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PRIZE WINNING COCKTAIL HOUR Starts Monday, February 27 With every drink you purchase between 4pm & 7pm, not only do you get to 'pull your price,' but you also get a ticket making you eligible to win a COLOR TV and other prizes! And, enjoy snacks, too!

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### Page 30 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step

WK GRAFFITI Wisconsin - Write messages for our FREE "Graffiti" section (20 words or less) and mail to In Step Magazine, 823 North Second Street. Suite 409, Milwaukee, WI 53203. (No phone calls, please.) Next deadline is February 29th. Editors Doris - Where the hell are you? Your Older Sister Bob & Tom (Castaways MCC) - The things you do at the Wreck Room!

Mr. & Mrs. Dick - We all miss you. Hope you like Texas.

Your Fan Club

Harold Breier

Anon.

Rodney - You never cease to amaze us! W.I.S. George Prentice - Wish you success on your new har. Jerry

Ron G. - Where's your sister Erin?

Tommy (Gerp) - Happy birthday babe! Just like any fine "cheese," it only gets better with age. Many more happy returns.

Love Ya', O.G. Davey

Steve - How 'bouts another go around? Your barn or mine? Luke

Sorry! - Dear Davey is currently shackled to a wall up in Wausau. He'll be back in the next issue (if he can get free by then). Leather Man Master

O.G. Davey - Once every ten days? I'm forgetting how. Hope you're better - soon. Gerp

Thumper - Winter's over, spring is here. Wish you were.

Love, Tom

	in (Y.P.) — I hear that Wednesday nights your favorite night to work. Jerry
will	e — I want you to know that my throat never be the same, but would certainly do l over again. Paul
Del turn	and Tony — Nice party! (Many happy re- is.) W.I.S.
Y.P.	. Ron — Happy Birthday. Love Ya, C.O.D.
	(Sam's Madison) — We're still waiting for in Milwaukee! Anon.
	(Madison's Sweetheart Secretary) — Have onderfully happy birthday! W.I.S.
	re — I really need to rub my hands all over r chest and legs and thighs and — Call Me! Tripod
	rd the new car. Love you always, Tom bie Vance (219) — Are you really from nce? Wayne & Jeff (Ft. Lauderdale)
	ianna — Is that all you know are three s? Adequate, adequate Peter
Und	ra — How's your pancakes? C.O.D.
	e — Thanks for the cold — now what can I you? K.A.
K.A	. — Have you had herpes yet? O.G.
Schi pres	mmer — Happy 40th, 2-27-84. Collect your ents at the Y.P. All Your Friends
-	ti (Rick) — What did that poor, defenseless
Mitz	e at the Marc Plaza ever do to you? The Shadow Knows

**Continued** on page 29

WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 3

WISCONSIN STEP

> **Co-Editors** and Publishers Ron Geiman Dave Iraci **Published by** Wislnk, Limited Typesetting COMTREC Contributing Editors Jackie "Oh" Tom Rezza Kevin Rozman W. W. Wells III Kim Zweibohmer **Preferred Account** Executive Ron Geiman Service Representative Dean McBride **Executive Assistant** Kimberly Anne

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# WHAT'S **UP FRONT?**

Our cover, once again for this issue, is done by our staff artist, Tom Rezza. Don't forget to check out Tom's cartoon "The Gay Side" on page 28.



NOTE: We're still getting the "glitches" out of our publication process. We were going to have an expanded "Guide"section in this issue, along with maps. However, we honestly just didn't have the time. Next issue - promise!

We found a woman's columnist for "Lipstick" with the pen name of Jackie "Oh," but she missed deadline (oops!).



## WHAT'S IN STEP

Briefs (News)
Dance Chart
Comments
Consider This "Gay Etiquette"8
Group Notes "Gay Fathers"
The Calendar
Steppin' Out
The Arts
The Gay Side Cartoon
Classies
The Guide
Graffiti

### Page 4 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step



### S.F. Killer Gets \$50,000 Book Advance

Convicted assassin Dan White is living rent-free in a movie producer's Bel-Air mansion and has received a \$50,000 advance for a book about his experiences.

Jeff Walsworth, an attorney who represents a group of businessmen who last month offered \$25,000 for information on White's whereabouts, stated that the producer has the movie rights to the book.

Walsworth said that a member of the group, the Orange County Citizens Protection Association, had met with White twice since his release from prison.

In the meetings, White expressed remorse for the 1978 shootings of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, he said.

Walsworth declined to name either the producer or the man who met with White. From The Milwaukee Journal

### **Thaw May Uncover Clues In Murder**

Detectives investigating the murder last fall of Eric R. Hansen of St. Francis have no suspect and their investigation "is slowed down at this time," Lt. Lee Ormson of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department said recently.

But he said the current thaw might uncover more evidence.

The torso of Hansen, 18, sho had been known to frequest Milwaukee gay bars and bookstores, was found wrapped in garbage bags along a road in the Town of Somers in Kenosha County Oct. 4th. His head and limbs have not been found.

Ormson said an autopsy had indicated no sexual abuse of Hansen. He said it showed that Hansen had eaten a hamburger and pickles before he was killed and dismembered, but medical examiners could not determine the cause of death.

Ormson said he hoped that detectives would find more evidence when spring comes and more people walk in the countryside.

From Journal

### **Rep. Studds To Be** Honored

Rep. Gerry E. Studds (D-MA) will receive the Howard J. Brown Award at the Seventh Annual Fund for Human Dignity Dinner, to be held at New York City's Plaza Hotel on Monday, May 14th. Studds, who became the nation's first openly gay Member of Congress las year, will be present to accept the award, which is given "for the beauty and courage which sustains lesbians and gay men in their struggle for dignity, to those whose example freedom is a step closer for humankind." Past recipients have included U.S. Sgt. Perry Watkins, New York City Police Department Sgt. Charles Cochrane, and former Legal Services Corporations President Dan Bradley.

### **Mondale Responds To** Questionnaire

Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, replying to a questionnaire issued by a coalition of national lesbian/gay organizations, said that he would support a "legislative remedy" for anti-gay/lesbian discrimination, extend the mandate of the Justice Department and other civil rights agencies to include questions of antigay/lesbian bias, and include federal contractors in the scope of an executive order banning discrimination against gay men and lesbians in the executive branch. However, Virginia M. Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, while praising those positions, expressed that "the former Vice President needs continued education on several key issues of abiding concern to NGTF, and to all lesbians and gay men in America."

Those areas include Mondale's apparent reluctance to support extending a ban on anti-gay/lesbian bias to the military or, particularly, to the area of security clearances; his unwillingness to take executive action on existing bans on immi-Continued on page 6



### EMPLOYMENT

Work Wanted: Positive thinking versatile gay man, 30-ish, needs steady full-time work. Am bright, dependable, and a non-drinker. Good looks, a plesant personality and a "can do" approach make me a strong asset to any employer. Will consider any situation (except sexual). Call Tom, 271-8264 after 4 p.m.

Male Dancers: Leather and Levi. See Gus at the Unicorn, 300 W. Juneau (Milw.).

Help Wanted: Cocktail waitresses (Drag only). Bartenders also needed. 643-9698 (Milw.)

Wanted: Entertainers - Drags, troupes, music, mimes, comeday, dancers, what have you? We want to expose and develope gay entertainment in Milwaukee. 643-9698

### FOR SALE

Waterbed: Queen size, 12 drawer pedestal -\$100.00: 4 Tires with rims for Datsun G-78-14. Like new - \$100, 353-4865 after 4 p.m. (Milw.)

Wanted: Any old office furniture and equipment in useable shape. Call W.I.S. at 289-0744. Donations warmly accepted.

### HOUSING

For Rent: 5 Room rear cottage, newly remodeled, \$350.00/month. 2426 N. Booth, phone 871-9995 evenings. (Milw.)

### ROOMMATES

For Rent: 2 large bedrooms, lower. Highland Blvd., 3521. Fireplace, appliances. Newly decorated, includes hot water and electric. 933-1572 after 6 p.m. \$340.00 plus deposit. (Milw.)

GWM to share large 2 bedroom apartment, top floor, quiet, older, lower East Side highrise. Responsible! \$195 per plus. Jim, 414/272-5326. (Milw.)

### WisconsIn Step . February 23-March 7, 1984 . Page 29

### COUNSELLING

WIS)

JOAN OF ARC **Metropolitan Community** Church Sunday Meetings • 6:30 p.m. 1108 N. Jackson 442-5203 WE'RE MOVING AND GROWING! **New Beginnings with God!** 

The Network. Gay, Bi, TV, TS support groups, dating service, monthly newsletter, counseling. Write P.O. Box 632 Waukesha, WI 53187 or call 414/542-5735 evenings.

### MASSAGE

Massage For Men: A relaxing sensuous massage for only \$25 through March 31 (regular \$35). Call Fred, anytime 276-2101, ext. 479

Men: Stretch out and enjoy a relaxing therapeutic body rub \$40.00 7 p.m. - Midnight. 276-2101, ext. 375

## Graffiti

**Continued from page 30** 

George - How's the ray's at the tanning sa-

Ron & Jerry

Hunky Blond At Bookstore 2/16 - Thanks, I needed that! It's not everyone who knows how to handle my "thing."

**Guy In Blue Satin Jacket** 

Sam (Sam's Madison) - Couldn't you find Milwaukee? Was "your dress way up over your head" again?

Your Fan Club

Geof M. - Best of luck with the new job! Don't forget to pop in once in a while when you're back this way, ok?

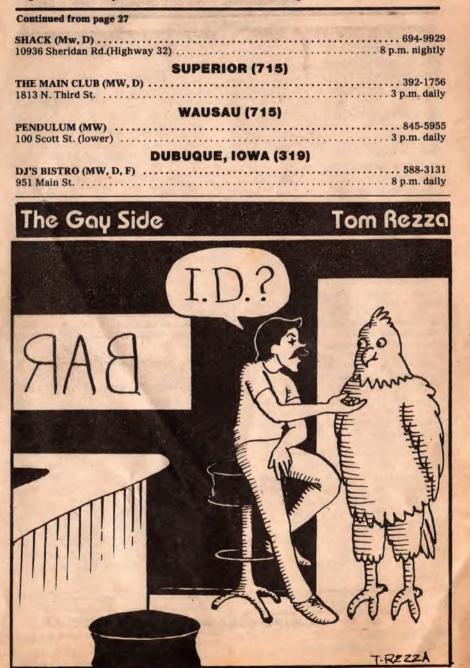
Dave

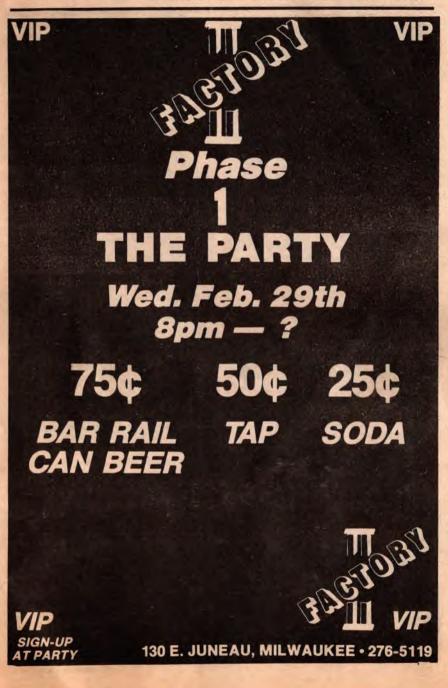
Dancer With Cross Tattoo On Left Arm (219) - Gawd, I'd sure like to find out what's on the other side of that pouch! Say when. Sergeant Stripes (at party)

Kevin (Y.P.) - Turn the lights down and the music up - it keeps the party a party. Your Customers

### WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 5

### Page 28 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step





### Page 6 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Wisconsin Step

photo by Bodyshop



6.000 copies of issue #1

### Briefs Continued from page 4

gration by gay men and lesbians (though supporting legislative remedies); and his lack of specific statements regarding health care issues and the AIDS crisis. Mondale's positions on the first two issues, Apuzzo said, "represent an apparent backtracking from earlier commitments



WisconsIn Step •	February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 27
MILWAUKE	E (414)
BALLGAME (Mw)	
196 S. Second St	
BEER GARDEN (Wm, F)	
3743 W. Vliet St	
C'EST LA VIE (Mw, D)	
231 S. Second St	
CLUB 219 (Mw, D, L/L) 219 S. Second St.	Mon Fri 4 n m : Sat Sun 2 n m
DK'S (Wm, D)	Tue Set 7 nm Sun 2 nm
FACTORY II (Mw, D, V)	
130 E. Juneau Ave.	
FANNIE'S (Wm, D, F)	
200 E. Washington Ave	
FINALE (Mw. D)	
808 E. Center St	
1st STREET (M, L/L)	
157 S. First St	
UNICORN (Mw, D)	
300 W. Juneau Ave	
GRAND AVENUE PUB (Mw, F)	
716 W. Wisconsin Ave	
LA CAGE AUX FOLLES (Mw, D, V)	
801 S. Second St	
LOST AND FOUND (Wm, D)	
618 N. 27th St	
M&M CLUB (Mw, F)	
124 N. Water St	
MINT BAR (M. G/S)	

PHOENIX (Mw. D) ...... unlisted

814 S. Second St. ..... 11 a.m. daily

704-A W. Wisconsin Ave. (rear) ..... Always Open

RACINE/KENOSHA (414)

2139 Racine St. (Highway 32) ..... Mon.-Sat. 7 p.m.; Sun. 5 p.m.

**Continued on page 28** 

BATH

ß

## Jerry (Bodyshop/Green

Bay) bartender, wrestles a customer during

	ž
n Fridays Fannie's	ž
Fannie's	ž
serves	ě
Fish	ž
hrimp & Chicken	ž
Chicken	ž
Fries	ě
	ě
	Contraction of the local distance of the loc

### Page 26 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step

#### Wis **Places To Go** THE GUIDE CODE CHART Gay/Straight 1/2 Men, 1/2 Women G/S MW Prefer Men Only L/L Levi/Leather M Mostly Men, Women Welcome Dance Mw D Prefer Women Only Video W V Mostly Women, Men Welcome F **Food Service** Wm

### **APPLETON (414)**

1101 WEST (MW, D)	 
1101 W. Wisconsin Ave.	 

### FOND DU LAC (414)

CARRY'S LOUNGE (MW)		923-3733
2 N. Main St	MonSat. Noon	; Sun. 7 p.m.

### GREEN BAY (414)

BODYSHOP (Mw, D, L/L, V) 720 Bodart Way (rear)	
LOFT (Wm, D)	
MY WORLD (M, L/L)	
NAPALESE (M, W)	
TRIX'S (Wm)	

### LA CROSSE (608)

TATOO'S (Wm,	))	784-5833
1552 Rose St		onSat. 7 p.m.

### MADISON (608)

CARDINAL (MW, D, G/S)	
418 E. Wilson St	
EMILY'S (Wm, D)	
508 E. Wilson St	
ROD'S (M, L/L)	
636 W. Washington (rear)	MonSat. 4 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m.
SAM'S (MW, D)	
1206 N. Regent	
THE NEW BAR (MW, D, V)	
636 W. Washington (upstairs)	

WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 7

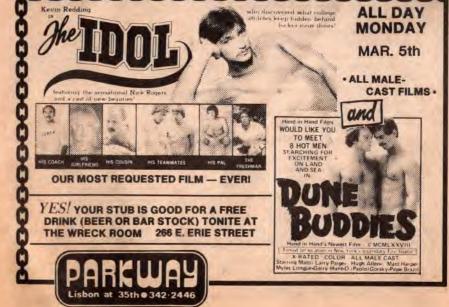
### - IN STEP'S TOP 20 -

1)	Earthquake	he Flirtations
	Where Is My Man?	
200	White Horse	
4)	Beat Box	.Art of Noise
5)	Girls Just Want To Have Fun	Cyndi Lauper
6)	Shoo Shoo Wah	The World
	Trommeltanz (Din Daa Daa)	
	Let's Stay Together	
9)	On The Upside	Xena
10)	Prepare To Energize	. Torch Song
11)	Karma Chameleon/Church	Culture Club
12)	Let The Music Play/Give Me Tonight	Shannon
13)	Crazy Cuts Gran	dmixer D.S.T.
14)	Over My Head	Toni Basil
15)	Number One	Aida
16)	Share The Night W	orld Premiere
17)	Watch The Closing Door (dub)	I.R.T.
18)	Everlasting Love Vicki	Sue Robinson
19)	Relax Frankie Goes	To Hollywood
20)	Somebody's Watching Me	Rockwell

### - HOT TRACKS -

1)	Quicksand
2)	Middle Of The Road The Pretenders
3)	Radio Ga Ga Queen
4)	Adult Education (remix) Hall & Oates
5)	It's Gonna Be Special

### 



### Page 8 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step

### WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 25

# CONSIDER THIS

With all due respect to Miss Manners and Emily Post, standard etiquette does not seem to address the contemporary social behavior of gays. Gay manners, as well as others, consists of doing precisely what everyone thinks should be done, especially when no one knows quite what that is. So, in an attempt to answer such pressing concerns like how to introduce two people when you've forgotten both their names, or which XXX rated video to show at your next party, welcome to a "gay etiquette primer."

### **Gay Parties**

Gay parties vary tremendously in type and style, ranging from the casual, such as tea dances often held in tea-rooms, to the elaborate where cucumber and watercress sandwiches are sometimes served. But all gay parties share some things in common:

- No friendships or romantic relationships should survive a gay party fully intact.
- If a gay party starts at nine, no one will show up until ten-thirty.
- Someone should have underpants on his head by 1 a.m.
- Someone else should have called Peter's S&M Phone Sex using their MasterCard, Visa, or American Express.
- By 2 a.m. the VCR should be going full tilt, featuring such film classics as In The Name Of Leather, Blazing Zippers, or Schoolmates II.

### Where To Have A Party?

There is only one hard and fast rule about the place to have a party — someone else's place. This holds especially true when planning a Crisco party.

### **Selecting A Date**

Any date will do, but real ugly ones are more likely to attract rude comments and perhaps flies.

### A Gay Etiquette Primer

### by W. W. Wells III

Whom To Invite?

- · Cute young guys.
- People with more than a gram of cocaine.
- · Anybody else with drugs.
- A bunch of people who've all gone out with each other's former lover (to get the mate swapping mood established).
- Somebody famous like Boy George or Bobby Rivers (they don't actually have to come, just be expected).
- At least one person who will be deeply shocked and distressed by what goes on.

As a rule of thumb, figure out how many people the room will hold and invite three times that number. Fun, like a social disease, is contagious through close personal contact.

### The Gay Wedding

The gay wedding by nature is a confusing social event. Selection of who will be the bride is often determined by which of the couple can refrain from sweating too much in the wedding gown.

### Wedding Gifts

If you attend a gay wedding you are obligated to bring a gift, usually an electric food processor. A more personal gift would be to be absent yourself from the ceremony if your relationship with one or both of the happy couple has been tangled and ugly in a sexual way. Bookstore tokens are not acceptable gifts.

### Wedding Rings

Wedding rings may or may not be worn in pierced nipples.

**Gay Anniversaries** 

Gay anniversaries are not really an etiquette problem, since there is rarely more

Continued on page 11

### Arts

### **Continued from page 24**

Cathedral Celebration, Bel Canto Chorus, St. John's Cathedral, 802 N. Jackson, 276-

8533, February 24th. Cloud 9, Clavis Theatre, Enclave Theatre, 900 S. 5th Street, 272-1340, Wednesday -Sunday, through March 11th.

Concerto Grosso, Argromento: In The Garden, and Rodeo, The Milwaukee Ballet, PAC, 273-7206, February 23rd through the 26th.

Half My Father's Age, Theater X, Lincoln Center for the Arts, through March 5th.

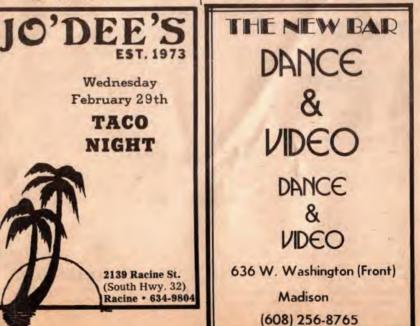
How To Marry A Millionaire and The Gay Divorcee, UWM Union Cinema, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., 2nd floor, March 6th. Inclined To Agree, Court Street Theater, 315 W. Court St., 273-7121, ext. 239, through March 4th.

The Philadelphia Story, Marquette University Theatre, 13th and Clybourne, 224-7504, through February 26th.

The Rules Of The Game, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, PAC, 273-7206, March 2nd through April 8th.



Rodney Scheel (Rod's/Madison) taking a break at "the watering trough."



Whs

# TH€ ARTS

Half My Father's Age by John Wood, Theatre X, Lincoln Center for Arts, 272-2787, through March 3rd.

Half My Father's Age is receiving its American premiere at Milwaukee's own Theatre X. The play, conceived by Amsterdam's Mickery Theatre Director Ritseart Ten Cate, was written by British playwrite, John Wood. It was performed for two weeks at the Mickery, starring Theatre X playwright John Schneider, and he has recreated his role here in Milwaukee. Ten Cate has designed and directed this production.

The play is primarily a monologue by Schneider. He is a paraplegic (we never know if his wheelchair confinement is psychosomatic or not), who has returned home after three years to bury his father.

In just over an hour, a tortured man bears his soul. Wight, as the character is named, tells us he "can't pretend to have feelings I don't have." He seems to mourn himself and his plight in a guilt ridden trip through his relationships and his life. Yet the ironic twist with his physical predicament is that physically he can't feel and emotionally he won't or has tried not to. As he asks plantively, "Is real pain better than numbness?"

As both the play and film, Whose Life Is It Anyway?, did as well, this play raises our consciousness and awareness of those with handicaps. It also makes us question just who is handicapped? The emotional underpinnings of Wight's existence are his real handicap and as he remarks about his chosen absence, "You can't stop off the world and expect it not to move."

Schneider's performance is powerful. He brings a strong emotional presence and sensitive interpretation to Wight. With the multiplicity of mood shifts and topics the play covers, he has no difficul-

### Half My Father's Age

### by Kevin Rozman

ty maintaining the energy level necessary to carry it off, and that he does superbly.

Wood's work is rather unevenly written. Some of his thematic choices are so obvious that they lack the originality we expect from a work of this sort. At other time, his script is extremely insightfull and raises a great many thought provoking questions. Some portions of the monologue are flat, uninteresting, and in fact, boring. Thus, it strikes me that this work needs rewriting and reconstruction and would be better suited to a workshop situation where the recreation process could unfold.

Marcie Hoffman is credible in her brief appearance as Wight's estranged wife. The set was simple. A series of hanging mirrors were used to reflect his self realization process and coupled with some of Ten Cate's staging was quite effective.

The production at the Black Box Theatre at Lincoln Center for the Arts runs through March 3rd, Wednesday through Saturday.

Clavis Theatre has just extended its run of the recent off-Broadway hit Cloud 9 through the 11th of March. Caryl Churchill's satirical farce examines the question of liberation from many perspectives, most notably using sexual mores. Included are a wide wariety of role reversals including both gay and straight characters. This work, winner of three Obie and two Drama Desk Awards, is set in 1880 in Africa. Interestingly, though one hundred years pass, the characters are only twenty-five. Neal Brenard directs.

### What's Happening?

Bartok — Two Violin Rhapsodies, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, PAC, 273-7206, March 2nd through the 4th.

Continued on page 25

WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 9

813 South First Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

647-9335

Where a good poured drink

is a hadilion ....

# Join us for Double Aubble 3:30 to 8pm Mon. thru Fri.

## GROUP NOTES

Several million gays in America are parents. Not surprising. Yet as marriages breakup and families regroup, gays are "coming out" fighting for custody and winning.

A Milwaukee area gay father and his lover have received custody of his two children, a first grade girl and preschool boy. What is noteworthy about this case is that Wisconsin is the second state where the custody decision has been granted in favor of the father with his lover in residence. In the first instance, custody was removed from the mother she being incapable of handling the children in a responsible fashion. The court made its decision having all information about the lovers' relationship.

It should be noted that while Wisconsin is the "Gay Rights State," the law forbids discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, but that is only in relation to employment and housing. There are no provisions regarding family law in the statute.

What follows is an interview of the father and his lover conducted by Kevin Rozman of the WisconsIn Step staff.

All three are members of the Milwaukee Area Gay Fathers Coalition, which is primarily a support group for men with similar needs and concerns as gay fathers ... custody problems, visitation difficulties, legal confusion, questioning of self as fathers, alienated children, if and/or how to share choices in lifestyle with their children or spouses and former spouses, etc. For further information write: MAGF, P.O. Box 07018, Milwaukee. WI 53207 or call weekdays between 7 and 10 p.m. (414) 475-5425 or (414) 483-0137.

WIS: Let's start with the decision. You've won, they ruled in your favor. How do you feel?

### Gay Fathers . . . **Going For Custody**

### by Kevin Rozman

Father: How do I honestly feel? That this isn't the end, particularly due to the real sensitive subject matter of sexuality which really shouldn't be the case . . . They didn't deal with any of those facts. The thing that bothers me is that is was so soft-pedalled. There is still a very strong prejudice against the father having the children.

Lover: I agree there is still the very strong prejudice and at the same time I feel we're in the best state we could be in being in this situation. Wisconsin is the most progressive with regard to gay laws. But at the same time, they have not gone far enough.

WIS: What dimension have the children brought to your relationship?

Father: Prior to getting them, we were committed to each other, but that's all we were. My lover is the one who encouraged me to get the children. A major reason I did was knowing that I had his full support and that it wasn't going to be just me raising them. He would be there.

WIS: Do you ever see them as an intrusion?

Father: We can't make love in the living room in the middle of the day, the way we used to.

Lover: You can't embrace because it might have an "adverse affect." But more importantly than that, it might give the mother ammunition when she decides that she wants them again. So you safeguard yourself. I don't believe that it is an adverse effect, but that's what she'd twist it to be.

WIS: What do you find to be the reaction of grandparents to a same sex spouse raising their grandchildren?

Father: My parents? No problem. Particularly with my lover being accused by **Continued** on page 12



(L to R) 219 doorman Carlo, Tony Canfora (219), recording artist MARIANNA, Del Slowik (219), & Marianna's manager Ken Crivello partied after her concert at 219's 3rd Anniversary

Geiman



Moby Dick recording artist Marianna.

Club 219 dancer Dale "worked it" for his close admirer.



Bartenders Stan & Debi.



thew?

Word was the Finale was packed for

the Presidents Ball honoring new CCBA

President Marc Haupert. Good for you

Bumped into Sam from Sam's/Madison

last week in Milwaukee, and he regrettably informed me that his remodeling

and your new ideas, Bobb.



W. still wasn't sure but he's trying to pin sary buffet, but piled in shortly after the down a date to bring a well-known Lesbibuffet table was taken down - for sandan comic to the stage at 1101 W. wiches. Just can't win - can you Mat-

I guess First Street's phone has been ringing off the hook, as has mine (I must have answered the phone ten times just while writing this column).

Gotta run, gotta sell more ads, so we can keep giving you a better magazine with each issue.

Write (please?).

WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 11

## Consider This

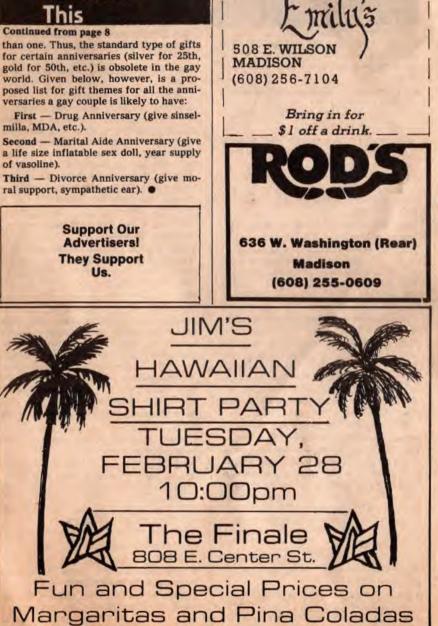
### Continued from page 8

than one. Thus, the standard type of gifts for certain anniversaries (silver for 25th, gold for 50th, etc.) is obsolete in the gay world. Given below, however, is a proposed list for gift themes for all the anniversaries a gay couple is likely to have:

milla, MDA, etc.).

a life size inflatable sex doll, year supply of vasoline).

Third - Divorce Anniversary (give moral support, sympathetic ear).



### Page 12 . February 23-March 7, 1984 . WisconsIn Step

### WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 21



### **Continued from page 10**

my ex of sexually abusing the children. When I told them "I know for a fact nothing is happening," they said "We know."

Lover: His parents are supportive of me and the children. His parents say they are, but don't come across being supportive of our relationship.

WIS: How do your parents react to your being the lover of somebody with children?

Lover: My parents accept them as their own grandchildren. They know I'm gay and this is their only chance at grandchildren from me.

WIS: What effect has this custody fight had on your relationship?

Lover: I think it's had a devastating effect. It's simultaneously pulled us apart and brought us together. There are things that we disagreed on severely ... but at the same time we pulled together and fought for what we, as a couple, thought to be correct and essential for the childrens' well being.

Father: Any relationship has its tugs and pulls. It seems being under a glass dome did nothing but magnify and intensify all our ups and downs ... We have come out of it much stronger in relationship with a much stronger commitment to each other and the children.

### WIS: How did you feel when the court ordered psychological testing?

Lover: I was nervous. There was so much riding on the psychologicals. Not only would the psychologist make a recommendation as to where the childrens' custody would go, but the guardian ad litem would also decide from his report. (A guardian ad litem represents the rights and the interests of the children in a custody hearing.)

WIS: What do you think about the effect of your relationship on the sexual development of your children?

Father: I was raised in a heterosexual household and here I am. We deal with sexuality with the children on a readiness level. I don't think that what they're experiencing here is going to determine what they're going to be, but it's going to make a total difference in their outlook on life. Hopefully, we'll have two very open-minded, sensitive children who are understanding of many and varying lifestyles.

## WIS: What about reaction from their peers?

Father: They know they're living in a different situation now and we try to help them through that. Dad and lover sleeping together is something that stays home. Something we keep among the family and in the long run that's protecting them. I bought my lover a gift for our third anniversary and the children didn't understand why. We're not afraid to answer questions with answers they're able to handle.

WIS: Have you received negative feedback from parents?

Father: We have. The asshole who lived upstairs was definately a queer hater. I think perhaps there have been repercussions for the children that we're unaware of.

Lover: There was a conflict with the children and their friends who lived across the way in the apartment complex. I tried to resolve it with their friends' mother, but she couldn't understand why the children were living with two men. Where was the mother? Who was I and how did I fit into the situation? I told her it was none of her business.

WIS: How do you feel about your exwife?

Father: It started out in a very positive vein. She knew my lover from the beginning and handled it outwardly well. She has hurt the children a great deal to get back at me. I hate the bitch! To drag me through court doesn't phase me, but when she'll drag the children through anything just to make sure she hurts me, there's very little love lost there.

WIS: How do you as lover relate to his ex-wife?

Lover: Very frankly, I don't like the woman, she's a bitch! She's very selfcentered and has little concern for her children's well being.

Continued on page 14



Page 20 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step

Photos by Pendulum

Shonni Streetman (Wausau) performed with Rose's Red Light Revue at The Pendulum.



Rose (Wausau), herself.



Anita Peters (Wausau).



The Pendulum (Wausau) & Rose's Red Light Revue featured guest performers "Members Only" from Green Bay with manager Jeff Dugan.

## Steppin

### **Continued from page 18**

Paul Henningsen recently. Good interview from a very interesting man. You'll read the interview after we sift through an hour and fifteen minutes of taped comments.

Hope you all had a good Valentines Day, even if you only found "love" for an hour.

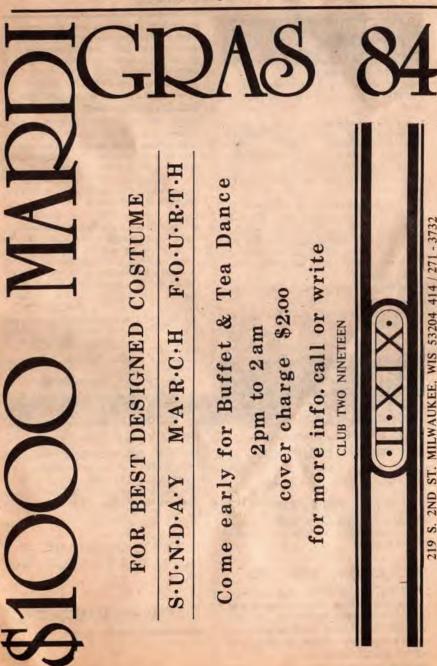
### - BAR NOTES -?-

The Wreck Room had a great idea with using the tokens on Valentines Day. I saw the ad that said "free tokens," and right away my mind thought "bookstore." What is was, however, was everytime you purchased a drink, you got a wood token that you could gather and cash in for gifts. Great idea from Wayne and Jimmy. By the way, Wayne should just be getting back from his vacation in Hawaii about now.

Jim, from the Pendulum in Wausau, is vacationing in Los Angeles (thanks for the pics of Rose's Red Light Revue, Jim). I guess he's keeping Greg tied to the bar while he's gone.

Other vacations: Pa Boo (Bob Schmidt) of the M&M Club is just getting back from "beaching it" in Puerto Rico. Chuck Cicirello of the Factory II spent four days in Louisville for a gay bowling convention (ask him about the big, blond stud). Tony from Club 219 just got back from a **Continued on page 22** 

### WisconsIn Step • February 23-March 7, 1984 • Page 13



### Page 14 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step

WisconsIn Step . February 23-March 7, 1984 . Page 19



Continued from page 12

WIS: Is she trying to interfere with or color the children's view of your relationship?

Lover: Most definately. I have never done that with regard to the children's view of their mother. I've known my lover's son since he was ten months old. He's a part of my life and I'm a part of his. I even see characteristics in him that he gets from me.

### WIS: Where do you two go from here?

Lover: We live for today and when the court service knocks at our door again, we get the attorney and spend five or six thousand dollars and fight her, but we can't fret today about what tomorrow might bring.

## WIS: What advice do you have for other gay parents?

Father: I still feel that we're the unusual given the fact we have full time custody. Not too many fathers are looking for that ... We did not go after those children as a self-fulfilling thing, but the reason we have the children is primarily we are the better household ... I really would like to pursue my career, but right now they come number one ... You have to be willing to put your priorities in order.

### WIS: What advice would you give to others in your situation?

Lover: Their relationship better be strong or they won't make it. They've got to stand together even if they disagree .... You have to realize that you're dealing with two other human beings ... One of the definitions of children was never convenience ... You have to sacrifice to get some of the rewards.

Father: They have to know within themselves they are providing the best home . .

. We went through three attorneys who said, "Move him out." I said that's absolutely asinine . . . No matter what level you want your children, whether it's visitation all the way up through full custody, don't let the ex-wife back you into a corner. I think we've all had that fear . . . All gay fathers stand up and take note even if you're not looking for custody, but just for the right to be a father to your child.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

### Feb. 23 - March 7th

### FRIDAY, FEB. 24th/ SATURDAY, FEB. 25th

CALENDAR

THE

ROD'S & THE NEW BAR "The Cat's Away Party," Rodney's on vacation.

### **TUESDAY, FEB. 28th**

FINALE Jim's Hawaiian Shirt Party, 10 p.m. Fun & special prices on Margaritas & Pina Coladas.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 29th

JO'DEES Taco night with Mexican beer. FACTORY II V.I.P. Phase I Party, 8 p.m. - on. 75 cent Rail and Can Beer, 50 cent Tap and 25 cent Soda. V.I.P. sign up. ROD'S Leap year party. Leap contest (group, gang & solo). 1101 W Leap year party.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 2nd

ROD'S & THE NEW BAR "The Cat's Away Party" continues all weekend.

UNICORN Grand opening party. Free Champagne at midnight; 50 cent Tap and 75 cent Rail all night. V.I.P. cards available.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 4th

CLUB 219 Mardi Gras costume contest, cash prizes.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 8th

ROD'S Pisces birthday party.

## ATTENTION GAY MILWAUKEE

IF YOU, THE CUSTOMER, HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO OPEN A BAR WITH ALL THE FEATURES YOU WOULD DESIRE — WHAT WOULD THEY BE? WELL FILL IN THE BLANKS AND YOU'VE "GOT IT," TWICE IN FACT — BECAUSE THIS BAR IS OPENING SOON AND IF YOU BRING IN THIS PAGE CORRECTLY FILLED OUT — WE'LL BUY YOU A DRINKI

### HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A BAR THAT ...

- IS NOT TOO \_\_\_\_A\_L, YET NOT TOO L\_\_\_G\_?
   HAS Q\_\_L\_\_Y DRINKS THAT ARE
- R\_A\_\_\_A\_\_\_ PRICED7
- HAS M\_\_\_\_\_'S FINEST C\_\_\_\_L
  HOUR?
- HAS STATE OF THE ART V \_ \_ \_O, S \_U \_D,
   AND \_ \_G H \_ \_ SYSTEMS?
- HAS THE LATEST IN D\_\_C\_ MUSIC?
- HAS THE BEST DAILY D\_\_\_K SPECIALS?
- HAS ENTERTAINMENT GEARED TO YOUR G \_ \_ LIFE STYLE?
- HAS FINE TASTING AND APPEALING N \_\_N A \_ \_\_O
   \_\_\_\_\_ C DRINKS?

 AND MOST IMPORTANTLY: HAS FRIENDLY, ATTRAC-TIVE AND COMPETENT E \_ \_ \_ Y \_ \_'S WITH THE ATTITUDE THAT P \_ \_P \_\_ ARE STILL THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN THE PLACE.

### OPENING SOONI WATCH FOR ITI

L\_C\_G\_\_UXF\_LL\_S

801 South Second Street · Milwaukee, WI

### Page 18 • February 23-March 7, 1984 • WisconsIn Step

## STEPPIN' OUT

We've made it to issue number two (for a while there I wasn't sure). My partner and our Executive Assistant both came down with bronchitis or something disgusting like that, and I had to play mother and nursemaid for the two of them. (I've always wanted a pair of those white nurses shoes with the wedged bottoms that squeak.) I ran right over to Pill & Puff and got myself a rectal thermometer, so whenever the two sickies moaned, I whipped that out and told them to roll over. They both complained it wasn't thick nor long enough.

### Anyway ...

Thanks for all the verbal congratulations from so many of you, but I wonder if there has been a rash of broken arms or something, because after all those pleas we had in the first issue to write us, we received a total of one (1) letter (thanks Samantha). We can't print letters to the editors without letters to the editors, so *please*, write.

We've got two new columnists in this issue (both of whom use pen names). Jackie Oh, who will be doing our womens' column, Lipstick; and W. W. Wells III, who will be writing on different topics for us, in this issue look for his article on gay etiquette under the Consider This heading. We're always accepting articles, preferably three pages double spaced maximum. So, if you've got something to say, write it and drop it off to us. Include your return address so we can get it back to you if we can't use it. We're also still looking for reps for Fox Valley, Madison and Racine/Kenosha areas, too. Sales reps are also needed for the Milwaukee market. Call us at 289-0744.

### - TIDBITS -

BAM has a bar crawl coming up March 27th to Chicago. This is an annual event sponsored by BAM (Business Association

### I Have Survived

### by Ron Geiman

of Milwaukee) that always spells F-U-N. We're aiming at two buses, but a third can always be added if the demand is there. The exact locations as to where we stop in Chicago hasn't been completely arranged . . . more on that in future issues. All I know from past experience is that the trip down there on the bus is often as fun as the crawl itself. The last time we went down, yours truly scarfed down an "electric" brownie offered to me on the bus. We made one stop in Chicago on the Halsted strip and when we loaded back on the buses for the next stop, the Bushes gave each of the buses a couple of bottles of Schnapps, and sent us on our way. All I'll say now is that I don't even remember what happened at the second stop (Gold Coast area), except that when I arrived back in Milwaukee I had dirty knees on my jeans, and a slight memory of pigging out at Jumbo Jerry's (yuckkkk!).

Tickets for the bar crawl will be \$12 and are available from BAM members ... look for the flyers in the bars (and bath).

Since BAM only does one bar crawl a year, In Step is considering doing a few bar crawls ourselves. But not to Chicago. We're thinking of a Milwaukee to Madison bar crawl, and then a month later, a Milwaukee to Fox Valley bar crawl. And if there is enough interest, a bar crawl from those areas, to Milwaukee. Sound interesting?

Yeah to sister Miriam Ben-Shalom on her continued valiant struggle to fight the Army on her discharge. The Federal Judge should be making a decision on Miriam's charging the Army with contempt of court soon. Saw her on TV the day of the hearing, and she always says the right things to the media.

We interviewed Milwaukee Alderman

Continued on page 20

### 

Thinking of You

147 N. Broadway = 273-5969 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Mon. - Fri.: 3:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday: 2:00 to 10 p.m.



5

# **GRAND OPENING** Friday, March 2, 1984 Free Champagne Starting At Midnight 50c Tap Beer, 75c Rail Drinks All Night

ncorn

TUESDAY thru FRIDAY "DOUBLE BUBBLE"

4-7PM

# MONDAYS

"PRIVATE PARTY NIGHT" Throw a party at the Unicorn tonight and get 6 Bottles of Champagne FREE for the party

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## SUNDAYS

"LEATHER MALE DANCERS" No Cover With V.I.P. Card 50c Tap Beer 75c Rail Drinks 7PM-Midnight

## WEDNESDAYS

/25c TAP BEER /75c RAIL <sup>7PM-Midnight</sup>

ken Door

Open 3PM Everyday See Gus For V.I.P. Cards Before Or On Opening Night. ••r V.I.P. Card Good For 1 Free Drink "Every Night Of The Week."