance to the sleazy male phone ads we all know and hate! It's a quality cartoon that would enhance any newspaper.

Thanks to the Pride Committee and other producers and groups for all their hard work in organizing this year's activities. As usual, too few volunteers worked their butts off for the benefit of the largely apathetic masses. Ho- hum, thus has it ever been.

I'm a tad burned out myself. I think I'm getting too old for all this excitement. I'm planning to retreat to the Wanderground to practice my windriding for awhile. But not before I write to the Journal about their dismal coverage of Pride events. And to my Congressman about reauthorizing the National Endowment for the Arts. A Lezzie's work is never done...

#### Radio Psychologist Is Religious Right's New Star Celebrity

[Pomona, CA]- James Dobson is a radio psychologist and according to Rev. Jerry Falwell, "the religious right's new star." Dobson, 55, who offers advice to his listeners on subjects ranging from religion to politics to personal problems is currently heard on 1,450 stations in the U.S. and abroad and has a staff of 700 to handle the estimated 200,000 letters a month he receives and the 1,200 phone calls which come to his toll-free number.

Dobson, a former professor of pediatrics at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, heads an organization called "Focus on the Family" centered in Pomona with an annual budget of \$60 million. The organization is dedicated to upholding "traditional family values" which includes opposition to abortion and to the public acceptance of homosexuality.

Focus on the Family publishes six monthly magazines. One of them, a monthly political publication tells 267,000 subscribers what they can do to combat Gay rights, abortion and sexually suggestive advertising.

The organization is forming coalitions "pro-family organizations" for lobbying and public education at the state level. Coalitions are in place in 18 states.

According to the New York Times, Dobson ranks second only to Billy Graham in importance conservative Protestant church leaders.

Dobson's strongest conviction is that in psychology he is simply "repackaging" scripture. He does not separate secular and religious into different compartments and does not expect others to do so. A psychological discussion of guilt merges into a theological one of God and Satan.

Dobson sees his strong and growing popularity as being due to the average American's reaction against the "moral drift and permissiveness" of the 1960's.

#### In "Coming Out" We Help **Ourselves And Entire Community**

By Chuck Molitor

It's getting nigh into "coming out" season with the Pride Parade/Rally and other events. Coming out has always intrigued me as a term. What exactly is 'coming out?" The first time you admit to yourself you are Gay? Lesbian? Admitting it to someone else? The first time you enter a Gay bar or attend a Gay-oriented meeting?

Whatever it is, I guess it's supposed to be a really big deal... a big deal filled with fear, anxiety as well as great amounts of mental anguish. Sounds a little overly dramatic to me - the stuff that keeps causes going and newspapers selling.

It seems to me that most of the barriers to coming out are of our own creation both as Gay/Lesbian individuals and as a community. I hear a lot of excuses for not coming out; non-accepting families, friends who would not "understand", job-jeopardy, physical harassment. All these are pretty much bull.

I'd like to put forth a few ideas on the "coming out is dangerous" notion.

1) I think we as Gays/Lesbians are beginning to believe the homophobic nonsense that we are second-rate sick

2) There are really very few homophobics around, but the ones that are, become our excuses.

3) The Gay/Lesbian media perpetuate the horrors of homophobia to sell papers,

4) Coming out is purely a personal decision.

As to being sick, the American Psychological Association has decided that homosexuality is not to be considered an illness. The reason for this is studies showing that (a) Gay/Lesbian emotional problems are due to outside sources rather than to the state of being homosexual. (b) Examination of healthy homosexuals shows that they tend to be healthier than heterosexuals. Thus, illness is no excuse for staying in the closet. Our only sickness is believing the homophobic bull about ourselves. We're not sick because we're Gay... we're sick because we're afraid to be who we are in front of a phantom monster.

On the second point, we do not live in a homophobic society. We live in a society that has a few (a small minority) homophobes who have big mouths.

At last years Parade and Rally, was there any violence? No. After Pride Week, we had a flap with the County Board. We won. The press, the media, the Op-Ed columns were behind us. This is a homophobic society? I think not.

Yes, there are instances of homophobia. There are idiots who are fag-bashers. There are Christian Fundamentalists who believe nothing exists outside the King James Bible. But these are only the few, the minority. Still they provide a great recipe for living with fear and emotional death.

Should we come out if our jobs are in jeopardy? Of course we should! Should we live in fear and emotional paralysis with a lot of money or live as mature Gay men and Lesbian women in freedom with less money? Do we control our jobs or do they control us?

Inadvertently or pragmatically, the media play a certain role in keeping up the myth of "coming out." Victims create causes, causes sell magazines and papers. The Gay/Lesbian media seem to focus on the negative. Victims make good

Too seldom is a success story covered as a main feature. The ones of the Gay/Lesbian community who have successfully struggled and overcome find their stories in little places that are hidden - (kudos to In Step for its 'Coming Out' stories).

Naive to say that coming out is no big deal? Ignorant to say that homophobia doesn't exist? Not in the least. It exists. It just doesn't matter a great deal. Crazy to risk family, friendship, employment in coming out? Maybe, but the feeling of personal and social settledness is worth

People help the Gay/Lesbian community in many ways. Some do heavy financial donating. A great service - but some may see it as a way of paying rent to stay in the closet - sort of like Pilate fearing Jesus's enemies. Some help by being on the sidelines - offering moral support. Not bad, but still a little on the cowardly side. The best is getting right out there in the open. Visible, a little vulnerable, but proudly and maturely

Walk in parades. Be at rallies. Don't be afraid to say "yes" if someone asks. Don't hide who you are. Go shopping with a friend/lover. Hold his/her hand openly. Kiss him good-bye at the car or bus stop.

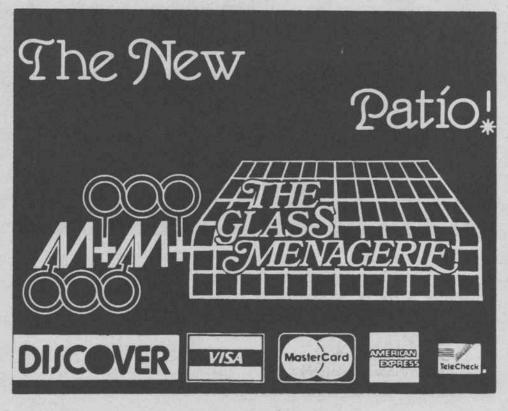
Whatever your choice, go out there and do it. Let the world know that there are many mature women who are Lesbians and men who are Gay. What's really to lose? Come out and chances are you'll meet a lot of other people on the same road. Some of them you might even recognize from your "closet life."



PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS OF WISCONSIN

The PLWA Coalition is an organization of people living with AIDS which has taken up the mission of advocacy on AIDS related issues. We are attempting to contact people living with AIDS or who are HIV positive to develop an agenda of their needs. Some of the issues include: Political Action, Medical Concerns, Social Issues, and Legal

Please contact us at (414) 273-2437 and ask to speak to a coalition member.



# The Light

# ARTS

#### July 15 Brunch, Concert to Benefit Madison Resource Center

[Madison]- On Sunday, July 15, 1990, the Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center (MG/LRC) will be presenting a Brunch and Concert to raise funds for the growth of MG/LRC's women's and men's educational video library. In conjunction with the Brunch and Concert, MG/LRC will be holding a raffle, the proceeds of which will be used for the expansion and continuing improvement of its general services.

MG/LRC manages a lending library of over 1000 Gay/Lesbian oriented books, magazines, newsletters and educational videotapes; publishes a monthly calendar of Lesbian/Gay events of interest; sponsors numerous activities for 18-21 year-old Lesbians, Gays, bisexuals and their friends as well as producing The

Directory, a 50 page guide to the organizations serving Madison's Gay/Lesbian community.

The Brunch and Concert will take place at the Cardinal Bar, 418 E. Wilson in Madison from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. on July 15. Prices are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The Concert will feature Womonsong and a number of local pianists, singers and poetry readers.

The raffle drawing will take place at 1:45 p.m. on the day of the Brunch and Concert. Over 25 prizes, donated by area businesses, worth over \$600 will be included. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5 and may be purchased from MG/LRC members or at the Brunch and Concert

#### Film Benefit Is Great Success

The Wisconsin premiere of the film, "Longtime Companion" was held at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre on Tuesday, June 19.

The gala event, which was sponsored by Wisconsin Light and In Step was a benefit for the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee. A near capacity house of 564 people attended the showing. Evidenced by the applause, during and at the films end, the audience was highly appreciative of the movie, as well as moved.

Wisconsin Light would like to publicly thank Landmark Theatres, which operates

Starts Friday, June 29

the Oriental and specifically Landmark district manager Kevin O'Neill for making the benefit possible. The Pride Committee made over \$2,500 from their portion of the ticket sales.

After the screening, the M&M and Glass Menagerie held a champagne and hors d'oeuvers reception for the film goers.

Bob Schmidt, M&M/Glass Menagerie owner is to be commended for sponsoring the reception. It was a perfect way for the many who attended to conclude the evening.

Starts Friday, July 6

#### Cream City Chorus Triumphs In Pride Week Concert

By Bill Meunier

June 16, 1990 is a date that any follower of the Cream City Chorus should long remember. The Chorus took top honors in the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade. Their marching unit carrying colorful flags followed by a beautiful float which broadcast recordings of their music, won the Chorus well deserved recognition as the best organizational and best overall entry in the parade.

But their triumph in the Pride Parade was only the prelude for the musical triumph which followed later in the evening.

I had not been to a Cream City Chorus concert before. I had heard the chorus sing at public events and I was not impressed. But several friends kept urging me to attend. I am glad they did.

The event was entitled "Tomorrow Belongs to Me" meaning the Gay and Lesbian community. That may be true but the night before clearly belonged to them and their fine conductor, Scott Stephan Stewart.

The chorus opened with a good rendition of "How Do You Open A Show Without A Curtain?" But like the Pride Parade, this song, good as it was, served as an appetizer for the fireworks that laid ahead. The next few selections were about us, the Lesbian and Gay community. It was here that Chorus singing about its own in front of its own, bared its musical soul. The heart and soul put into selections like "Tonight's the Night" was evident.

"Before Stonewall," stood out as well. In this piece which recounts Gay/Lesbian life before the Stonewall riots, Stewart skillfully blended the mournful music and lyrics with just the right touch of vocal dramatics. At the end of the piece the choir went through a litany of Gay/Lesbian passwords used to identify one another before Stonewall such as "Do you know Dorothy?" The result was a chilling reminder of how closeted Gay life used to be.

While "Before Stonewall," had a somber effect, the exuberant mood of the Pride Day concert goers came to the forefront as they clapped along to the strains of the "The Gay Pride March." "Never Turning Back" did more than hit the right notes it brought cheers from the audience as did "You'll Never Walk Alone," which finished to a loud and lengthy ovation.

Even the performance of the so called esbian and Gay National Anthem Holly Near's "Singing For Our Lives" was stirring and emotional. This sometimes overworked piece was refreshed with what sounded like cascades of harmonies descending down, as the chorus performed the song using an arrangement composed especially for them. Stewart's skillful blending of these harmonies added power to the piece. Unfortunately, the soloist for this piece was chosen too late for him to be properly prepared, and as a result, his effort fell somewhat short of the mark. But even that didn't significantly diminish an otherwise fine reading that was as good as any I've ever heard and far better than most.

The Pride numbers were followed by a Welsh folk song, "The Ash Grove." Listening to this tune one could close their eyes and drift down a river in Wales watching the scenery flow by.

watching the scenery flow by.

Then came a selection of spirituals, all of them well done. The star of the group was that old standby "Amazing Grace." Guest Soloist Sheri Williams Pannell from the Florentine Opera Company who had given a wonderful performance in singing "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands" earlier added a blues touch to this standard and brought the house down. In singing "Amazing Grace" Pannell had problems with her mike

which was not on for part of the song. This resulted in her rich voice being mostly drowned out by the volume of the singers behind her. Pannell, incidentally, wore a lavender satin dress because "A friend of mine in New York told me that its the color of memorial for victims of AIDS."

The second half of the concert began with a performance by the Creamettes. This six member sub group (three men and three women) proved their musical talent and had the audience in stitches. Their performance alone was well worth the price of admission. Perhaps the only thing that prevented them from doing a second encore was the appearance of the full choir on the stage.

The antics of the Creamettes were followed by a well done selection of Cole Porter tunes.

The concert was capped off with more selections that kept in spirit with the events of the day. "Tomorrow Belongs to Me," from the musical "Cabaret" was given a reading made more powerful by its spirited rendition. Several members of the chorus held Stars of David aloft as they sang of how "Tomorrow Belongs to Us," which later became pink triangles. "What A Wonderful World," expressed the hopes of many, and the return of the Creamettes who sang "Wind Beneath My Wings," provided a suitable tribute to the "heros" who marched earlier in the day.

The last scheduled selection was "Hand In Hand," done in sign language and sung by the entire choir. Before the last notes had faded away the audience was on its feet shouting for more. The chorus obliged with its signature song "I Love Myself."

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the special efforts made at staging such as the parade of flags during the "Gay Pride March." They were well received and helped liven up the evening even more. The interpreters for the Deaf were wonderful as well. While I don't read sign language, I do read expressive motions and as my partner said, "I kept watching them, their expressive movements were almost like dancing. It really added to the music."

The concert was simply a total delight and the selections showed the range of talent that exits in the chorus.

There is no doubt that the Cream City Chorus has come of age and is something all of us can be proud of on Pride Day and every other day of the year, too. Thank you Cream City Chorus for a triumphant ending to a triumphant day for our Lesbian and Gay community.



#### JET'S PLACE

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#### Mr/Miss Jet's Contest

Thursday, July 26, 1990 with special guest "Beverly Kay"

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In the hospital, David (Bruce Davison) and Willy (Campbell Scott) anxiously await news in

#### Oliver Stone To Produce Film Based On Harvey Milk's Life

[Los Angeles, CA]- Oliver Stone, the Academy Award winning director of "Platoon," "Wall Street," and "Born on the Fourth of July" will produce a film biography of slain San Francisco Supervisor and Gay activist Harvey Milk.

The film will be based on the 1982 book The Mayor of Castro Street by Randy Shilts, the Gay writer. Shilts and Milk's lover, Scott Smith, have been hired as creative consultants. The movie will be financed and distributed by Warner Brothers and its projected release date is 1992. It will be filmed in San Francisco.

Shilts told Philadelphia Gay News that the film could be the first "Gay crossover movie" and expressed confidence that Oliver Stone would be true to Harvey Milk's character and politics. Shilts also recently sold the movie rights to his bestseller about the AIDS epidemic, And The Band Played On.

#### International **Travel Magazine** Available

[Daytona Beach, FL]-Our World is the only monthly international travel magazine exclusively for Gay men and Lesbians. The Washington Post has called Our World, "A creditable new monthly travel magazine for Gays..."The magazine has now expanded its coverage to include more extraordinary vacation

spots worldwide.

Monthly issues include articles and color photos on Gav and Lesbian hotels, inns, resorts, tours, trips and events plus all the latest on the Lesbian/Gay international scene from Britain to Bangkok.

Our World is available in bookstores and newsstands. Single copy price is \$4.95. Subscriptions (12 issues for \$44) are available from Our World Publishing, 1104 North Nova Road, Suite 251, Daytona Beach, FL 32117.

"THE BEST AMERICAN MOVIE THIS YEAR! FUNNY, TOUCHING AND VITAL!" -Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE Magazine

"ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL FILMS I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR!" -Joel Siegel, ABC-TV

#### "REMARKABLE!

IT HAS SOPHISTICATION, WIT AND UNFLINCHING HONESTY. EXTREMELY MOVING. A STERLING CAST." -David Ansen, NEWSWEEK Magazine

#### "★★★★! OSCAR-QUALITY! SUPERB!

A RARE COMBINATION OF BEGUILING HONESTY AND GRIPPING STORYTELLING." -David Patrick Stearns, USA TODAY



THE SAMUEL GOLDWYN COMPANY ... AMERICAN PLAYHOUSE THEATRICAL FILMS . .... LONGTIME COMPANION STEPHEN CAFFREY PATRICK CASSIDY BRIAN COUSINS BRUCE DAVISON JOHN DOSSETT MARK LAMOS DERMOT MULRONEY MARY LOUISE PARKER MICHAEL SCHOEFFLING CAMPBELL SCOTT TONY JANNELL ... KATHERINE WENNING ....... LYDIA DEAN PILCHER TELLYLINDSAY LAW R The Transfer William WIDDKOWSKI " II CRAIG LUCAS " II NORMAN RENE Homes Volchen

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#### "Longtime Companion" Star Says Time Is Right For Film's Release

By Jerry Johnson

In watching the movie "Longtime Companion", it is obvious that the film was a labor of love for both the actors and the production company. The fact that the project not only made it into pre-production, but was and is now opening in theatres around the country is a miracle.

While an "Early Frost" was the TV break-through on the AIDS topic, "Longtime Companion" is the first major Hollywood film to address the

One of the film's stars, Bruce Davison, recently told Wisconsin Light that making the film was indeed difficult. Financing was especially hard to come by, but the film is now receiving rave reviews from both the Gay and straight media.

Davison feels the time was right for the film. During the Reagan White House years, we were, he said. "Hiding from our own humanity." Now, Gays are not only gaining acceptance around the country, "but are beginning to cope with the problems brought on by Reagan conservatism.

Davison also stated that the Gay couples in "Longtime Companion" are "eight, normal ordinary people" and that "this reflects on the reality of Gay men." Certainly this is one of the strong points of the film.

Davison, a Minnesota native, whose first film was Frank Perry's 'Last Summer'' was bitten by the "acting bug" when he was a student at Penn State.

Actually, he never had any desire for the theatre until some classmates bet him he wouldn't have the nerve to try out for a bit part in "Come Back, Little Sheba," which the Drama School was preparing to present. He was tested but did not get the role.

This small contact with the theatre, even though non-professional, whetted his appetite for a performing career and he broke through the initial dising the key part in "The opposite Kim Darby. Physicists," "Blood Wedding" and "Oh, What A Lovely War" in college productions.

Davison went on to star in numerous

Twin City To Host Conference

[Washington, D.C.]- Lesbian and Gay activists from around the nation will meet in Minneapolis, Minn., this November 9-12, for the third annual Creating Change Conference, billed as the most significant political gathering of Gay people in the country.

The Conference is sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and will feature leading activists from the national and grassroots Gay and

Hollywood films, Broadway plays and television shows. His film credits, in addition to "Last Summer," include "Willard," "Spies Like Us," "Crimes of Passion' and "The Strawberry Statement." On Broadway he starred in "The Elephant Man" and "The Glass Menagerie." He is currently starring in 'The Cocktail Hour" that runs through July 1 at the Doolittle Music Theatre in Los Angeles, having previously appeared in the play Off Broadway.

On TV, he was nominated for an Emmy for his performance in NBC-TV's Movie of the Week, "Summer of My German Soldier." Other TV credits include "Alfred Hitchcock Presents,"
"Tommorow's Child," "The Gathering, 'Alfred Parts 1 and II." "Hunter" and "Poor Little Rich Girl.'

When asked how he felt about the controversial "outting" of closeted Gay politicians and others, Davison could not speak strongly enough against it. "Outting can only be compared to the practice of an animal turning around and eating its young," he said, adding that outting can only hamper the progress made by the Gay community over the past

Davison told Light that later this Summer, he and his wife will be going to the Fiji Islands where she will be filming the sequel to "The Blue Lagoon." While



appointment by land- Bruce Davison starred in the 1970 release, "Strawberry Statement"

there, he plans to "play in the water." He is also working as producer of another film in the "Willard" series and may also do some additional TV work.

Lesbian scene, prominent speakers such as Kate Clinton, workshops and more.

Registration is \$120 by Sept. 14, \$150 after. For registration forms and more information on Cooperating Organization rates, limited income rates, fees for pre-conference institutes and the conference in general, contact NGLTF at 1517 U St. N.W., Washington, D.C., 20009, Attn.: Creating Change, or call (202) 332-6483.



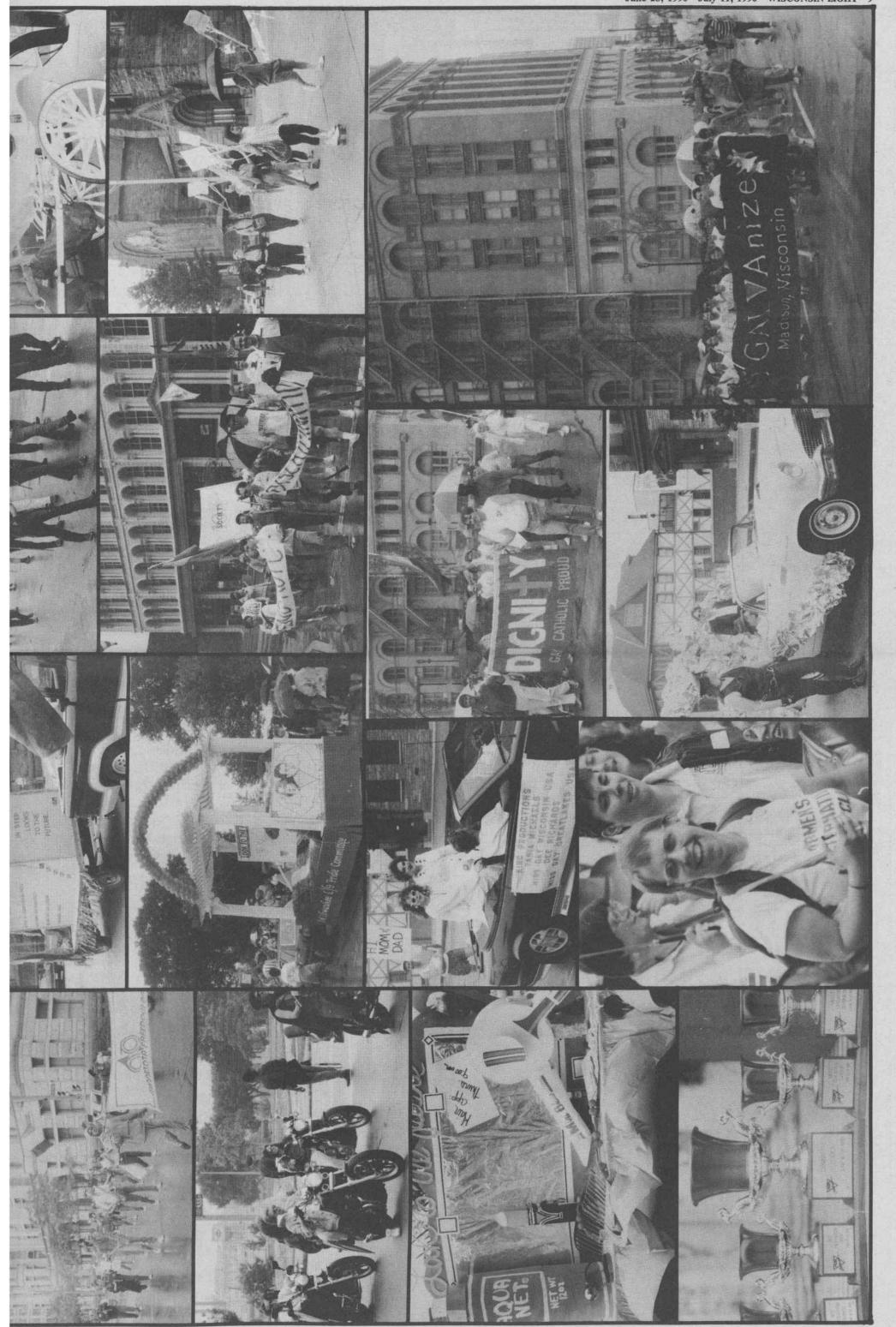


After you have seen the Lakefront Fireworks or spent the day at Summerfest, stop by Milwaukee's friendliest bar for a cool relaxing drink!

> 418 East Wells Street 278-9192 Milwaukee

# ual Milwaukee Pride Parade June 16, 1990 Second Am





#### POLITICALLY SPEAKING

#### A Big Thank-You To Reverend Vic, **Marchers And Ralliers**

Dear Reverend Vic and Friends,

We really can't thank you enough for giving our Pride Parade and Rally such a boost. I can't begin to tell you how many people told me they felt the need to attend due to your rally the night before and television shows over the preceding two

Speaking of the "Save The Family" rally, did you notice how you could only get twice as many people as we got to our rally despite the fact that you had two weeks of propaganda on your radio and television stations to promote your indoor rally and ours was held outside in the

What were you trying to Save The Family from? Do you really think that the same group you have portrayed as being a small minority can threaten the family? And where do you think the members of that group came from? We are, however, thankful that you've let us know that families are threatened. We'll be sure to redouble our efforts to create more of them. After all, artificial insemination works just as well with Lesbians as it does with straight women, and Gay men can hire surrogate mothers just as easily as straight men do.

And what a scream your rally was. So you guys are going to turn these Gay supporting politicians out of office, huh? I'm sure that you will follow up on that threat as effectively as you followed up on your threats to recall the Mayor and County Executive last year. By the way Vicki baby, did you notice how scared they were? They were so scared that this year they issued even stronger statements of support for our cause.

The Common Council was obviously frightened of you, too. Did you notice how afraid they were when they had that 13 -3 vote to pass their own Pride Week resolution? Of course you did manage to keep the County Board from passing a similar resolution, however, those in the know say that had it been put to a vote it would have passed due to the obnoxious

phone calls you had people making. Well Vic, what's next. Gee, President Bush has called AIDS a tragedy and has pledged to help fight it. (Not that I believe him anymore than I believe you) Maybe you could start a recall drive against him. Barbara Bush has publicly stated that "Discrimination against anyone for any reason is wrong." Maybe you could recall her. When the Pope was here a few years back he told the Bishops that while he felt

homosexual acts were sinful, he found nothing wrong with them supporting equal rights for homosexuals. Perhaps you could get the Cardinals together to vote him out of office.

Why not start your own names project. Go around and collect the names of all the Lesbians and Gays you can find. Then you'll have them handy when you open up those neat "re-education" camps. Perhaps you've already started this process, after all I did see Jan and Craig Parshall at the Pride Rally taking notes. I'm sure they have a list ready for you.

How about reading the bible? You might want to pay particular attention to the part about the Pharisee and the Publican, or that quote "Judge not lest lest you be judged.'

The possibilities are endless, aren't they. Well, whatever you decide, I'm sure it will be creative and just as ineffective as your past efforts. Keep up the good work, we can all use a good laugh every now and then.

Sincerely, Bill

#### Dear Marchers and Ralliers,

As someone who has worked for years hoping that at some point we would actually have a huge turnout at a Pride Parade and rally, I want to tell you how proud I was to see all of you come out even in the rain. This year we doubled in

To march in Milwaukee takes some small amount of courage. The 2,000 marchers and the additional 500 people who attended the rally with them, showed just how proud we all can be.

Your attendance did several things, it showed the fundies that we will not go away, it showed the politicians that we can organize and that we do care about our future, it showed countless Gays and Lesbians who could not attend that they need not be afraid.

Worthy of special mention were those who came in from Chicago, Minneapolis, Sheboygan, Green Bay, and other places to join with us. Perhaps next year, we should call it the Wisconsin Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade. You were beautiful, all of you and together you gave Milwaukee another reason to feel Lesbian and Gay

Now lets work together to triple attendance next year. Yours In Pride, Bill



#### **Coggs Family Receives Alyn Hess Friendship Award**

The 1990 Alyn Hess Friendship award was presented to State Representative Marcia Coggs, State Representative Spencer Coggs, and County Supervisor Beth Coggs Jones at the Pride Rally.

The award given annually during the Pride Celebration by Gay People's Union commemorates the memory of Alyn Hess, one of the founding members of Gay People's Union. Hess died of AIDS in April of 1989.

In his presentation speech, Gay People's Union President Bill Meunier pointed to the appropriateness of the award. "Alyn Hess sought to build bridges between segments of our community and so he became one of the first male members of the National Organization For Women, he founded the Milwaukee Chapter of Black & White Men Together and served on its National Board of Directors and he was involved in many political campaigns." He also pointed out that the last project Hess had worked on was Pride Week and that made giving the award during the Pride celebration even more appropriate.

In announcing the recipients of this year's award, Meunier lauded their "staunch, unflinching support of Lesbian and Gay rights." He pointed to Marcia Coggs long service to the cause of equal rights. "Marcia and Spencer Coggs have been there for us without ever being

asked. They have spoken out on our behalf both publicly and behind closed doors. They have voted for our legislation and they have even co-sponsored some of it." With regard to Beth Coggs Jones, Meunier, praised her support of the Gay and Lesbian community as well. "Beth has come to our rallies, she sponsored last year's County Board Pride Proclamation and despite everything the Rev. Eliason and his bunch threatened her with, she went ahead and sponsored this year's proclamation as well." Meunier went on to point out that "not once have they ever asked us for money, or volunteers. The Coggs family has helped for one simple reason, their belief in justice.'

In her acceptance, Marcia thanked Bill and the community for "this high honor and important award." She reiterated her support for equal rights for all people and to the cheers of the crowd she promised to keep up the fight.

Beth Coggs Jones also thanked the community and stressed the importance of working together to achieve justice. Spencer Coggs was unable to attend due to a long-standing prior commitment.

#### Cable Programs Attacked In Virginia

By John Zeh

[Fairfax, VA]- Cable TV's promise to - unbridled public access to America -America's foremost electronic medium has been "PERVERTED by fags and dikes cablecasting PUBIC broadcasting to unsuspecting citizens!"

That charge came from northern Virginia fundamentalist Christian groups, whose leader called this area's first homophile cable TV program
''pornography'' — before he saw it.
''Little did we realize we would cause

such a stir," said "Gay Fairfax" co-founder Barry Forbes, noting coverage by mainstream media of the latest right-wing backlash from Citizens Against Pornography and the Foundation for Moral Restoration.

Richard Enrico, executive director of the right-wing groups, urged Media General and Warner Amex cable subscribers to cancel service if the show were not withdrawn.

"We might have lost a couple of subscribers," said Media general chief Thomas Waldrop. "It certainly doesn't seem that there has been much in the way of disconnects.'

"Gay Fairfax" is cablecast the first week of every month. It "attempts to foster a sense of community among area Gays and enhance society's awareness and understanding of the homosexual population," said publicist Karen Brown.

"It's important for us to acknowledge our lifestyle and be out on the front lines," said the show's co- host Michelle Michaels, a real estate broker. "We have a lot of things to say that are not handled by general media. We will give important issues a new outlet and bridge divisions that seem to exist between two lifestyles," she said.

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#### Milwaukee To Host Miss Gay Wisconsin USA Pageant August 19

[Milwaukee]- King Productions has announced that the 2nd Annual Miss Gay Wisconsin USA Pageant will be held on Sunday, August 19th at the Marc Plaza Hotel in Milwaukee.

This years pageant will begin with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the pageant to follow. All activities are scheduled to finish by 11:00 p.m. so all Milwaukee bars may proceed with their normal activities.

Guest entertainers will include: Cezanne, Miss Gay USA, Netasha Edwards, Miss Gay USA 1989, Tommie Ross, Miss Gay USA 1988 and the reigning Miss Gay Wisconsin USA, Tania Michaels.

The thirteen Miss Gay Wisconsin USA Preliminary winners from around the state will be competing for over \$2,500 in cash, prizes and bookings for the winner alone.

Ticket prices are \$25 for the dinner and pageant or \$10 for the pageant alone. Tickets are available from King Productions at (414) 342-1466.

Jimmy King would like to clarify any questions people have concerning Wisconsin's Pageants. Wisconsin Female Impersonators have three major state-wide titles to compete for. The first is the Mr./Miss Gay Wisconsin Pageant held annually in November. This pageant is presented by Pageant Productions.

The second is the Miss Wisconsin Continental USA Pageant. This pageant is held annually in July and is produced by Miss Ginger Spice. The winner of this pageant goes on to represent Wisconsin in The National Miss Continental USA Pageant.

The third pageant belongs to King Productions and is The Miss Gay Wisconsin USA Pageant. Held annually in August, the winner and first runner-up go on to represent Wisconsin at The National Gay USA Pageant.

None of these pageants were devised to compete with other pageants; rather they provide Wisconsin's entertainers with additional outlets for their formidable

#### Lavender Hill Garden Party VII Will Be Held August 19

[Milwaukee]- The Lavender Hill Garden Party VII, an annual fundraiser for the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) will be held this year on August 19 from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The theme for this year's Party will be "Wild, Wild Lavender West."

The Lavender Hill Garden Party is widely known as one of the most successful fundraisers for people living with AIDS. This year, it has doubled its space and, as a result, organizers are expanding the guest list.

For those attending, a donation of \$20 will be asked. This will help the Party to reach its 1990 goal of \$12,000. All of the funds raised with go to MAP for direct patient support. This includes help with financial needs, food pantry, the Milwaukee House, recreational enjoyment and other needs and wishes of those living with AIDS.

If you are interested in supporting this fundraiser, and would like to be on the 1990 guest list, please call 265-6188.

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Miss Gay Wisconsin — USA

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Pageant - 8:00 P.M.

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The Fest City Singers performed at the June 16 Pride rally in Milwaukee. Several members are seen here enjoying themselves during the rally at Juneau Park.

#### AIDS Incubation Period Increases To Eleven Years

[San Francisco, CA]- Eleven years is the median incubation period for AIDS among homosexual and bisexual men infected with HIV, according to a new study by the San Francisco Department of Health published in the March 16 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. These new figures show a longer median incubation period for AIDS than ever before, and according to the study's author, Dr. George Lemp, Chief of Surveillance for the AIDS Office, "We anticipate the incubation period will become even longer as a result of earlier intervention with new treatment modalities."

The longer incubation period, coupled with another recent study by Lemp showing a longer life-expectancy of people with AIDS, has significant implications for health policy and planning. "Accurate projections of the AIDS epidemic are critical in planning for future services, including earlier

intervention treatments, as well as estimating their costs. Previous methods have been limited in their usefulness for long-term projections because information on the underlying distribution of HIV in the population has not been available. Without a clear understanding of that distribution, projections will not be realistic," said Dr. Lemp.

## Lesbian Records To Be Published

[Oakland, CA]- The "First Annual Book Of Lesbian World Records" will be published in 1991. These are non-competitive herstorical records. All Lesbians are welcome to make their accomplishments, humorous or serious, known. All notarized, released entries will be published. For information send SASE to: Color Pink Productions, 1918 Lake Shore Ave No. 32, Oakland, CA 95606.

#### Benefit To Honor State Rep. David Clarenbach

[Madison]- Wisconsin Gay and Lesbian elected officials are sponsoring a fund raising benefit for State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison) on July 13, 1990.

The event taking place the evening before Madison's "MAGIC" Picnic, will honor Clarenbach's significant contributions to the rights of Gays and Lesbians in Wisconsin.

Andrew Barrer and Joe Wheeler are hosting the benefit at their home, located near Madison in Seminole Hills. The Barrer/Wheeler home was featured in the 1988 Dane County Parade of Homes, and will provide a luxurious setting for the reception for Clarenbach.

Sponsoring the event are the Chair of the Dane County Board of Supervisors, Richard Wagner, Dane County Supervisors Tammy Baldwin and Earl Bricker, Madison Alderperson Ricardo Gonzalez, and Trustee of the Village of Shorewood Hills, John Neess.

Clarenbach is a national leader in the fight for Gay and Lesbian rights. His accomplishments include the nation's first Gay rights law, consenting adults legislation and a bill of rights for people with AIDS and HIV infection.

For further information about the event, to contribute to the fund raising efforts, or to provide assistance with Clarenbach's campaign for re-election to the Assembly, contact the Clarenbach Committee at 454 Sidney St., Madison, WI 53703 or phone (608) 251-2528.

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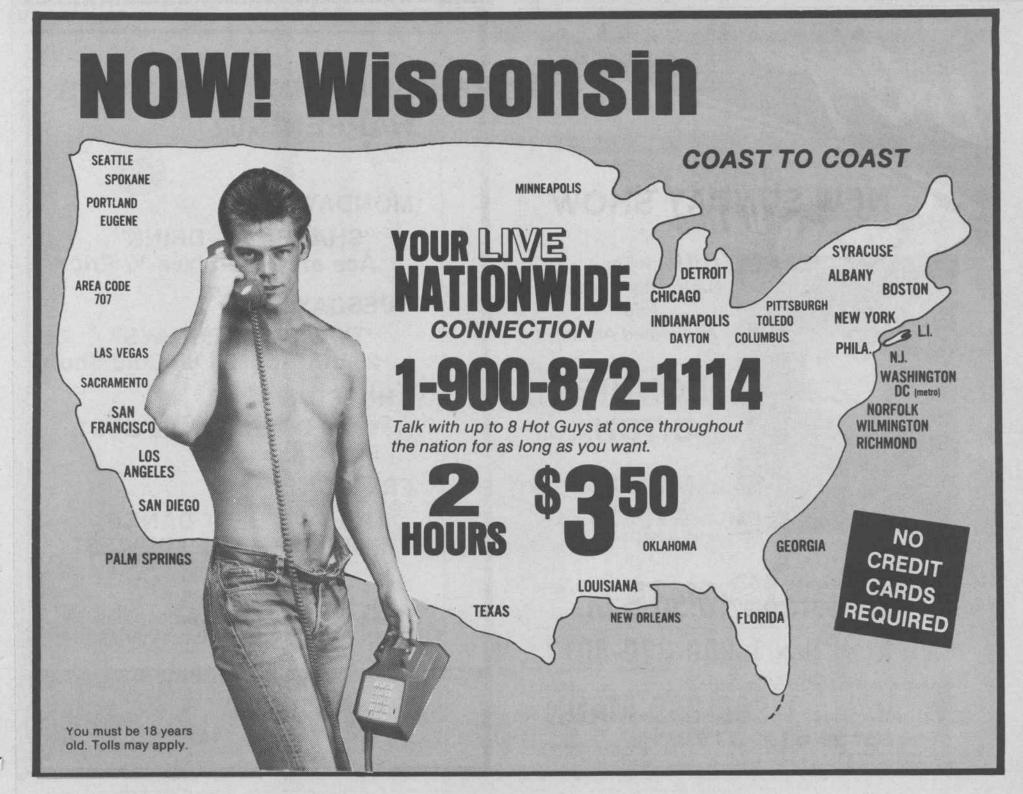


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#### Pittsburgh To Host Softball World Series August 19-26

[Pittsburgh, PA]- With the beginning of the 1990 Spring season, Softball has once again become a primary part of the lives of players and officials of the North American Gay Amateur Athletics Association (NAGAAA).

The 1990 season was kicked off in mid-February, as Pittsburgh, the host city for the 1990 NAGAAA World Series, and the Steel City Softball League welcomed delegates to the annual NAGAAA Spring Meetings. As is the norm for these annual meetings, NAGAAA delegates discussed a myriad of subjects, ranging from rule and/or regulation changes for the 1990 Softball World Series to a routine review of the current bylaws.

With the culmination of the Spring Meetings, season play was begun in most NAGAAA affiliated leagues during the last few weeks of April. Play is continuous until representative teams from each NAGAAA affiliated league are sent to play in the three different divisions of the 1990 Softball World Series

The 1990 World Series, scheduled for August 19-26, 1990 will be a unique experience for NAGAAA members, as this is expected to be the NAGAAA's largest World Series of record as well as the first World Series sponsored by on of NAGAAA's smaller affiliated leagues, Pittsburgh's Steel City Softball League. Members of the Steel City Softball League, under the auspices of Nancy Pribich, have lined up such national sponsors as Strohs Beer (the official beer sponsor), USAir (the official airline), American Express Travel (the official travel agent) and Coca-Cola for the 1990 World Series. National sponsorship has been augmented by a tremendous local effort spearheaded by the Lambda Foundation and the Pittsburgh Tavern

Editor's Note: Watch the August 9th issue of Wisconsin Light for a complete guide to the Pittsburgh Lesbian/Gay scene as well as suggestions as to restaurants and what to see and do in the Steel City.

#### Blue Lights Are Symbols In Fight Against AIDS

By Jennifer Scott

[San Francisco, CA]- In the 1940's, when polio was still a terrible mystery disease, people lit their porchlights as a reminder, and a quiet protest, that something had to be done.

Porchlights, back then, were generally lit only when company was expected, so the sight of many houses all with porches aglow had special meaning.

Polio is no longer such a threat. Today, it's AIDS, and now there's a campaign suggesting that people place a blue light in a window at home.

This Bluelights Campaign was the idea of a San Franciscan, David Willers, who lost his twin brother to AIDS last winter.

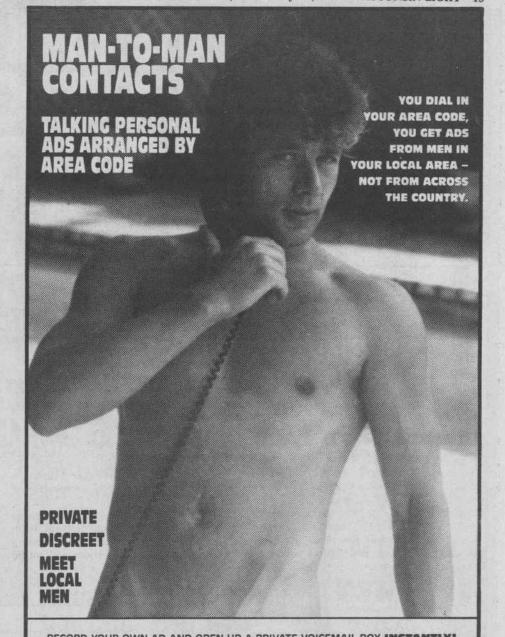
In response, he came up with the Bluelights idea as a way for concerned people to "send a signal to our elected officials, our neighbors and our world that we stand united and concerned in this epidemic health crisis."

It is also a campaign to fight discrimination, ignorance and fear.

After 11 months, the campaign is active in 21 states and with the third printing of Bluelights' flyers, posters and buttons, the effort has gone worldwide.

Eyes from across the nation are looking to Wisconsin with its history of compassion and its progressive, humane tradition to join in. From Milwaukee to Madison, from Green Bay to Superior, let everyone who is concerned for themselves and their fellow human beings in this time, place a blue light in the window as a sign of protest and of hope.

For more information, contact the Bluelights Campaign, 109 Minna St., Suite 125, San Francisco, CA 94105 or call (415) 863-3540.



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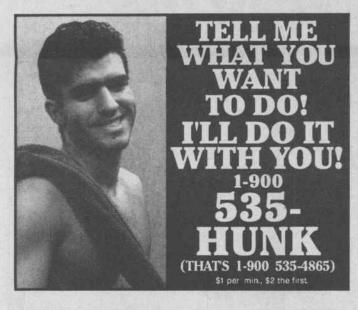
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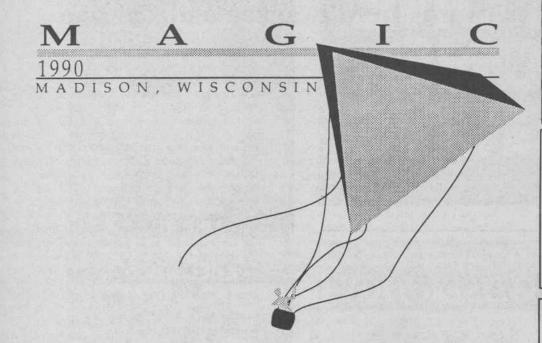
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#### **Grants Awarded** By Wisconsin Community Fund

[Madison]- The Wisconsin Community Fund (WCF), a public foundation making grants to grass roots groups working for social change throughout Wisconsin, has announced 10 new grantees for the Spring of 1990. The Community Funding Board, made up of community activists representing different geographic areas, issues and constituencies, decided to fund projects addressing the following issues: racism, Native American culture, pesticides, Hispanic youth, interracial and intergenerational relations and Lesbian Parenting.

Lesbian parents, in Madison, have determined that there is a need within the Lesbian community for a unified, well organized group to address concerns unique to Lesbian parents and their families. The WCF grant will go to the Lesbian Parents Network to meet general operating costs during the next year while the organization is developing.

A total of almost \$300,000 has been given out to community groups since WCF's inception in 1982. In addition, over \$20,000 worth of Lotus Software and computers has been awarded to Wisconsin not-for- profit groups in the last year. The Wisconsin Community Fund is proud to have served progressive social change during the last eight years.

#### **MADISON** Continued from Page 1

obtaining registration forms from the Madison City Clerk's Office. They must attest that they are in a committed relationship; that they are living in the same dwelling; that they are not married and that they are not registered in a different domestic partnership. Upon payment of a \$25 fee to cover the costs of processing, domestic partners will be presented an official certificate of domestic partnership. Because all city records are subject to Wisconsin's open record laws, registrations cannot be confidential.

All domestic partnerships, whether registered or not, will benefit from the ordinance banning discrimination in public accommodations in the provision of family memberships. Any business which offers its services, goods or premises to use by the general public will be subject to this ordinance. If such a business offers family memberships and denies one to a domestic partnership, the domestic partners will be able to file a complaint of discrimination with the Madison . Equal Opportunities Commission. If discrimination is proven, the business could be required to pay damages to the partnership in addition to granting the family membership.

Editor's Note: Any questions regarding these ordinances should be directed to Ald. McFarland at (608) 257-

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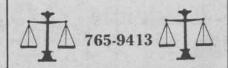
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#### HEALTH Continued from Page 1

reimbursement" a person living with AIDS must impoverish themselves and then prove that they are disabled.

As an example of the burdens a community-based AIDS care organization was carrying, Nelson cited San Francisco after which MAP was modeled. The San Francisco agency has carried

the burden for 10 years, but Nelson said, it is failing and cannot carry the load for another 10 years.

Nelson cited three reasons for San Francisco's weakening condition. 1. Lack of Federal funding.

2. Centralized patient care. This means, Nelson said, that San Francisco AIDS patients go to one hospital, one dental care facility and two nursing homes. These facilities are now overwhelmed. overwhelmed.

3. The struggle to find housing for IV drug users and affected women and children.

Nelson, however, pointed out that though MAP is modeled on San Francisco, there are strong differences.

MAP has never used centralized patient care, but has striven to integrate people with AIDS throughout the Wisconsin health care system. This has been greatly aided, he said, by AB 400 authored by State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison). "There is no AB 400 in California," Nelson said regretfully.

Nelson said he returned from San Francisco feeling good about MAP and Milwaukee's "outstanding" efforts at supporting the AIDS-care agency. "MAP is prepared for the long run," Nelson

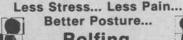
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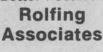
to believe that AIDS is a function of age; that if they own age, they will not run the risk of infection.

"They don't know," Nelson said, "how AIDS has ravaged the community." The fact of this ignorance 'spells continuing disaster" and means, he said, that prevention and education efforts must be "redoubled" and, he emphasized strongly, "We have to eroticize safer sex.'

Nelson said that he was "very disappointed" that there was not greater attention paid at the Conference to needle exchange programs which he called, "the greatest prevention technique" for those using IV drugs.

Nelson pointed out that even though exchange of needles is illegal in San









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Francisco, an exchange program has been in progress and "There is a leveling off of the infection rate.

Nelson said that MAP is "seriously considering a needle exchange program' in Milwaukee. In pursuit of this, MAP is putting together a model that "can be considered by city leaders." Nelson noted that Wisconsin law does not ban health care paraphenalia such as needles and syringes and therefore, such a needle exchange program if put into practice in Milwaukee would not be illegal. Nelson indicated that he expected "a fair hearing" from community leaders.

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The Cream City Chorus presented this award winning float in Milwaukee's Pride Parade on June 16.

#### U.S. Government Is Barrier In Controlling AIDS Epidemic

[Milwaukee]- "It is clear that the U.S. government is a continuing barrier to progress in controlling the AIDS epidemic," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). Nelson had just returned from attending the Sixth International Conference on AIDS held in San Francisco in the third week in June.

AIDS legislation is in the hands of "politicians who are homophobic," Nelson said; politicians "who don't care about the marginalized communities of the U.S." He went on to say that these legislators are "not listening to scientists, to health care professionals or to people living with AIDS. They (the politicians) are only responding to the worst instincts of fear and prejudice."

The government's attitude, Nelson said, was symbolized by two things. One was the fact the President George Bush did not attend the Conference or send a message of welcome and encouragement to the delegates despite an invitation to do so. Instead, on the opening day of the Conference, Bush chose to go to North Carolina to visit Sen. Jesse Helms.

The second thing was the address to the Conference by Health and Human Services Secretary Louis W. Sullivan.

Sullivan's speech at the close of the Conference was drowned out by the shouts of hundreds of angry demonstrators.

"Sullivan deserved every ounce of protest he received," Nelson said. Sullivan had shown up at the "last moment" of the Conference when "half the delegates and much of the media were gone."

Further, he was the only Conference speaker to lecture the activists about their conduct," Nelson said.

Nelson called the protest "a genuine expression of anger and frustration" on the part of ACT-UP and others who carried on the protest against the U.S. government's inaction in the face of the epidemic.

Nelson said that scientists and leaders

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from around the world "uniformly" condemned the U.S. for its immigration policy (regarding those infected with HIV) and for the American "failure to have a fundamental understanding of public health" needs in the AIDS crisis.

Nelson praised ACT-UP saying, "I really believe strongly that ACT-UP is an essential force in the fight against AIDS." He noted that ACT-UP had not only "tremendous support" in San Francisco, but that the activist organization had been praised by other leaders.

Nelson went on to say that, "We need to engage in non-violent civil disobedience," he said and emphasized that while he believed the civil disobedience was needed, it must be non-violent. "When violence is involved," he said, "that's where I part company."

However, for those who can engage in acts of civil disobedience, ACT-UP is "an organization around which people can rally"

Nelson was not alone in his frustration over government inaction in the face of the hideous dimensions of human suffering due to AIDS.

San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos was the highest ranking elected official to attend the Conference. Nelson quoted the Mayor as saying that if one took the deaths from World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the war in Vietnam and "tripled" the total, one would have some idea of how AIDS "has effected my city."

#### Cream City Chorus Wins Parade Awards In Milwaukee and Chicago

[Milwaukee]- Wisconsin's Cream City Chorus marched, twisted, polka-ed and generally bubbled their way to fame in the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade held June 24, 1990. As a result of these shenanigans, the Chorus brought home the coveted Judges' Choice Award for Best Float and Presentation.

Did they sing? Not at all.

The Cream City Chorus saved their voices and played their accordions instead. Accordions dominated the 18-member orchestra, playing the only song the Chorus managed to learn during eight weeks of rehearsal, "Beer Barrel Polka." Seven flags, four dancers, two baton twirlers and three bubble-blowers rounded out the outrageous two and one-half hour march through the Windy City.

The crowds cheered and polka-ed and blew kisses. And well they should, because they were witnessing a true miracle, in that only three of the accordionists had any idea of how to play one.

Evidently, the local press appreciated the scene. In the June 25 edition of the Chicago **Tribune's** front page of the Chicagoland section, they ran a photo of the Cream City Chorus float.

Will success spoil the Cream City

Chorus?

While it's still too soon to say, it should be added that the same Chorus won not one, but two awards in Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade, held June 16. With an entirely different float, designed by Randy Frank, the Cream City Chorus walked away with a loving cup for Best Presentation by a group as well as the big cup for Committee's Choice Award. The theme of the float was "Tomorrow Belongs To Me," which was also the title of their annual Spring concert, held the same day.

The Chorus wishes to extend their sincere appreciation to Randy Frank and Boo-Boo of the M&M Club for all their help and support, and to everyone who helped make the "pride" in Gay and Lesbian Pride Week extra meaningful.

"Tomorrow Belongs To Me" was presented to a nearly full house at Centennial Hall in Milwaukee and extra encores were called for, but the Chorus hadn't remembered to bring their accordions. And so it goes.

Mayor John O. Norquist's letter to the Chorus wasn't received in time for publication in the concert program, but is reprinted here with grateful acknowledgment.

JOHN O. NORQUIST



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

June 16, 1990

Cream City Chorus Centennial Hall 733 N. 8th Street Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Friends:

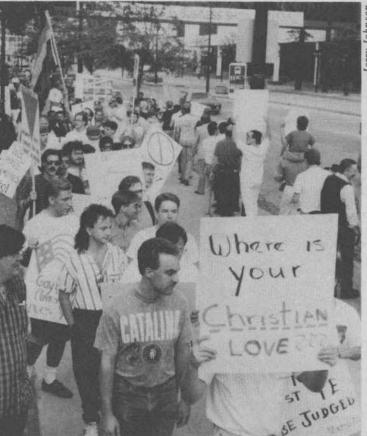
Milwaukee is a city that supports and celebrates the arts and The Cream City Chorus has demonstrated time and time again the diversity and quality of Milwaukee's thriving arts community.

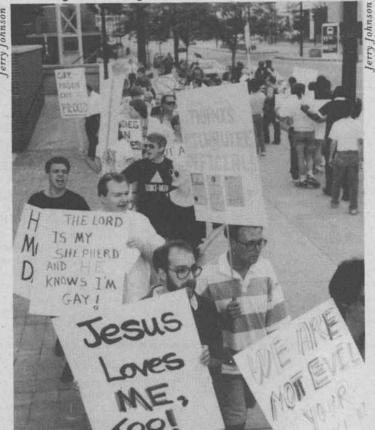
On the occasion of your third annual spring event, please accept my best wishes for continued success.

John O. NORQUIST

City Hall. 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. Telephone: (414) 278-2200

125 People March In Protest Of Fundamentalist's "Countdown To Crisis" Anti-Gay Rally





Over 125 men and women gathered in front of Milwaukee's downtown MECCA Convention Center on June 15, the eve of the community's annual Gay/Lesbian Parade and Rally. With signs in hand and chanting slogans, the crowd marched to protest a pro-family rally being held in the Auditorium. The event was in reality strongly anti-homosexual and was billed as a "Countdown to Crisis" rally. The Crisis referred to was the Pride Parade held on June 16. WVCY, the fundamentalist T.V. and radio station sponsored the rally. Approximately 2500 to 3000 attended.

# Second Annual Milwaukee Pride Parade June 16, 1990



June 28, 1990-July 11, 1990-WISCONSIN