

Wednesday, August 21

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Dominique Mahon

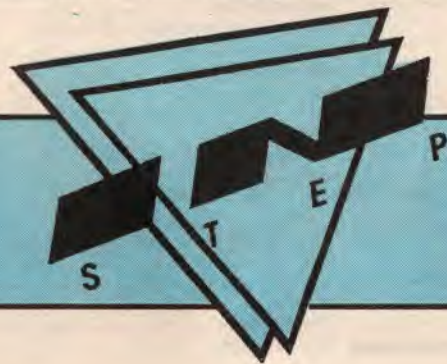
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August 15-28, 1991



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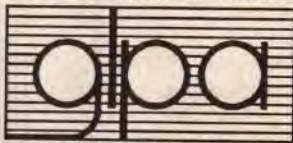
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DATA ENTRY

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Cover Story

Caring friends — Darnell Williams comforts Jeffrey Sessions during the Candlelight Vigil to Remember The Victims of serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer that was held August 5. The Vigil, organized by the Gay/Lesbian community, drew over 900 people according to police estimates. See the 'Outrage in Milwaukee' section which starts off this issue for a full story detailing the Vigil, entitled "Vigil warms hearts of nearly 1,000."

Note

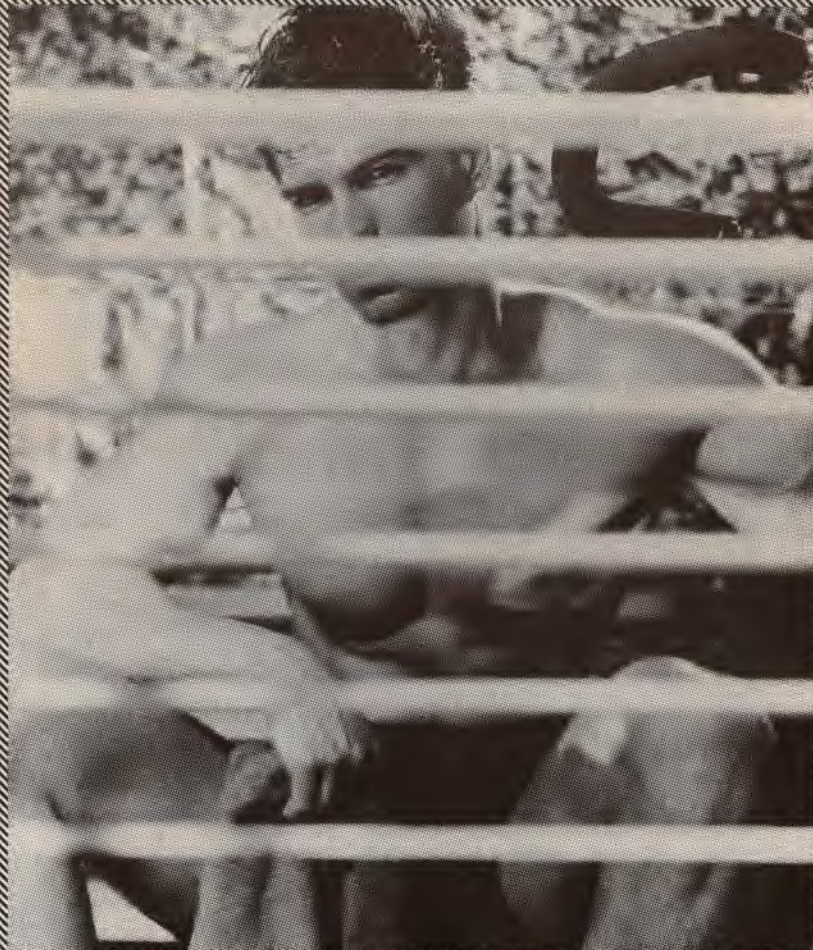
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WEEKEND AND MAPFEST.**

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Gay Side

by Tom Rezza



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News

Vigil warms hearts of nearly 1,000

by Ron Geiman

Milwaukee — A candlelight vigil in remembrance of the victims of mass murder suspect Jeffrey Dahmer drew a police estimated crowd of over 900 people the evening of Monday, August 5. Organized by the Gay and Lesbian community who reached out and worked with other affected community and neighborhood groups in solidarity, it was an emotional effort to bring about a healing process for all.

Speeches began shortly after 7pm in Juneau Park and warmed up the crowd for the over 15 block march west on Kilbourn Avenue to MacArthur Square where other speakers were heard. Facing MacArthur Square is the County Jail, where Dahmer is being held. Many in the crowd wondered if Dahmer knew about the vigil or could hear the impassioned speech making just outside the jail.

Those assembled were from all walks of life and represented a true rainbow of Milwaukee citizens. There were many Black Gays and Lesbians who participated (more than this reporter had ever seen assembled in public in Milwaukee, before) as well as hundreds of white, Hispanic and Asian — Gay and non- Gay people of all ages. There were members of victims families, friends of the victims, and at least one Black Gay man who barely escaped Dahmer's evil clutches several years ago. But most were just concerned people who needed to come to terms with the hurt and anguish — good people who care about their fellow man.

As the darkness of the evening fell, and the hundreds of candles flickered in the breeze all those different people blended into one color — one of humanity.

PRE MARCH SPEAKERS

Speakers at the pre- march gathering at Juneau Park included:

- Alderman Paul Henningsen, after

OUTRAGE IN MILWAUKEE

asking for a moment of silence for the victims, said "There are many people angry in Milwaukee today... there are many people frustrated ...are you ready to move beyond tragedy? Are you ready to stare evil in its face? Go above it, around it, through it... unless we pull together the whole city will become another victim. We must find some good here, or Milwaukee as a whole, and all of you will be another victim. We need to look inside ourselves now to balance the evil... to see the good. We can give life to the victims, we can give sustenance to the families, we can get very powerful and positive results if tonight we can give the whole city a new direction."

Henningsen was heckled heavily from some listeners for his comments about not blaming the police before resuming "what we have to do to find things good or positive about this, is to go forth tonight after this march, and not end your efforts."

• Cheryl Franklin said "It is time for us to make a change in our lives and in the way we look at each other, in the way we look at ourselves. We must be bold, we must be strong. We must ban together, we must put people in our circle of one — we need to get rid of that circle of one. We need to put groups — Blacks, Yellows, Greens, Lesbians, Gays in our circle. We need to get together people, today."

• Queen Hyler, a folk hero and founder of Stop The Violence had this to say: "This case has brought to the surface many problems, which we already knew existed, but tried to deny, rather than face them head on and find a peaceful solution to them. We must face the cold, hard fact that racism is still very much alive in this city in 1991. African Americans, Gays and other minorities are

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NORTH CENTRAL WI

- Gay/Lesbian Support Group Box 247A, 1411 Ellis Ave, Ashland 54806
- Northland House (bed & breakfast inn) 609 Hwy. 77, Pence 54550 (715) 561-3120
- UWSP Gay People's Union Slap Box 30, Stevens Pt. 54481 346-3698
- Central Wis. AIDS Support Group [CWASG] Box 2071, Wausau 54402-2071
- LDS Brotherhood (Gay Mormons) P.O. Box 152, Wausau 54402 (715) 842-9881
- Northern WI. Lambda Society c/o 134 Hillside Rd., Rhineland 54501 (715) 362-4242
- Platwood Club (MW, D) Hwy 10W, Stevens Pt. 320 Washington, Wausau (715) 842-3225
- Masquers (MW, DJ, V) Wausau Narcotics Anonymous (ask for gay meetings) (715) 536-LIFE
- Willow Haven Resort/Supper Club 4877 Haven Drive, Hazelhurst, 54531 (715) 453-3807

RACINE/KENOSHA

- Club 94 (MW, DJ) 9001 120th Ave. (Hwy C & 194) Kenosha 857-9958
- JoDee's (MW, DJ) 2139 Racine St. (Hwy 32) Racine 634-9804
- Gay AA (Group 294 Meeting) 554-6611
- Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine 625 College, 54303
- Southeastern WI AIDS Project (HIV/AIDS Support, Testing) 6927 39th Ave., Kenosha 657-6644
- Outside Kenosha 1-800-924-6601

SOUTH EASTERN WI

- UW-Whitewater G/L Student Union 309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190 472-5738
- Saving Grace Tabernacle (Bible study group) P.O. Box 367, Salem, WI 53168 (414) 537-4639

SOUTH CENTRAL WI

- The New Leaf (MW, D) Hwy 51 S., Rt. 7, Janesville (608) 752-5650
- MASN Satellite Office (AIDS info) 317 Dodge St., Janesville (608) 756-2550

WESTERN WI

- Memories (MW, D) 314 S. 4, LaCrosse (608) 782-9061
- LaCrosse L/G Support Group (608) 782-1274
- LaCrosse Parents & Friends of Gays (608) 782-6082
- Leaping LaCrosse News Box 932, L.C. 54602-0932
- New Beginnings (mo. newsltr.) Box 25, Westby 54667
- U.W. Eau Claire Gay/Lesbian Organization UW Ec. Union Box G, L.O., 54701
- Gay & Lesbian Alliance Box 111, Platteville 53818
- TRTO (W) 820 Tower, Superior (715) 392-5373
- The Main Club (MW, D) 1813 N. 3rd, Superior (715) 392-1756
- Eau Claire G/L Alcoholics Support Group Tap-Line (715) 839-3425
- Linda (715) 839-3687
- The Back Door (MW, DJ, F) 411 Galloway St., Eau Claire (715) 839-9606

WI STATEWIDE

- Hag Rag (bi-monthly lesbian/feminist paper) P.O. Box 93243, Milw. 53203
- In Step (bi-weekly G/L lifestyle magazine) (414) 278-7840
- 225 S. 2nd, Milwaukee 53204 FAX: (414) 278-5868
- Wis. AIDS Line (outside Milw.) 1-800-334-AIDS
- Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Wisconsin Light (bi-weekly G/L newspaper) 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee 372-2773
- King Productions (WI-USA Pageant) 3030 W. McKinley, 53208 344-7470
- Lifeline Magazine (Gay Mormon Publication) P.O. Box 152, Wausau, WI 54402

OUT OF STATE

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- Human Rights Campaign Fund [HRCF] (Speak Out Campaign) (202) 332-6483
- National G/L Info & Counseling 1-800-SOS-GAYS
- Nat'l G/L Task Force [NGLTF] (202) 332-6483
- AIDS Drug Trials (experimental) 1-800-TRIALSA
- G/L Students/Friends of N.M.U. Box 62, Univ. Center, NMU, Marquette, MI 49855
- Douglas Dunes Resort (Mw, DJ, F, V) Blue Star Highway, Douglas, MI (616) 857-1401
- Bulldog Road (Mw, V) 2914 N. Broadway, Chicago (312) 525-6550
- Berlin (MW, V, DJ) 954 W. Belmont, Chicago (312) 348-4975
- Little Jim's (M, V) 3501 N. Halsted, Chicago (312) 871-6116
- North End (M) 3733 N. Halsted, Chicago (312) 477-7999
- AIDS Care Network [ACN] Box 6573, Rockford, IL 61125-1573 (815) 962-5085 (ext. 228)
- The Office (MW, DJ) 513 E. State St., Rockford, IL (815) 965-0344
- Traviur Lounge (Mw, DJ) Lounge/Motel 7125 W. State St., Rockford, IL (815) 964-7005

being treated as second class citizens. We must do everything in our power to eradicate racism. This one case has reopened so many wounds."

Hyler concluded, "it is time to clear racism from the Milwaukee Police Department. It is time to clear racism in the city of Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin. I have worked very closely with police officers, and there are indeed good officers on the force, but by the same token, there are some rotten apples... when any police officer puts on that uniform and takes an oath to uphold the law... they must treat every citizen the way they want to be treated regardless of race or sexual preference."

• Milwaukee Mayor John Q. Norquist, after expressing his concern for the victims families and residents of Dahmer's neighborhood, said "I want to thank everybody that's here tonight, from all the different communities that are represented. I want to thank you for rallying against violence in our community. It is vitally important to the future of this community that we rally against violence, against disrespect for individual people, disrespect based on race or the way they live — all the law abiding citizens should respect each other and everyone who works for the government of Milwaukee should respect all the law abiding citizens of Milwaukee. If anything good can come out of this terrible tragedy, is for our community to come together — so that once and for all Milwaukee is a place that is known as a close knit community where all people, of all races, of all backgrounds respect each others humanity."

(Many comments were heard from the masses that Mayor Norquist managed never to say the words Gay, Lesbian, sexual orientation or even homosexuals during his comments.)

• Rev. Erv Uecker sent the crowd off on the march with the words "these candlelights are only symbolic — this crowd here in this city can make a difference, and lets make a difference — lets see this city in a different way — let's light our candles, lets light our lives, and lets march. The purpose of this march is peaceful. Let us peacefully go together as



Jeffrey L. Dahmer



Cheryl Franklin



Stop The Violence head Queen Hyler.

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Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist.



Jeanetta Robinson of Career Youth Development.



Ruben and Bernell speak out as young Black Gay men.

one people, as one body, as one spirit. Let us go in peace."

With that, the crowd proceeded to fall into lines four and five abreast for the march west on Kilbourn Avenue.

MACARTHUR SQUARE RALLY

The crowd had marched and sang civil rights songs and songs of hope, but as they neared the civic center, whistles screamed and chants rose from the crowd. The whistles shrilled as people assembled in the decaying light of the evening on the steps between the two levels of MacArthur Square, with the county jail looming over them. The crowd quieted as Rev. La Havre Buck greeted them with the words "This is a very beautiful sight with a group of very beautiful people, and we need to stay together."

Other speakers included:

• Jeanetta Robinson from Career Youth Development, Inc. (CYD) worked up the crowd with memories of Martin Luther King Jr. and his dream of Black men and white men ALL of us are treated equal. We are here today also in grief for one another. We stand tonight dedicated in unity declaring that liberty and justice for all."

"It is the duty of everyone here to make sure that some good comes out of this tragedy. It is we the people that must stand up and do it by ourselves ... Together we SHALL overcome!"

"We've come here not to pass judgment but to light a candle. We come here to be together and watch for justice for all. For if they don't answer the phone tonight for a homosexual, tomorrow night they won't answer for a heterosexual. If they don't answer a phonecall from a Black kid tonight, tomorrow night they won't answer the phone for an Asian kid. That's why we MUST have justice for all."

"We must dedicate ourselves today to make sure this never happens again in Milwaukee. So I challenge you to go forth with hope, to go forth with love, to believe that we can change things... We must remind this system that it is a government OF the people, BY the people and FOR the people."



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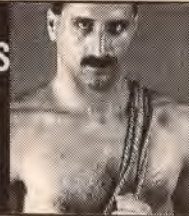


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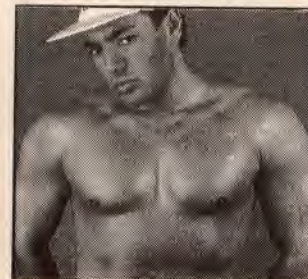
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The Candlelight Memorial to Remember the Victims of Jeffrey Dahmer gather on MacArthur Square. This photo looks east towards the hundreds of candles and the downtown skyline in the background.

• A young friend of one of the victims, Bernell, said "I'm seventeen years old, and I'm Black, and I'm proud — and I'm Gay and I'm proud. But I had a friend who will never have a chance to grow old because of all of this hate. We need to come together and destroy all this hate. He never hurt anyone, he was a true friend."

Another youth, Ruben, said "I was also a close friend of Curtis Straughter (one of Dahmer's victims). I'm sorry we have to lose him to something like this because he was a very special person ... all I can say is be careful, have better judgment. Know who you are... hold up the light."

• Scott Gunkel, President of Lambda Rights Network said "...the victims have become representatives to others who have been victimized by a system that has failed us all. This very system has allowed and fostered racism, sexism, classism and prejudice against Lesbians and Gay men. This has brought apathy amongst some in our police department like those who have said 'Down there, life is cheap,' and allows you and me to be seen as

disposable people. Well — no where is life cheap. Not in River Hills, not in Bayview, and certainly not at 25th and Kilbourn. We are no less valuable, we are no less important or no less human. We will not stand by and allow the police, the media or society to blame the victims for the acts of this criminal."

"Our calls for an outside investigation must not be trivialized and must include a probe into the entire police department. We demand to know just how deep these troubles run through our police department. We demand all of those responsible to be held accountable for their actions. We are here and we have offered and are willing to work with those in power — but we will not be used by anyone! Do not forget the anger, do not forget the rage, but use it to keep yourself involved. Use it to keep the powerful in check. Use it to never forget what happened and most of all, use it to remember the victims."

• The sister of Richard Guerrero commented on the lack of police action when he was missing for over three years.



A hard look at Norquist's Blue Ribbon Panel

GAY LESBIAN TESTIMONY SOUGHT BY COMMITTEE

By Ralph F. Navarro
Gay Information & Services

Milwaukee — At the first meeting of Mayor John Norquist's 'Blue Ribbon' Citizen Commission on Police-Community Relations (CCPCR), it was decided that no less than one hearing date will be insured for testimony from Milwaukee Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals. A specific date and location will be announced when the CCPCR meets August 18.

According to some commission members, what is critical is that the public understands what the CCPCR's mission is, and that the public doesn't hold the CCPCR accountable for something that they are not responsible for critically examining.

The mission statement of the CCPCR is "It shall examine the Milwaukee Police Department's performance of service to the public, particularly in the areas of responsiveness and sensitivity to

contd. from page 7

"For the future of our children, I hope this changes everything. I have three children of my own and Dahmer is just one of the psychos in the world. This wouldn't have happened if the police department had been doing their job."

•Victim Ed Smith's brother told the crowd as darkness fell "You all look very beautiful tonight, it looks just like heaven. I think if Eddie was looking down right now he'd be awful proud of Milwaukee tonight. I know the Mayor and a lot of politicians tonight are saying 'let's just call this a time of healing' but you know I want them to scream out for justice, because that's what we want is justice."

•Queer Nationalist Tim Grier explained "I might not be a family member in a traditional sense, but many of these victims were my family ...the Gay/Lesbian community has already demanded a police liaison. That's not enough. We need one for the Black, Hispanic, the Asian communities — every

diversity in the community. The CCPCR shall identify problem areas and recommend specific solutions for improving police- community relations and for enabling greater police- citizen crime prevention activity."

The statement continues, "Central to the Commission's examination shall be the preparedness of the Department to serve citizens from diverse backgrounds. Included in its purview shall be investigation of academy training components, personnel in- servicing, recruitment strategies and community outreach mechanisms. The Commission shall also inspect and make recommendations on methods for improving and simplifying the citizen complaint process."

Panel members include:

- Chair, Rev. Albert J. DiUlio, Marquette University President;
- Gary Hollander, PhD., assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin (Hollander is the only openly Gay member on the panel);
- Joseph A. Kalivoda, recently retired

community should have a direct line to the police department."

•Victim Tony Hughes' mother, Shirley, overcome with emotion and unable to speak, turned the microphone over to a friend who read the 23rd Psalm, with many in the crowd joining it its recitation. Shirley Hughes then asked "please don't hold hatred in your heart. I loved my son — regardless of his lifestyle — or anyone's lifestyle. It's nobody else's business but theirs."

• Rev. Erv Uecker wrapped up the evening by asking the crowd to raise their candles one more time, saying "we've had lots of words, it's time now to live. Let's blow out these artificial lights and let the light of our lives shine as we go into the city and bring about change. Let's make a change, let's make a difference, and let's have a few moments of silence in thanksgiving of what has happened tonight. Go in peace friends. Men and women, Black and white, Gay and straight let's go and make a difference."

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**MILWAUKEE [414]
ORGANIZATIONS**

Fest City Singers (gay choral group) P.O. Box 11428, 53211	263-SING
GAMMA (sports/social) P.O. Box 1900, 53201	963-9833
Gay People's Union P.O. Box 208, 53201	562-7010
Gay Youth Milw. (regular peer group meetings) P.O. Box 09441, 53209	265-8500
Gay Men's Discussion Group G/L Parents Coalition of Milw. P.O. Box 93503, 53203	Tim, 271-2565
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Veterans of America Milwaukee Chapter	342-6543
Girth & Mirth/Milw. P.O. Box 862, 53201-0862	258-2802
Greater Milw. Maritime Assoc. Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event) P.O. Box 899, 53201	672-8960
H.O.P.E. (Support for PW AIDS/HIV)	383-1512
Lambda Rights Network (political action, legal defense) Box 93252, 53203	871-4839
Lesbian Alliance Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) P.O. Box 93323, 53203	264-2600
MLGPC (Pride Week Committee) P.O. Box 93852, 53203	32-PRIDE
MGALA (MU Graduates), P.O. Box 92722, 53202	
Metro Milw. Friendship Group (MMFG) P.O. Box 93203, Milwaukee 53203	423-0379
Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network P.O. Box 204, 53201	265-0880
Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.)	449-9800
People Living With AIDS Coalition 315 W. Court, 53212	273-1991
Oberons (L/L social grp.) Box 07423, 53207	
Queer Nation (Queer Action) P.O. Box 93951, 53203	384-3911
Saturday Softball Beer League [SSBL] P.O. Box 92605, 53202	
Gay/Lesbian Community at UWM Box 251, 2200 E. Kenwood 53201	229-6555
Sexual Compulsives Anonymous	276-6936

RELIGIOUS

Dignity (G/L Catholic Church) P.O. Box 597, 53201	444-7177
Lutherans Concerned P.O. Box 11864, 53211	481-9663
New Hope MCC (G/L Interdenominational Church) P.O. Box 93913, 53202	442-7300
Village Church (Reconciled in Christ) 130 E. Juneau Ave.	273-7617
Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ) 1821 N. 16th St.	344-1746
UCCL/GC (United Church of Christ) P.O. Box 07168, 53207	645-2678
MAP Spiritual Care P.O. Box 92505, 53202	273-1991
Affirming Light Agape Church (Spiritual Counseling) P.O. Box 23135, 53223	354-3979
Rev. Virginia Pultz (Holy Unions/Counseling)	258-5902

MEDICAL

Brady East STD Clinic [BESTD] (VD, HIV testing, hepatitis screening) 1240 E. Brady	272-2144
Milwaukee AIDS Project [MAP] 315 W. Court St., 53212	office/staff 273-1991 AIDS information 273-2437
STD Specialties Clinic (VD, HIV Testing) 3251 N. Holton	264-8800
Woman's Alternative Health Clinic 1240 E. Brady	272-2144
Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium (Experimental HIV/AIDS Drug Program) 315 W. Court St., 53212	273-1991

HELP LINES

Gay Information Svcs. (referrals)	444-7331
Gay People's Union Hotline	562-7010
Gay Bash Hotline (confidential)	444-7331
Wisc. AIDS Line	273-AIDS

director of the Milwaukee Police Training Bureau;

• Carol Latham, executive director of the State of Wisconsin Justice Department's Office on Crime Victim Services;

• Rev. Leroy Mixon, pastor of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church;

• Jose Olivieri, a partner in the law firm of Michael, Best and Friedrich and president of the board of the United Community Center;

• Shoua Nao Xiong, executive director of Lao Family Inc., a refugee self-help organization;

• Dr. Wesley L. Scott, urban planning consultant for the Metropolitan Milwaukee Assn. of Commerce and former director of the Milwaukee Urban League;

• and Stan Stojkovic, PhD., a UWM professor of criminal justice.

Concern has been expressed within the Gay/Lesbian communities about the appointment of Father DiUlio as chair. Although DiUlio has only served for one year as President of Marquette, the Dean of Students at Marquette during the past year has worked hard to insure that a fledgling Gay/Lesbian student group not be allowed to become a part of campus life. At this time no one knows for sure if DiUlio has directed the Dean's course of action.

Asking Mayor Norquist about his choice of DiUlio, he stated, "DiUlio's personal commitment to Milwaukee and Marquette's role in uniting community members to improve safety in the neighborhood and relations, education and business development in the greater Marquette area, was most critical."

Gary Hollander believes he was chosen both because of his background and skills in dealing with human sexuality issues and because he is an openly Gay man. Hollander was co-founder of ROUND — UP '86, has presented papers at 4 out of 5 of the last National Gay/Lesbian Health Conferences, is a part of the National AIDS Network as well as Vice President of the Milwaukee AIDS Project. In addition to his work at the University he does significant private psychotherapy.

Hollander is seen by Gay/Lesbian community leaders who know him as very intelligent, articulate, caring and very organized. He will, according to most, insure that the vital concerns of Gays and Lesbians be presented and understood.

Carol Latham has worked with all elements of the Criminal Justice System, including her work with victims. As an African American woman with a law degree, Latham feels that her insight into the daily workings of both Police and the rest of the system is vital.

Latham, like many in our community, mourns the loss of many friends from all around the country who have died of AIDS, and has been deeply touched by the losses in the Dahmer tragedy.

Pastor Leroy Mixon, serving a predominately African American Sherman Park Congregation for 25 years was willing to serve to try to bring forth healing and hope for Milwaukee. He stated that over the years he has had a number of his church members share their sexual identity and has been clearly aware of many who have been closeted.

Jose Olivieri is a significant leader in the strongly emerging Hispanic community. And while he says that he has known a few openly Gay men and women, he was extremely responsive to the needs of another emerging community with unique needs.

Wesley Scott, PdD., an African American leader in Milwaukee for over 25 years stated that he has never been concerned with sexuality or race, rather he spent his life trying to resolve injustice and problems in peoples lives.

Stan Stojkovic, PhD., has spent the past 7 years being very vocal on issues related to crime and criminal justice. Not only does he teach courses in the field, but works nationally with the most dynamic programs in the nation. He has served as a resource to the Command Staff of the Milwaukee Police under Chief Arreola. He stated that he was disgusted with the victimization of victims. Blaming the Gay community for Jeffrey Dahmer, he said, was totally unacceptable as well as irrelevant.

contd. on page 10

Community issues demands in press conference

Milwaukee — Out of an emergency meeting Thursday, July 25 (two days after the Dahmer murder case broke), nearly two dozen Gay/Lesbian community leaders and organizers decided the Gay/Lesbian community needed to seize the moment of intense media scrutiny to spotlight the problems our community faces, made apparent by the Dahmer case.

The diverse group, brought together by the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM), decided to hold a press conference Tuesday, July 30 to comment on the case — how the police handled it, and the media hoopla surrounding it. Four speakers were chosen and objectives clarified, speeches were written and approved. The press conference drew major media attention when it was held in the rotunda of Milwaukee's City Hall. Following are highlights from the various speakers comments.

contd. from page 9

Kalivoda and Xiong could not be located by deadline for an interview.

Made clear in an interview with former key Norquist staff member and current Executive Director of the Fire and Police Commission, Michael Morgan (an African American and an attorney), every effort will be made to hear ALL aspects of the community.

[An Editorial Observation by the Writer: What must not be forgotten is that this is a political process. There will be a lot of energy and a great deal of heat, but the amount of light and insight will significantly depend on how well the Gay/Lesbian community organizes itself, using its best talents, to insure a tightly focused, yet totally inclusive presentation. Our best people who have been working within the system over the past 10 years must be actively brought into play. Politics is a public drama and we must stage this to win a Tony (Broadway's Best!)]

OUTRAGE IN MILWAUKEE

KITTY BARBER

Representing the LAMM, Kitty said "Ever since the term 'homosexual overkill' was used by Racine County District Attorney Lennie Weber and Milwaukee County Medical Examiner Jeffrey Jentzen in the Dressler murder case right up until the early edition of the Sunday, July 28 Milwaukee Journal whose headline read 'Gay Misfit' to describe Jeffrey Dahmer, authorities and media alike have linked Gays and Lesbians with murder and violence. Medical Examiner Jentzen, without definition and without explanation, used this unclear term 'Homosexual Overkill' time and time again... The media, in turn, repeated and reprinted this term over and over again — confusing the victims with the perpetrators in the minds of the public. This has led the public to see us as criminals — when, in fact, we have been the victims of these horrible crimes."

"We demand that the Medical Examiner issue a public statement explaining his use of the term 'homosexual overkill,' where it came from and what, if any, equivalent heterosexual terminology exists. Repeatedly, the media has used the term 'homosexual' and 'Gay' in relation to this serial killer. This association has encouraged the public to believe that gays are criminal and that violence against Gays and Lesbians is acceptable. This belief has resulted in a dramatic increase in harassment and threats against us just in the last few weeks. Gays and Lesbians are being harassed on the street and local bars are receiving bomb threats regularly."

"The terminology used by the authorities and by the media has emphasized and reinforced the worst stereotypes of Gays, and has equated our lives with murder and violence..."

"These murders have been described in the press as 'deviant homosexual behavior' and equated with typical Gay

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The Guide

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Mw	Mostly Men, Women Welcome
W	Prefer Women Only
Wm	Mostly Women, Men Welcome
G/S	Gay & Straight Mixed
L/L	Levi/Leather
D	Dancing
DJ	Disk Jockey, Dancing
V	Video
F	Food Service

FOX VALLEY [414]

BARS	
6 Pivot Club (MW,DJ,V) 4815 W. Prospect (Hwy BB) Appleton	730-0440
Sherlock's Home (Mw,G/S,F) 733 Pennsylvania, Sheboygan	

ORGANIZATIONS

Parents & Friends of G/L (PFLAG-Lakeshore) Box 1396, Sheboygan 53082-1396	
PFLAG Fox Cities Appleton	749-1629
Box 75, Little Chute, 54140 Green Bay	499-7080
Fox Valley AIDS Project 120 N. Morrison, #201, Appleton 54911	
Center Project, Inc. Fox Valley Ext. P.O. Box 2137, Fond du Lac 54935	733-2067
UW-Oshkosh 10% Society 207 Reeve Union, UW-O, 54901	54901
Gay/Lesbian Support Group UW-O Counseling Center	424-2061
Synergy (AIDS Support Network) P.O. Box 2137, Fond du Lac 54935	235-5100
Fox Valley G/L Parents PO Box 791, Appleton, 54912-0791	727-1975
Lawrence Univ. G/L Awareness Group 738 E. John, Appleton 54911	(414) 832-7103

GREEN BAY [414]

BARS

3 Brandy's II (Mw,L/L) 1126 Main St.	432-3917
5 MJR's Loft (Wm,DJ) 2328 University	468-9968
1 Napalese Lounge (MW,DJ) 515 S. Broadway	432-9646
2 Java's (MW) 720 Bodart (rear)	435-5476
2 Za's (MW,DJ,V) 718 Bodart (rear)	435-5476

ORGANIZATIONS

Angel of Hope (MCC Church) P.O. Box 672, 54305	496-8688
Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club) P.O. Box 1285, 54305	
Gay AA (Meeting Weekly)	494-9904
Bay City Chorus 1106 Main St., 54301	435-5476
Center Project, Inc. [CPI]-(HIV Test/Counsel) P.O. Box 1062, 54305	437-7400
Northern Womyn, Inc. (Lesbian Support/Social Group) Box 10102, Green Bay 54307-0102	
UW-GB G/L Support Group (Weekly Meetings)	465-2343

MADISON [608]

MEDICAL

Madison AIDS Support Network (support & counseling) P.O. Box 731, 53701 (303 Lathrop St.)	238-MASN
Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday) 1352 University Avenue	262-7330

BARS

2 Club 3054 (Wm,DJ,V) 3054 E. Washington	241-4977
1 Rod's (Mw,L/L,D) 636 W. Washington (rear)	255-0609
1 The New Bar (MW,DJ,V) 636 W. Washington (upstairs)	256-8765
3 Shamrock Bar (GS,MW,F,D) 117 W. Main St.	255-5029
2 Wings 3054 (MW,L/L) 3054 E. Washington	244-8870

ORGANIZATIONS

ACT-UP/Madison P.O. Box 2023, 53701	256-2763
Gay/Lesbian Phone Line	255-4297
Gay/Lesbian Information Recording (Ask for tape #3333)	263-3100
Gay/Lesbian Resource Center P.O. Box 1722, 53701	
Nothing to Hide (gay cable)	241-2500
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous	257-7575
Badgerland Narcotics Anonymous	257-1747
Frontiers Gay Men's Outreach (Men's Umbrella Organ.) P.O. Box 8234, 53708	244-8675
G/L Educational Employees c/o MTL, 821 Williamson St., 53707	255-8582
Gay Fathers c/o United Galvanize (G/L pride organizers) P.O. Box 1403, 53701	255-8061
Gay Outdoor (recreation group) P.O. Box 8234, 53708	244-8675
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians P.O. Box 1722, 53701	271-0270
Queer Liberation Front 511 W. Main #301, 53703	256-2763
Madison Wrestling Club P.O. Box 8234, 53708	244-8675
New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation) P.O. Box 1786, 53701	
10% Society (student organization) Box 614, Mem. Union, 800 Langdon, 53706	262-7365
United (education, counseling, advocacy) 310 E. Wilson, 53715	255-8582
Womansong	246-2681

RELIGIOUS

Integrity/Dignity Box 730, 53701	836-8886
Affirmation (L/G United Methodists)	256-2352

MILWAUKEE [414]

ORGANIZATIONS

ACT-UP/Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1707, 53201	769-8708
Alcoholics Anonymous (reg. gay mtgs)	272-3081
Beer Town Badgers (L/L social club) P.O. Box 166, 53201	
Bi-Sexual Support Group P.O. Box 14061, West Allis, 53214	271-3067
Black & White Men Together P.O. Box 12292, 53212	265-8500
Black Gay Consciousness Raising P.O. Box 33694, 53203	933-2136
Castaways M.C. (L/L) P.O. Box 1697, 53202-1697	
Counseling Center (Gay & Lesbian Support & Discussion Groups) 2038 N. Bartlett, 53202	271-2565
Cream City Chorus P.O. Box 1488, 53201	344-9222
Cream City Foundation [CCF] 2821 N. 4th St., #217B, or Box 204, 53201	265-0880
D.A.M.E.S. (Dykes Against Minority Erotic Suppression) P.O. Box 1272, 53201-1272	
Galano Club (chemical free recovery club) 2408 N. Farwell	276-6936



The Gay/Lesbian community press conference in response to the Dahmer case was held in the Milwaukee City Hall rotunda.

life. We don't know if the killer is Gay or not. HIS sexual orientation is irrelevant. His behavior is deviant by ANY standard, and the fact that some of his victims were Gay does not add to or detract from the horror of his crimes, but it does make clear that these were crimes of hate — hatred of Gay men and especially Gay men of color."

"We also protest the racist portrayal by the police and media of the neighborhood in which these crimes occurred as a place where only drunks, addicts, prostitutes and drug dealers reside. This serves to further dehumanize the victims... Where we live, who we love and the color of our skin does not make us responsible for these crimes against us, nor does it make out lives and less valuable."

"We ask you sincerely to involve us in the creation and implementation of ongoing education and information programs on Gay and Lesbian issues for your staffs, especially those in news and editorial positions."

SCOTT GUNKEL

Gunkel is President of the Lambda Rights Network and said in prepared

remarks, "Every day in Milwaukee Gays are harassed, attacked and even murdered because of their sexual orientation. We are victims — victims of ignorance, intolerance and hatred. We are not alone — People of Color, women and those in poor neighborhoods are also victimized daily. This is the thread the connects us."

"Not only were these men victims of a mass murderer, but also of a police department that did not even NOTICE, much less act on the disappearances of so many young men, most of whom were Gay and African American and were last seen in the same neighborhoods. The Gay/Lesbian community is outraged by these murders, and the totally inadequate way the police handle the People of Color, Gay/Lesbian and impoverished communities. The police have failed us all by victimizing the very communities they are sworn to serve and protect...The Milwaukee Police Department has a lengthy history of harassing the Gay/Lesbian community instead of protecting it. The failure of the police department to relate to the Gay/Lesbian community...has contributed to the deaths of these victims."

"The police department and the individual officers must be held accountable to the communities involved and to the victims families for their actions. **Therefore the Gay/Lesbian community makes the following demands:**

- A full scale, comprehensive investigation by outside authorities of the Milwaukee Police Departments failure to protect the citizens who are people of color, Gay & Lesbian or poor.

- An official liaison for the Milwaukee Police Department to work with the Gay/Lesbian community.

- Involve us in creating and implementing on-going information and education on Gay and Lesbian issues for all police department staff.

- We call on the Mayor's office and the Fire & Police Commission to take a leadership role in meeting our demands.

L.G. SHANKLIN FLOWERS

"Out of this deplorable incident is created an opportunity for us to unite, as a broad based community to stop the violence. People of color, Gays and Lesbians and poor communities share many of the same problems, the same issues and the same enemies. We are all

Discussion group to help heal

The recent tragedy of the Dahmer mass murder continues to have a profound effect on Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian communities. Many of us are saddened, angered, confused, and anxious about what has happened. The media's coverage has often served to further victimize us as individuals and as communities. In order for healing to begin, we need a safe and secure place to sort through our experiences.

The Counseling Center of Milwaukee Women's and Men's Support Group Programs will be offering a free, drop-in group for all members of the Gay and Lesbian communities. This supportive discussion group began on Sunday, August 11th, and will also be offered on

called to join together to make our entire community a safer, more vital place in which to live. If we work together, we are no longer the minority — we are the community. If we allow ourselves and our communities to be divided, we will be picked off — one by one."

LARRY TAYLOR

Speaking on behalf of Black Gays, Taylor said "I would like to address our feelings concerning this tragic situation. First, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to all the families who lost their sons to this gruesome crime. This absolutely sickens me, that a man like Jeffrey Dahmer can come into our community, stalking and murdering so many of our young men... We as a Gay family gave information to the police and nothing happened. I would just like to say that, 'if this was your child or your brother, what would you do?' I would finish by saying that all of us, no matter what color skin, Gay or straight, need to work together; because we all bleed the same color blood."

(See separate article on press questions after the above statements were read at the press conference.)

OUTRAGE IN MILWAUKEE

August 18th and August 25th from 4-6pm. The group will be held at The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, 2038 North Bartlett Avenue and will be facilitated by Program staff and trained volunteers.

All members of the Gay and Lesbian communities are welcome to attend.

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•In Step•August 15-28, 1991•Page 13

Gays/Lesbians respond to press

Milwaukee — A press conference held at Milwaukee's City Hall, Tuesday, June 30 by members of the Gay/Lesbian community to respond to mass murder suspect Jeff Dahmer, brought several inquiries from members of the media. All Milwaukee television stations were there, as were several radio stations, print media from Milwaukee, as well as Chicago and other cities, and wire services.

Reporter: Question was garbled on tape but asked about the Police Union and their reaction to the suspension of three officers involved in the Dahmer/ Konerak Sinthasomphone (the 14 year old Laotian male) episode.

Kitty Barber, spokesperson for the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee responded: "We don't really have a comment on what the police union does or does not do in terms of this case. However, we are kind of sorry the police union apparently feels a lot more strongly about three of their officers being suspended with pay than they do about the victims."

Reporter: There's a call for the chief's resignation, what do you think about this?

Barber: "The problems in the Milwaukee Police Department are systemic. I think it goes beyond Chief Arreola's time in office. He's responsible for what happens in his department, but the individual officers involved are also responsible...I think they all have to work together. The chief has to address the problem because he's running the department. But individual officers on the street can display their attitudes over and over and over to the press with statements like 'this is another case of homosexual overkill' and 'in that neighborhood, life is cheap,' so I think it's a system wide problem that has to be addressed from the top, down."

Reporter: Did police show a lack of sensitivity, what caused this?

Scott Gunkel, President Lambda Rights Network: "The causes of this can be traced back to the lack of sensitivity training — to minority issues, to the Gay

and Lesbian community, to people of the impoverished and working class issues... what causes this is the Milwaukee Police Departments' overabundance of white middle income officers and not being trained properly...and the administration not emphasizing enough sensitivity training to all the communities they must represent and must serve."

Reporter: How do you think the police should have handled the Konerak Sinthasomphone incident?

Gunkel: "I believe the officers should have followed several different possibilities, depending upon what their beliefs were... if they did indeed believe it was a domestic squabble the mandatory arrest law under the domestic violence act should have been enforced, or they should have been separated and interviewed separately — at that time they would have found out that Konerak was indeed drugged or under the influence of alcohol. I also want to point out that he was not 19 and that the problems after that — his death (Sinthasomphone's) and the three or four other deaths after that might have been saved."

Reporter: You believe the domestic violence law applied in this case?

Gunkel: "I believe it does, yes. It does use the officer's discretion — it does include room-mates, spouses, and almost any type of relationship living together. It's up to police discretion to see whether there has been any violent acts or possible violent acts."

Reporter: (Question garbled on tape but had something to do if Gunkel thought possible police homophobia or lack of action was indicative of the general community towards Gays.)

Gunkel: "I don't know if the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) is indicative of the whole community. I believe we've had problems in the past in having minority representation in the MPD. I know for a fact the Gay/Lesbian community has no outwardly open representation in the MPD. So I don't believe the MPD is indicative of what the community represents. And, I don't think that the other laws were used — not the domestic

violence act — there were other possibilities from simple assault and battery or drunk and disorderly. Konerak was apparently disrobed, and therefore could have been issued a citation for that which would have resulted in an arrest and the saving of his life."

Reporter: Beyond this immediate case, what about poor police response to complaints from the Gay community, particularly from the bars?

Gunkel: "The Gay community has had a long history of police harassment or total apathy. The police seem to feel it is more of a concern to apply morality laws than when it comes to violent acts. The police continuously arrive late at a scene, and when they get there they give an attitude of disconcern towards people they are supposed to be serving. I don't believe the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian bar areas get the proper coverage or protection they deserve."

Reporter: What actions do you plan on taking to bring about change?

Gunkel: "The first action will be to start working with the Fire and Police Commission, start making contacts with them. Also, I know we'll be interested in making contacts with the MPD and allow ourselves to be open to any opportunity which is handed to us. So it's an invitation by us for the action of the MPD, the Mayor and Fire and Police Commission to contact us."

L.G. Shanklin Flowers: "I'd like to respond to one of the earlier questions. Unlike Scott, I believe the police department IS reflective of the larger community, and that the problems that persistently arise out of this issue indicate that the greater Milwaukee community has a serious problem in the area of racism, in the area of classism and homophobia. And it is the responsibility of every citizen to begin to look inward as well as beginning to look at the institutions of the larger community that are here to represent and serve ALL of its members. And because of the consistent devaluing of individuals represented by these young men, you have the kind of treatment, you have the kind of misunderstanding, you have the kind of denial that there is a pervasive problem. I believe if this situation had been reversed

— had that young man been a white female and the perpetrator been a black male that situation would have been handled very very differently, and we have evidence of that throughout the city of Milwaukee. I think that this calls for us as a community — Milwaukeeans need to be ashamed that this kind of incident could have occurred over the time frame that it occurred, and we need to do some serious soul searching individually and institutionally to change this because it could continue to happen if we don't."

Reporter: Had the Gay/Lesbian community noticed people were missing, or had any increase in Gay bashing?

Barber: "There has been an increase in the amount of violence and hate crimes in the Gay bar district before this case broke. There were reports of missing people — Tony Hughes family put out fliers at our Gay/Lesbian Pride events in June ...I think the entire community was aware that men were missing, and these facts are reported to the police over and over and over. We want to know what do the police do with these? How do they prioritize these missing persons reports? Those answers have yet to come from the police department and we have to hold them accountable for these men."

Reporter: In regards to Tony Hughes' family efforts in (tape garbled)?

Larry Taylor, speaking for Black Gays: "Tony Hughes... came out to the bars, they handed out fliers, his picture was posted all over, and on television. We also had donations going in the bars to set up a reward for any information about Tony. Information we did receive in the bars was passed onto the family and the family passed it on to police. Nothing happened out of all this."

Reporter: If there had been a Gay/Lesbian liaison with the police would that have helped (again tape garbled)?

Gunkel: "We have asked for help in the past. The Lambda Rights Network has tried to extend its hand out to the police chief — we had him at one of our Community Speak Outs — we've told him time and time again we're interested in working with him and that we believe that cadet sensitivity training is a definite improvement, but sensitivity training for the whole police force is needed, but

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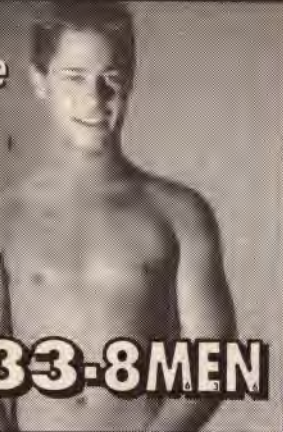
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we've gotten no response... Since Arreola was appointed we wanted to get to know him and extend our hand and we wanted to extend our help."

Reporter: (Again tape is muffled due to distance from reporters but query had something to do with asking if any Gay organizations were keeping track of missing people.)

Gunkel: "Not to by knowledge, no. You have to understand one of the problems with missing people in the community is, this goes very deep, one of the major problems is that many people don't use their real names and many people don't have close ties with family members and what have you. When people do come up missing, the community is somewhat transient, and we therefore have a hard time keeping track."

Reporter: How is the Gay/Lesbian community dealing with increased Gay bashing and violence?

Barber: "One thing is we're not only being bashed physically in the streets at this point. The police department is guilty also of Gay bashing — with their use of our community in conjunction with a serial killer. This isn't just a case of Gay men being attacked on the street, although that has increased as well and our community is dealing with that as best we can with little or no help from our police department. But now, after all this has surfaced, we realize that we are not only the victims of these incidents of violence against us — we are also victims of the police departments Gay bashing, as well."

Gunkel: "I'd like to further emphasize and explain some things the community has started. The community, in the Gay bar district primarily, through the Lambda Rights Network and Queer Nation/Milwaukee, has started a community-wide block watch. With extensive help from the Mayor's office and the Assistant to the Mayor — we've been given a headstart and a working relationship with the Alderpersons in that area, and have met with most of the bar owners, and we also met with the MPD's district crime prevention officer. We are working with

that immediate area to try to expand protection for ourselves, and we really have to be appreciative to the Mayor's office and this administration for that."

OUTRAGE IN MILWAUKEE

Bringing about a 'healing process'

By Ron Geimen

Members of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) national response team of volunteers arrived in Milwaukee for several days during the final days of July to facilitate a response to the Dahmer case. Nova, founded in 1985, has worked with over 30 events, often dealing with the "finite" — tornadoes, hurricanes, massive fires, but has had some experiences working with victims of serial killers.

NOVA held meetings and training sessions with mental health professionals — Black as well as Gay oriented counseling professionals. They also held several community "de-briefings" — one for the general community and separate ones for Blacks and Gays.

In NOVA's training sessions with various mental health counselors, they stressed they were in Milwaukee to facilitate cooperation between the groups to affect a catharsis to bring about the healing process the city and its citizens would need because of what Dahmer inflicted on us.

They warned counselors to be on the look out for cases of clients suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder saying the Dahmer case is a perfect type of stimulus for PTSD. PTSD often comes up in cases that involve experiences beyond the normal range of life experiences (how many people ever are so 'close' to serial killer!). Those suffering from PTSD are vulnerable to fears and/ or have difficulty relating at all to the case.

contd. on page 16

contd. from page 15

NOVA also warned about increased risks of suicide, saying risks may be quite higher than normal amongst out "invisible" community.

NOVA members also said they were "dismayed seeing the myths perpetrated against the Gay community by the media and others" just in the coverage of the case they had a chance read. They urged community mental health professionals to speak up when they heard disinformation in the media or by officials, and to educate them factually about the Gay/Lesbian community.

Specifically Dr. Herd pointed out statistics that prove 95% of pedophiles are heterosexual. She also said the obvious fact that he was unable to relate to women does not make him (Dahmer) a homosexual by default; and that his sexual orientation had nothing whatsoever to do with what he did.

Dr. Herd said the Gay media can help deal with the after effects of the Dahmer case by holding people accountable for the use and definition of terms they use; define PTSD and educate people on what it is and how to work it out; and educate readers to validate their physical and emotional crisis reactions.

CRISIS REACTIONS

People are affected both physically and emotionally in such a crisis. Physical crisis reactions include the following:

• **Shock, disorientation and numbness.** At the continuing breaking news about the case. The body can be emotionally overwhelmed and just "shut down."

• **Fight or Flight.** The body gets geared towards one of these two reactions. Either anger and physical acting out of anger, or the opposite — running away from the subject, shutting it out. Physiological reactions include: adrenalin pumps; and body evacuations (throwing up, diarrhea). People must not feel "ashamed" or embarrassed over these reactions — it's your body making lots of decisions on its own — your brain doesn't have anything to do with it. Other reactions are an increased heart rate; sweating and

hyperventilation; and heightened sensory perceptions — often with the initial onslaught of information. [Example: Remembering a certain smell, taste, sight, touch or sound when you first heard about the Dahmer case, then recalling the horror of the case whenever you experience those certain smells, tastes, sights, touches or sounds, again.]

• **Heightened physical arousal produces exhaustion.** Your body will want to sleep when you are awake. Because so much information has been thrown at you constantly, your body/ mind had no chance to "put it in the past."

Emotional crisis reactions often include several facets:

• **Shock, disbelief, denial.** These are basically self-explanatory. It is possible to have only one of these reactions, or all three.

• **Recoil** — Emotions, temporarily suspended in the grief process (which can go on for three months and longer) can return as a "tidal wave" — anger/ rage, fear/ terror, frustration, confusion (why us, why me), guilt, grief/ sorrow. Anger can be a wonderful motivator for change and many share it. It also helps to channel our other emotions.

Remember that those who are directly affected by the case will take a much longer time to get over it, whereas the rest of us will be over it rather quickly. NOVA also suggested we use this period of confusion to "demystify homosexuality" and educate the population on how similar our lives are to everyone else's. The Dahmer case and its aftershocks could be devastating to the Gay community in Milwaukee, but we CAN turn it to our advantage.

• **Reintegration — Emotional Roller-Coaster** — It's equitable to an emotional tidal wave. We need to build a new equilibrium, often different than the one we had before the event. It will take time to do that, and at first will have to live through both good and bad days.

To restore that equilibrium or "balance" to our lives, we must have the following factors present: a realistic perception of the event; adequate coping mechanisms; and adequate situational support. If all those factors are present it

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GWM, 27, seeking GWM 25-35. I am HIV Positive, healthy in body/spirit, honest, romantic, responsible, spiritual, nature lover. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4170.

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Smart, slim, sexy, sincere Chicago TV wants to share feminine fantasies with Wisconsin guys. Take for walks, talks, bars, drives. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4172.

GWM, 25, attractive, sincere. Br/br, professional, good sense of humor. Seeks attractive GWM 21-30 for casual relationship or possibly more. Call 1-900-737-6366, ext. 4176.

GWM, Blond Blue 5'8", 160lbs., looking for friendship/relationship 18-36. Very flexible interests. Latino, Italians, long hair a plus. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4166.

Wt. TV, 40's, 170 lbs., 6' in heels. Likes silky sexy slips, pool, spankings and pedicures from submissive male servants. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4177.

Appleton TV, tall and slender, 42. Looking for men over 35 to fulfill fantasies. I'm HIV neg. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4178.

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Wanted a White Gay woman to move in with me. Call 1-900-737-6366, ext. 6200.

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Dominant White Male, 45 seeks Bi Females, TV's for bondage, humiliation, animal training, spanking. Surrender totally to my will. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4163.

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while you were away. You're the
best. Love, James

Special Thanks: To Marty Burns Wolfe,
Gary Wolfe, Ginger Spice, Vanessa,
Butch, Schu, Mary, Cris & John, Tony
Harvey, Kevin Rotar & anyone else I
forgot! You all helped make a soggy
Entertainers Against AIDS '91 a big
success!
Sharon [Fannies]

should result in a resolution of our feelings and a regaining of our equilibrium. If one or more of those balancing factors are absent, the problem will not be resolved, and an emotional crisis situation could arise.

• **Losses** — We'll have to face up to losses of loved ones, friends, and perhaps just mere acquaintances. We could feel a loss of control over life itself, and lose faith and trust in others. Losses of fairness, safety/ invulnerability can also be felt. We could feel a loss of identity and wonder 'what about the future?' We'll try and figure out what the whole thing 'means' and ponder our society's loss of values.

• **Sometimes regression to childhood** — Many will feel the need for nurturing, and a need for outside authority to restore order. People will need to be hugged [but be sure to ask them if they would like a hug first — don't invade their space without their OK], and possibly 'a shoulder to cry on.' It's a normal emotional reaction, and shouldn't be considered immature or abnormal.

With many of us distrusting the police, the criminal justice system, or the social service system; a natural reaction is a desire for an 'outside authority' to come in and restore order. That's why NOVA came here. That's why there have been calls for a state investigation, or for the state's Attorney General to look into charges of racism and homophobia in the criminal justice system in Milwaukee. Those desires are a normal emotional reaction to the case.

LONG TERM RESPONSES

Most long term stress reaction are normal and these can continue over the years. Anotherwords, we'll be dealing with the emotional aftermath of the Dahmer case for years... Long-term Crisis Reactions include:

• Not all survivors suffer from long-term victimization — but many continue to re-experience crisis reactions for some time. These are normally reactions to 'Trigger Events:' identification of perpetrator; sense recollection; news accounts of the events; anniversaries of deaths or events related to the case;

holidays and significant life events; media events. [And certainly the Dahmer case was a media event.]

• The Second Injury... emotions can be exacerbated by future actions or by agencies. The criminal justice system, media, family & friends, clergy, medical professionals, social services and mental health workers, victims services, victim compensation — how these 'agencies' handle the Dahmer case now and what changes they make in the system and in the future, will determine how many 'second injuries' occur from this case.

OUTRAGE IN MILWAUKEE

Vigil receives Common Council statement

It is all too easy, in the face of rising crimes against People of Color, Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Women and Poor to think of victims as statistics. But the young men who were murdered were brothers and sons and friends with cousins and classmates and neighbors. They went on picnics and laughed at jokes and knew pain and suffering. They were, in short, human beings, with all the dignity and value that implies.

Their passing underscores the fact that worth as a human being is not contingent on living in a certain neighborhood or having a certain skin color or sexual orientation or even an ability to speak english. "All God's children got wings," wrote the playwright Eugene O'Neill. Sometimes that simple fact of humanity, that all God's children got wings, gets lost, gets trampled on, gets suffocated in the poisonous weeds of hatred.

Truly, this has been a dark night of the soul for Milwaukee, and one that was preceded by escalating violence towards Gay men and women; by a horrifying

contd. on page 18

Gay Glasnost: Part I

By Rex Wockner

Moscow — When the final tally was complete, it was estimated that nearly 20,000 people participated in the Soviet Union's first Gay/ Lesbian pride events July 23- Aug. 3 in Moscow and Leningrad.

American organizers and several of the 70 North Americans who joined in the celebrations dubbed the two weeks "the Soviet Stonewall."

Scores of Soviet Gays and Lesbians said their lives had been changed forever.

"We have much new information on what it is to be Gay," said Arunas Dainauskas of Vilnius, Lithuania. "It is very difficult to speak of what your visit means for us."

"This is the first time in the history of our country when Gay people have come together," said Leonid of Moscow, who did not want his last name published.

contd. from page 17

increase in the murder of African-American men, and by Hate Crimes that cannot be tolerated, whether they occur on the Lakefront, at West 25th Street, or on South 2nd Street: They are simply not acceptable.

The light shining through the darkness is that the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual community of Milwaukee is at long last being recognized as a viable force by the larger community, and that the coalition-building process with other cultural and community groups has already begun.

In some ways, the men who died were coalitions unto themselves: They were Gay and Black and Latino and Oriental and didn't have a lot of money. Let us now give praise to their existence by standing together to stop the violence, to overcome the prejudice, and to form a caring and just Milwaukee that will be a shining example for the rest of America.

Signed by Alderpersons: Thomas P. Donegan, Wayne P. Frank, Paul A. Henningsen, Marlene E. Johnson, John R. Kalwitz, Mary Anne McNulty, Marvin E. Pratt, and Donald F. Richards.

"It will do much to change the public attitude," Leonid said. "My parents and most people — well, I think everybody in the Soviet Union — think there are no Gay people here. But now they will know."

"One year ago, it would have been incredible to think of events like this," said Roman Kalinin, founder of the Moscow Gay and Lesbian Union and, in essence, of the Soviet Gay movement itself. "We will remember this forever."

"I want to say to our American friends, you have infected us with the will to be free," Kalinin said. "I think we're sick with it now. Thank you. We owe you for the fact that when we started coming out, we were not alone... I want to say to the Soviets in this room, we have received help from the West; now it's our turn to do our part to advance the movement."

Similar sentiments were expressed over and over by the hundreds of delegates who attended the four-day Gay/ Lesbian symposiums in Moscow and Leningrad, the thousands who crowded into the Soviet Union's first Gay film festivals, and the brave 200 who staged the country's first Gay-rights demonstration.

American organizers were repeatedly stunned at the turnouts for the events, saying they had no idea so many Soviet Gays and Lesbians would risk being known as homosexual. The events were heavily — and objectively, translators said — covered by the Soviet media.

"The response... was far beyond our expectations," said Jim Toevs of the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, which co-organized the pride events with the nascent Gay/lesbian organizations in Moscow and Leningrad.

"We were completely prepared to find 50 people in Leningrad and 75 in Moscow," Toevs said. "This is truly the fulfillment of a dream."

With only minor exceptions — all in the past two years — Soviet Gay- male life has consisted of careful cruising in parks and toilets, and Soviet Lesbian life has been all-but- non-existent, delegates said.

contd. on page 20

TIRED OF WRITING RESPONSES to "People" ads? Try In Step's new Voice Mail Personals/Area Dialogue order form that appears before the "Classies" in this issue.

Houseboy At Your Service. GWM 22, 5'10", 145 lbs., professional, good-looking and straight appearing. Will do your cleaning, gardening, laundry, shopping and more, in exchange for room/ board and salary of one hundred fifty dollars a month. References. Call Brent at 963-8813, 9am-10pm leave message. Serious inquiries only.

Loving, caring, sensual man — looking for same, 18 (or there about). Call 931-8261, ask for Richie.

Terry E.: Nothing has changed. Same thing on a different day. I miss your face and rely on my memory. Your love runs deep. Good thing I have scuba gear. Love Gary aka Crackers.

Madison Bottom. 38, seeks top for S&M workouts, HIV negative, safe sex only, discretion assured and expected. Respond with phone and photo: P.O. Box 56221, Madison, WI 53705-9591.

GWM 30's, 6', 170, brown (long), blue, clean shaven, straight act/appear. Professional (entertainment/ sales). NON-DRINKER. Good looking (or so I'm told). Enjoy travel, dining out, music (classical, pop, some rock). Some outdoor activities, reading, movies, videos, antique car shows, weekend getaways to Chicago, Phoenix, L.A. Atlanta or quite honest. I'm HIV neg. into Gr/P, Fr/A/P. Seek straight act/ appearing NON DRINKER or recovering Alcohol/ Drug abuser with minimum 1 to 2 years sobriety. NOT into cuddling marathons, obesity, fems, (smokers OK.) baldies or men who don't shower until the neighbors complain. Reply with recent photo to R.J.C., P.O. Box 07371, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0371.

Bi/Gay Male Nudist (Nudist) Club forming. If interested in joining send SASE to 5904 50th Ave., Apt. 10, Kenosha, WI 53144, for application & information. Discretion assured.

Looking For Relationship GWM, 40, 6'1", blonde/blue. Needs man to love and be loved in return. Likes movies, music and quiet times. Non-smoker, VERY moderate drinker. You must be same. Enjoy Gr A/P, Fr A/P with someone 25- 45. Call Gary (414) 544-1164, after 6pm.

In Step's Area Dialogue Men/Men

GWM, 30, brown/green, 5'8", 155 lb. Honest, romantic. Seeks friendships or possible relationships with 25-30 yrs. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4174.

GWM. 39, Professional, 5'11", 185 lbs. Seeks 'Men of Distinction' for companionship, etc. Call 1-900-737-6366, ext. 4175.

What's a Prostate? I'll be glad to introduce you to yours! GWM, late 30's, 6'2", 230, HIV positive, seeks WM's under 35 for safe Greek/ French sex. Phone 1-900-737- 6366, ext. 4169.

Hispanic, 41, 5'9" 160 lbs. Would like to meet Italian or American GWM 20-35 yrs. old for friendship, possible relationship. No fems, smoking, drugs, obesity. Phone 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4171.

Muscular, athletic man wanted by GWM who isn't either. I'm 36, 6'1", 160 lbs., professional. You're playful, serious, HIV- and adventurous. Call 1-900-737-MENN, ext. 4165.

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PEOPLE

GWM, 34, 6', 195. Fr A/P, Gr P, born on a hill, raised in a cave, f-king and s-king is all I crave. Wanted 18-25 yrs old, discrete, Sicere, Greek active, not into bars, but into boating, camping, water-skiing, fishing. MUST be small to medium build — straight acting. Write P.O. Box 250, Holcombe, WI 54745.

Bisexual White Male, 24, looking for someone the same (up to age 35) to share a friendship with times of pleasure. The relationship will not result in any commitment whatsoever, other than the friendship exchanged. Sex restricted to masturbation and is only a part of the relationship not its focus. The ideal person will be romantic, compassionate, intellectual, affectionate and most important, private. I offer these same qualities to you. Would prefer college educated person but not required. I love education, music and the arts. Those who meet these qualifications, and who aren't offended by a wheelchair or a physical abnormality, should reply to: 11702 W. North Ave., Box 560, Milwaukee, 53226. Serious replies with a photograph and phone no. will be considered. Mailbox expires 9/10/91.

Hey Wrestling Fans! I'm a 38 yr. old. GWM 5' 10", 155 lbs. Brn- Blue. Who gets real hot watching pro-wrestling. If you have a similar interest in watching matches, or getting into our own sweaty matches, write: Jim, 3900 W. Brown Deer Rd., Suite A114, Milwaukee, WI 53209.

12' Penis — Like 'em huge? Get "Penis Enlargement Methods...Fact & Phallusy," the 120 page underground bestseller & see rare, uncensored photos of the largest cocks around. Discover the 50 hugest-hung celebrities, the world's 10 largest penises, the shocking Sudanese Arab, Indian Sadhu, & Tibetan Monk methods for developing 10'+ organs, how 3 physicians enlarged their cocks, the truth about Dillinger's 22", how YOU can gain 1' in 4 months, & much more too explicit to print here. Send \$14.95 to: "Added Dimensions," 4216 Beverly Blvd. Suite 262, LA, CA 90004. Plain wrapper. 7-day \$-back guarantee. Bonus: Clip ad with order for free photo of Mr. 12'! (WISC).

Safe Sex! J/O correspondence club for men into safe sex. Hold your own or lend a hand. Info, SASE to: Hands-On, Box 72455-I, Corpus Christi, TX 78472.

Professional, Discreet GWM, 42, 5'11", Br/Bl, 205 lbs., mustache. Not into bars. Wants to give leisurely, quiet-time, chest/ back-rubs to discreet, hairy, straight-acting men. P.O. Box 181, Green Bay, WI 54305-0181.

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Sexually Compulsive? The only requirement for membership in Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) is a desire to stop having compulsive sex. For SCA meeting info. call 276-6936.

TV Seeks — Bi-F. SWM, 35, sincere, kind, great sense of humor, closet crossdresser, seeks woman for friendship, relationship, and woman-to-'woman' fun. Inexperienced but willing to learn. Would also like to hear from other TVs. Box 1304, Madison, WI 53701.

Wants Committed Relationship GWF, 29, looking for drug-free, honest, hard working woman. One not afraid to show and receive generous amounts of affection. Monogamous only! Nancy, 12 Chippewa Tr., Sheboygan, WI 53081.

Take Another Chance GWM, 38, 6'5", 220, blue eyes, smooth-skinned. Seeking monogamous relationship with masculine, older man. Only those with photo enclosed answered. P.O. Box 07382, Milwaukee, WI 53207.

Eau Claire Blue Collar Versatile, bearded, balding, slim and muscled workout dude seeks similar. I'm 36, 5'9", 140 lbs. For long term lover up here. E5830 Butternut Rd. Fall Creek, WI 54742.

MPD's Gay sensitivity training scrutinized

POLICE CADETS HAVE HAD SOME SENSITIVITY TRAINING FOR 7 YEARS

Milwaukee — After months of interviews and testing, a class from 40-70 Milwaukee Police Cadets go through 20 weeks of training. In addition to basic law enforcement, physical skills, interviewing technique, self defense, fire arms skills, etc. — during the past 7 years a very small amount of time has been provided to expose cadets to community issues.

Small amounts of time have been spent basically introducing predominately white cadets to introductory issues on race, sex, sexuality — and apprising them of community services available to assist them in their work.

One element of training has included sexual diversity with a focus on Gay/Lesbian awareness issues.

According to Ralph F. Navarro, a former trainer/ educator/ counselor, this was begun with the assistance of the old Social Development Commission (SDC) under Mayor Maier. It was through the work of a Lesbian SDC employee that the Gay/Lesbian training was part of the program from its inception.

Navarro muses it was a very different world when Brier was still Chief. He reflected that the average age of the cadets then seemed to be about 30. All were males and all were white. He went on to say "the first time we brought Gays up, the atmosphere turned into the joke of the locker room with all kinds of queer jokes... it was very rough!"

Navarro continued, "What I've seen over those 7 years is a radically improved method for selecting cadets. The quality of the groups chosen now is superb. The most recently graduated class not only had a large number of Black males, but American Indians, Hispanics and women."

The level of education and sophistication among cadets has also vastly improved over the years.

Each class of cadets is given a 45 minute 'Gay 101' course according to Navarro. "We discuss sexuality issues, the Kinsey studies, etc. You can't do much in 45 minutes, especially when it is presented at the end of the 20 week training program and only two days prior to the groups graduation."

Among the problems cited by Navarro:

- the Norquist Administration has continually refused to budget training upgrading efforts, even for the cadets;
- no budget exists for training trainers in any area of human concerns;
- 14 stated hours (which is inflated according to Navarro) doesn't even begin to touch the training issues and needs;
- no priority is given for intense dynamic experiences for either cadets or line officers;
- there has been NO sensitivity training for even Chief Arreola's Command Staff;
- no time or training in any of these areas for field officers;
- while presentations have been made to the Fire and Police Commission over the past several years, no effort was made by the Commission to learn more when presented with 1990 Hate Crimes statistics;
- there is no funding to support Gays and Lesbians who wish to help out in these areas.

Navarro said he will be working with the Mayor's 'Blue Ribbon Panel' to insure "that we don't throw the baby out with the proverbial bath water when moving to improve things." He concluded "we have come a very long way in 7 years, and the answer is NOT TO trash present slow but solid progress. Captain Grissom, an African American recently appointed to the rank of Captain and over all director of Training for the Milwaukee Police, recently approached me (prior to the Dahmer incident) to explore program development at the precinct level. Let's not destroy that which is working."

contd. from page 18

Now, the possibilities seem unlimited, some overwhelmed delegates suggested.

The Moscow film festival attracted 16,000 people, organizers said, making it the fifth-largest Gay film festival in the world. It was staged by Frameline, which organizes San Francisco's film fest. There were several screenings each of **Coming Out** (East Germany), **Desert Hearts**, **The Times of Harvey Milk**, **Maurice**, **My Beautiful Laundrette** and **November Moon**.

"The films provided the first visual exposure to Lesbian and Gay relationships on the screen for the audience members and they've been extremely moved — beyond the point of being able to speak — at seeing men kiss each other and women kiss each other on the screen — and the loving relationships depicted in the films," said Frameline's Tom DiMaria.

About 1,000 people attended the Moscow symposium July 29- Aug. 1. In Leningrad, 300 people participated in identical events July 23-28, and an additional 150 showed up for the films.

Workshops focused on Gay culture, coming out, sodomy-law repeal, the Gay press, anti-Gay violence, AIDS treatment, Marxism, and scores of other topics.

A member of the Leningrad City Council addressed the opening plenary session there, telling Soviet Gays and Lesbians that the only way to win their freedom is to come out of the closet.

The Soviet Union's first planned Gay-rights demonstration took place the next day on the steps of Moscow's Bolshoi Theater — attracting 200 activists, a horde of reporters and about 300 onlookers.

The protesters demanded the repeal of Article 121.1 of the Russian Republic Penal Code, which punishes male-male sex with five years imprisonment, and called on Soviet authorities to move immediately to stave off a western-type AIDS epidemic in the country.

Officially, there are 654 AIDS cases, according to Dr. Irina Eramova of the All

Union Center of AIDS, who admitted that the figure is inaccurate. (A detailed report will appear in a future issue of In Step).

The North American delegation featured several major figures in the Gay/Lesbian movement, including Canadian member of Parliament Svend Robinson, comic Robin Tyler, former Human Rights Campaign Fund Executive Director Vic Basile, HRCF board co-chair Randy Klose, Mattachine Society founder Harry Hay, New York City Gay liaison Marjorie Hill, San Francisco activist Jean Harris (who works for Gay Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt), San Francisco health activist Pat Norman, Bay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross, Philadelphia Gay News publisher Mark Segal, openly Gay San Francisco Chronicle reporter Dave Tuller, World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations Executive Director Barrett Brick, and Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays representative Laurie Coburn, among others.

Most North American delegates were shocked at the social and economic 'shambles' that surrounded them during their visit.

The basic food groups are not consistently available, and there are no vitamins. The special food reserved for mid-level tourist hotels was sometimes inedible. The bottled mineral water had rust and other, unidentifiable material floating in it. Good food was available only in special, dollars-only restaurants, at which a few U.S. delegates guiltily indulged.

Long lines were seen outside near-empty stores. Routine goods were unavailable — such things as clothes (in the right size), watches, toiletries, lighters, pet food and hundreds of other ordinary items.

Conversely, most items bought by U.S. delegates during the trip — such as ice cream, Pepsi, record albums — cost them 1 cent to 4 cents U.S., or less. This reporter purchased a briefcase for \$1.40. Classical compact discs cost \$1.20 — there were three available at Moscow's largest department store.

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Roommate[s] — For September. Lesbian seeking one or two Lesbian(s) to share lower, 3 bedrm. flat in Riverwest (Clarke & Humboldt) rent \$600.00, security \$600.00, will split costs by Number of roomies. Healthy environment. Call Dana for details. 344-6111, M-F, days.

Share my 2 bedroom apartment, near Timmerman Field. Your share is \$200 a month, plus 1/2 utilities. Call 438-0340, I have a speech impediment so please be understanding.

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Westside — St. Joe's Area. Old world charm, large sunny upper flat. 2 bedroom, sunroom, dining room, living room, eat-in kitchen. Tom, 871-5965.

Frank quizzes Cheney on Pentagon policy

By Cliff O'Neill

Washington — Under questioning from Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Defense Secretary Dick Cheney on July 31 issued only a mild defense of the Pentagon's policy of excluding Gay men and Lesbians from the military, adding that he thought the argument that homosexuals are natural security risks is an "old chestnut."

"Let me put it this way," commented Frank afterwards, "if Cheney's defense of the country was as weak as his defense of the anti-Gay and Lesbian policy, we would no longer be a sovereign nation."

The Department of Defense maintains a policy that declares that homosexuality is "incompatible with military service." Under that policy, over 10,000 servicemen and women have been separated from the military in the past 10 years.

The Pentagon has historically refused to publicly defend the policy to Congress or the media beyond restating it. Cheney's statement marks the first time the Secretary has ever publicly spoken on the matter.

Frank asked Cheney for an explanation of the policy in the last five minutes of a two-and-a-half hour long hearing of the House Budget Committee on defense reduction after the end of the Cold War.

Acknowledging that Cheney has been 'very constructive' in helping out Gay and Lesbian military personnel in certain specific cases as they have come up, Frank asked Cheney to explain why the policy still stands.

"Is it your contention," asked Frank, "that when the Defense Department looks upon someone as a homosexual, he or she is inherently a security risk? And if that's not the reason, what is the reason? Particularly (with) those people who are open about their sexual orientation, the possibility of blackmail appears to be irrelevant."

"Congressman," responded Cheney, "I inherited the policy that... does focus exclusively on the military and the military service and is based on the proposition

that Gay lifestyle is incompatible with military service. That is the policy."

Without explaining what exactly was the incompatibility — despite being asked twice by Frank — Cheney added that he felt the argument that Gays and Lesbians were inherently security risks was outdated.

"I must say that I think that's a bit of an old chestnut," said Cheney of the security risk argument. "(The policy is) a question (that) turns more on the need of the Department to maintain a combat effectiveness of our military units. Our solo mission in life is to fight and win wars and... based upon that, the Department over the years — specifically the military services — have pursued the policy that said that certain kinds of individuals in our society... do not serve in those combat units."

In his statement, Cheney was careful to point out that the policy pertains to military personnel and not to civilians in the Pentagon, a reference Frank took as dealing with a top civilian Pentagon official, Defense Department spokesman Pete Williams, whose sexuality has been questioned by Gay activists and reporters in recent weeks.

Cheney also added that, although he has "not spent a lot of time on the issue" of Gays in the military, he has addressed it on "occasions when it has not been administered in a fair fashion."

"Let me say you have distinguished yourself by undoing some of this inherited policy," Frank told Cheney. "If all you can say in defense of this policy is that you inherited it, maybe it is time you stopped and took another look at it."

Frank had been hoping to ask Cheney for an explanation of the policy since January. The July Budget Committee hearing was the first opportunity he had to publicly confront the Secretary.

Predicting that the policy could be rescinded within three years, Frank hoped that Cheney's weak defense of the policy would be taken by military officials as a cue to not "go after" Gay men and Lesbians in the meantime.

Kentucky sodomy law in court

Seeking to rebut Kentucky's argument that its consensual sodomy statute is justified by Judeo-Christian tradition and 'public morals,' the American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Kentucky have filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of 15 religious organizations in a case challenging the statute.

The brief, prepared by the ACLU's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, was filed July 22 with the Kentucky Supreme Court in the case Commonwealth of Kentucky v. Jeffrey Wasson. This case began in 1986 when Wasson allegedly invited an undercover officer in Lexington, Kentucky to his home to have sex. Wasson was arrested and charged with criminal solicitation.

Ruth E. Harlow, staff counsel for the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, said the case is "at the forefront of national efforts to win rights for Lesbians and Gay men."

"In the past few years, courts in several states, including Michigan and Texas, have overturned state sodomy statutes, but too many of these laws are still in force," she said. "Lesbians and Gay men cannot fully win our rights until our sexual lives are decriminalized. These religious groups are making a powerful statement that destroys the morality-based justification or such invidious laws."

Among the ten local congregations and the five national organizations joining the brief were the American Friends Service Committee, the American Jewish Committee, the Office of Church in Society of the United Church of Christ, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Central Presbyterian Church of Louisville.

Previously, trial and appellate courts in this case have ruled that Kentucky's consensual sodomy law is an unconstitutional invasion of privacy and a violation of Wasson's right to equal protection of the laws under the Kentucky constitution.

The brief emphasizes that religious organizations are no longer united in their

thinking about homosexuality. The brief shows that the state's religion-based justification for its sodomy statute "crumbles upon analysis because a diverse array of Judeo-Christian bodies have embraced the rights of Gay men and Lesbians and/or explicitly rejected the criminalization approach to same-sex sexual expression."

In addition, the brief argues that such a religion-based justification violates the establishment clauses of both the State and Federal constitutions.

The brief further points out that most major religious organizations, even if they believe homosexual sexual expression to be immoral, strongly believe that criminal punishment for such conduct is improper.

Study to chart political advances

Washington, DC [HRCF] — Does support for Lesbian and Gay rights help or hurt a political candidate? That's the question a new Human Rights Campaign Fund study hopes to answer. The study, funded by the Triangle Institute, will examine electoral results from around the nation, including federal, state and local contests.

A similar study on this topic was released in 1980. At that time, the evidence suggested that support for Lesbian and Gay rights would not damage a politician's electoral chances. After the study was provided to delegates to the Democratic National Convention of that year, the party adopted the Gay rights platform plank for the first time.

The new study will chart the challenges and advances made by the Gay and Lesbian political movement during the past ten years. AIDS and its impact on the political terrain of the 1990s will also be noted. Electoral data and anecdotal information will be included in the new report, scheduled for early 1992 release.

Researchers will document instances when candidates' support for Gay and
contd. on page 24



Bottom — The top ten finalists in King Production's Miss Gay Wisconsin —USA pageant held at the Marc Plaza Hotel. Top [L to R] — winner Mary Richards, 1st runner up Cassie Malone, 2nd runner up Dominique Mahon. Center — Miss Richards and Christopher during Mary's talent segment.



Entertainers Against AIDS '91, sponsored by Fannies as a fundraiser for MAP, raised over \$2,500 even with practically non stop rain.



In Step publisher Ron Geiman gets 'pie-eyed' thanks to Club 94's Bob Hultman at the HIT/ Cream City Chorus benefit pie toss on Partner's patio.

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HIV testing issues in committees

By Cliff O'Neill

Washington — Lobbyists for the nation's leading AIDS and Gay rights groups may have been surprised by the timing of two recent congressional actions from Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), but not by the amendments themselves.

The measures, introduced by Helms to separate money bills in July, would tremendously broaden the scope of the federal role in the relationship between patients and their health care providers when HIV is involved.

The first measure would make it a federal crime for HIV infected health care workers who know they test positive to have 'invasive physical contact' with patients without telling them of their HIV status. The amendment, now part of the Senate's Treasury and Postal appropriations bill, was approved by the Senate July 18 on a 81-18 vote.

The other proposal, now on the Senate's Commerce, Justice and State money bill, orders states to have laws on the books protecting health care workers on the job by allowing the HIV testing of patients. The Senate approved the measure on a voice vote July 30 after a move to set it aside was turned down 44-55.

The patient testing proposal does not address whether such testing could be

made with or without the patient's consent.

If it eventually becomes law, AIDS lobbyists note that its impact could be blunted somewhat by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which makes it illegal for physicians to refuse treatment to people with AIDS and HIV. Still, they see the Helms proposal as a major threat.

The other danger of the patient testing proposal, activists note, is that the patient testing proposal is being presented as a worker protection measure, the argument behind which suggests that if a patient tests HIV negative it is 'safe' for health care workers to take down their guard against HIV infection.

The two measures will now move to joint House/Senate conference committees which AIDS lobbyists hope will delete the two measures. But before they get there, the two bills will have to pass procedural hurdles in the house which could strengthen their chances for final passage.

After those votes though, even if the amendments are deleted in conference, there is then the near certainty that Helms will try again to impose his will on the Senate on these or to the unrelated measures.

When Congress comes back from its five week vacation in September the conferences will again take up the Treasury and Commerce money bills.

The Senate will then also have to consider the Labor, Health and Human Services appropriations measure, which has historically been the vehicle for most of Helm's AIDS-related proposals. The final debate on this bill may eventually be the last chapter on the matter, for this year at least.

But the fight against the two Helms amendments will neither be short nor will it be easy, activists note.

AIDS lobbyists had operated all summer under the impression that Helms, their long-time foe, was preparing to introduce amendments

contd. on page 26

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contd. from page 22

Lesbian issues was raised in a hostile way, and how campaign strategists responded. The effectiveness of Gay and Lesbian community support for candidates also will be studied, as well as the use of AIDS issues in political campaigns. The study will be directed by the author of the 1980 report.

Anecdotes, stories and examples from campaigns throughout the country will insure that the study is comprehensive. Any individuals with information to share for the study should contact Eric Rosenthal at the Human Rights Campaign Fund by writing to 1012 14th Street, NW, Suite 607, Washington, DC 20005, or call (202) 628-4160.

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AIDS in the Black community

Washington, D.C. [NGLTF] — African-American AIDS activists pressured Black lawmakers recently in an unprecedented Congressional lobbying and briefing campaign aimed at sparking increased action around the growing crisis of AIDS in the Black community.

Activists from some of the leading minority-based and other AIDS and Gay rights groups converged on Washington, D.C. for the first-ever AIDS briefing to

contd. from page 24

relating to HIV and health care workers on some measure. At first, they just weren't sure when he would strike.

Then they got the tip-off that Helms would introduce the health care worker amendment in mid-July when he was defeated on an attempt to place the proposal on the crime bill that was then moving through the Senate. Helms, they knew, would try again in a week. His choice of the Treasury bill as his vehicle was the only surprise.

Two weeks later, though, the North Carolina Republican's timing with his patient testing rider really startled Capitol Hill AIDS activists. Helms struck while AIDS lobbyists and some supportive legislators were attending an evening memorial service for a Hill staffer who had recently died of AIDS. During the service, someone poked their head in the door and announced that Helms was now coming to the Senate floor to introduce his second proposal, this time on the commerce bill.

Luckily, remarked one national AIDS activist, some senators were also at the memorial service and, with the specter of AIDS fresh in their minds, they were able to summon up more anti-Helms votes than they had on the previous amendment.

"If they hadn't just left the service," commented Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "we might not have gotten the 44 votes we did."

Congress returns from its summer recess on Sept. 11.

the Congressional Black Caucus, which followed a well-attended Capital Hill press conference. The activists are challenging the Caucus to take a greater leadership role in securing HIV funding, treatment, care and education for minority communities.

"The impact of AIDS on the African-American community will be catastrophic if we do not begin to address critical health care issues," said Belinda Rochelle, health issues lobbyist for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), which helped facilitate the briefing and press conference. "We need a voice and we need leadership."

According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 51,190 reported AIDS cases in the U.S. are among African-Americans, or 37 percent of the total caseload. Some 52 percent of the total cases among women and 53 percent of children are Black. AIDS is the leading cause of death among Black women in New York City. Only 11 percent of patients in the U.S. AIDS Clinical Trials Group are Black.

"As African-Americans we must ask ourselves if we can afford to lose another Max Robinson, the television anchorman; or Willi Smith, the celebrated fashion designer; or Fred Abramson, the prominent attorney; or any of the thousands of Black people who have died," said NGLTF's Rochelle. "For us the bottom line is that we are tired of death. We are not willing to sacrifice anyone. Not one death in our community is acceptable, whether it's from murder, crack or AIDS."

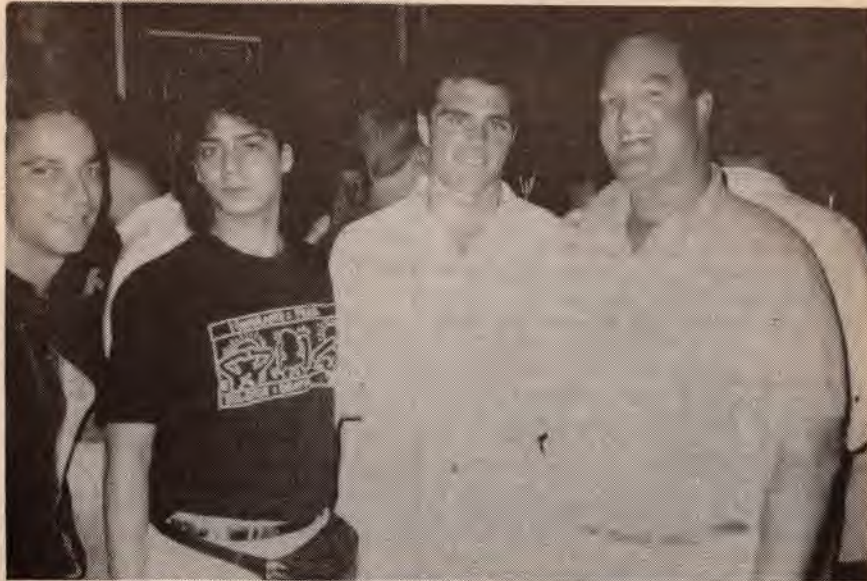
There are 26 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, all from the House of Representatives (there are no Black Senators). The Caucus responds to national and worldwide constituency requests, conducts legislative briefings, acts as a legislative leadership, clearinghouse and information center, and coordinates the drafting of the CBC "Alternative Federal Budget."



Rod's held their annual Mr. Rod's Show and Contest with five Mr. contestants. David Scheele, third from left was the winner.



Ballgame staffers Danny and David poured on the Christmas cheer for the bars Christmas in July party.



Triangle owner Al Thomas [right] hosted work out video host Allen Naparella [2nd from right] for an autograph session.

members of the 3 championship teams, Triangle Trojans, Wreck Room Spurs, and M&M Bad Girls.

There will be free beer and food for all SSBL members and their guests.

Earlier the afternoon of September 14, "Co-ed" games will be played at Mitchell Park. Teams will be chosen that day, and a mixture of men and women will be on each team. All players are encouraged to attend. Contact your team manager for details.

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M&M Peanuts	4-10
Cest La Vie	3-11
Women	
M&M Bad Girls	12-3
Nitengales	5-10
Fannies	3-12

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

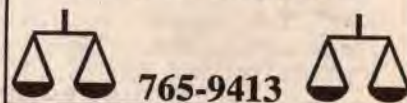
MAPfest: \$3 at the gate, or bring 3 non-perishable food or personal care items & get \$1 off admission. Entertainment, food, drink, games, raffle, 2pm-10pm.

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AIDS Walk breakfast hosted by VIPs

Milwaukee — Bud and Sue Selig, honorary co-chairs of the Wisconsin AIDS Walk, are inviting thousands of community leaders from throughout the state to the Wisconsin AIDS Walk Leadership Breakfast. The Breakfast, an opening event to the Wisconsin AIDS Walk, will be held on September 22, from 9:30am to 11am at Professional Marketing Services, 2071 N. Summit Ave., Milwaukee.

"The list of people who have agreed to host the Wisconsin AIDS Walk Breakfast is truly impressive," said Doug Nelson, executive director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project. "It typifies the strengthening community support throughout the state for the many issues surrounding the AIDS epidemic." More than 300 people are expected to attend the breakfast. The \$50 donation will augment the proceeds generated through the pledge walk.

Hosts include Senator Herb Kohl, Paul Soglin, Mayor of Madison; James E. Doyle, Attorney General of Wisconsin;

Archbishop Rembert Weakland; Milw. Mayor John Norquist; former Governors Lee Dreyfus & Anthony Earl; Congressman Jim Moody; State Representatives David Clarenbach, Barbara Notestein, Alberta Darling, Steven Loucks, Marcia Coggs, Peter Bock, Peggy Rosenzweig, and Timothy Carpenter; State Senators Gary George and Joseph Czarnecki; Milwaukee City Council members Thomas Donegan, Lorraine McNamara McGraw, Paul Henningsen, Marvin Pratt and Mary Ann McNulty; plus many others.

Breakfast organizers are encouraging participation in the Wisconsin AIDS Walk. A free shuttle service, dsponsored by Safe Line Fleet, is available from 10:30am to 5pm to and from Urban Park, the location of the Walk's opening and closing ceremonies.

Individuals interested in attending the Wisconsin AIDS Walk Leadership Breakfast should call the Milwaukee AIDS Project at (414) 273-1991.

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ACT UP: stop health care workers 'witch hunt'

New York City [GLINN]- On Thursday, July 25, ACT UP/New York, in the first of a series of nation wide actions, held a demonstration at the Chrysler Building offices of Senator Daniel P. Moynihan (D-NY). The activists are protesting the senator's recent endorsement of both the Helms and the Dole/Mitchell/Hatch amendments.

The Helms amendment would criminalize "medical diagnosis or treatment involving invasive physical contact" by HIV+ practitioners who do not divulge their serostatus, with penalties including a minimum ten-year jail sentence and up to \$10,000 in fines.

The Dole/Mitchell/Hatch amendment would deny federal funds to states that do not require implementation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for infected health care workers.

"What's especially frightening," states ACT UP/NY spokesperson Don Arters, "is that the Senate passed such harsh measures in total ignorance, given the lack of data suggesting a substantive risk of transmission of HIV from health care provider to patient."

According to Arters, plans are being made to launch a nation wide health care worker strike to prevent the passage of the legislation by Congress. "ACT UP holds every senator who approved the amendments accountable for the lives they will destroy," Arters said. "This is a witch hunt against health care workers and tantamount to federal sanction of AIDS hysteria."

Group to advocate Lesbian health care

Washington, D.C. [NGLTF] — The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has joined the Breast Cancer Coalition, a national advocacy group, to increase awareness of and response to Lesbian breast cancer and other health

issues.

Created in February 1991, the Breast Cancer Coalition is comprised of cancer, women's health and grassroots women's groups to advocate for health improvements in the area of breast cancer. Among other initiatives, Belinda Rochelle, NGLTF health issues lobbyist, is advocating for greater education and awareness of Lesbian breast cancer and a broadening of mammogram reimbursement guidelines.

Rochelle points out that many Lesbians do not routinely consider breast cancer exams and that insurance policies often are not broad enough to cover them.

"Most women only visit a physician because of reproductive health needs," says Rochelle. "For some Lesbians that is not a concern and therefore they do not visit a doctor as often as they should. Some Lesbians may only go to a doctor when they are sick, and unfortunately that might be too late."

American Cancer Society statistics show that more than 25 percent of all women who get breast cancer are between 40 and 49. Rochelle stresses that screening coverage should not be defined, nor limited to, risk categorization.

Goals of the Breast Cancer Coalition include cancer research, care, and improved access to screening.

Some Gay victories at Episcopal Confab

Phoenix, AZ [Integrity/GLINN]- Integrity, Inc., the Lesbian and Gay justice ministry of the Episcopal Church, received many, albeit grudging, congratulations from various conservative Episcopalians for its great success at the triennial General Convention of the Church in Phoenix, July 10 to 20. That success was often subtle, but it led to numerous threats to leave the church because of the Episcopal Church's perceived "abandonment of traditional morality."

A proposed canon submitted by Bishop William Frey, Dean of the right-wing Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, which would have required

game to take the recreational title, while the M&M Bad Girls won the women's division.

The Triangle Trojans, Triangle Bad Boys and M&M will represent Milwaukee in the Gay Softball World Series in Boston from August 20 to 24.

The Saturday Softball Beer League will hold its awards party on Saturday September 14 from 5-7pm at Partners. Team trophies will be presented to the division winners and runner-ups. Individual medals will be given to the

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"I am NOT burying the hatchet, sweetheart, I am really digging up the dirt..."

Jock Shorts

Gay Softball World Series

The North American Gay Amateur Athletics Association (NAGAAA) is once again preparing for the Gay Softball World Series, dubbed Series '91. This year's series will be from August 17th through the 26, hosted by the Boston Beantown Softball League, an affiliate member of NAGAAA. The affiliated NAGAAA League Champions from throughout the US and Canada will be represented in the Open, Women's and Recreational (Invitational) Divisions. The Open and Recreational Division will play the traditional double elimination tournament. The Women's Division will participate in a 'Round Robin' as well as a double elimination tournament. Coor's Light is the official sponsor for Series '91.

Series '91 will kick off with the NAGAAA fall meetings, scheduled for

August 18th and 19th. Team Play will begin on Tuesday, August 20th on Boston's Smith/ Harvard Fields. During the week, a myriad of events are planned to keep delegates, players and fans entertained. The championship games and the awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, August 24. The Series '91 Farewell Party, benefiting the Human Rights Charitable Foundation AIDS Check-Off Fund, will be held Sunday, August 25 at the Red Sox 600 Club, Fenway Park.

Softball season wrap up

The Saturday Softball Beer League concluded regular season play on July 27th with the Triangle Trojans remaining undefeated to capture the competitive championship. The Wreck Room Spurs edged out the Triangle Bad Boys by one

that all clergy abstain from sexual relations outside of Holy Matrimony was soundly defeated in both houses of the bicameral convention: the House of Deputies (over 800 deputies evenly divided between clergy and laity) and the House of Bishops (200 active and retired bishops). Instead, the convention adopted a compromise and generally Gay-friendly resolution on human sexuality.


Integrity's three principal opponents were the Prayer Book Society (which opposes the use of the current Prayer Book), the Episcopal Synod of America (ESA), which opposes the ordination of women to the priesthood and the episcopate, and Episcopalians United for Revelation, Renewal and Reformation (EURRR) which seeks a conservative take-over of the Church. Together they spent approximately \$1 million on the convention. In contrast, Integrity spend \$35,000 on its convention presence.

Kim Byham, Integrity's Director of Communications, has predicted that EURRR, the most vocal of the the opposition groups and the most diverse in

its membership, will fold before the next Episcopal General Convention in 1994 in Indianapolis.

Two Deputies came out on the floor of the General Convention: the Rev. Jane Garrett (Diocese of Vermont) and Mr. Patrick Waddell (Diocese of El Camino Real, California). Other deputies proclaimed their sexuality in testimony before committees. Approximately 30 Integrity members served as Deputies. The impact of having openly Lesbian and Gay Deputies, a first a General Convention, helped to minimize homophobic remarks on the floor of the House of Deputies.

In the House of Bishops, however, where none of the Gay bishops have yet to proclaim their identity, homophobic remarks were rampant. One of the most



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SOME SAFETY TIPS

No crime victim is to blame for the crime committed against them. Even though you can't be sure you won't become a victim of crime, these tips may be helpful:

- Identify local "Danger Zones" in areas you frequent. Avoid them if alone, and stay aware of your surroundings;
- Plot out "safe" routes from the bus stop or parking lot to your home or other places you frequent. Use well lit streets, and be aware of late night stores where you could run for safety;
- If you feel unsafe, trust your instincts, and remove yourself from the area. Make noise, blow a whistle, scream "FIRE!" Call 911 for police assistance;
- If you go home with strangers, make sure you introduce that person to a friend or to the bartender. Make people aware you are leaving together, so if a problem arises later, they can help identify the perpetrator;
- Lesbians should be cautious of men they meet in Lesbian bars who claim to be Gay and invite women to their homes to party;
- Leave bars with a group of people you know. Assaultants often lurk outside Gay identified establishments waiting for their next victim;
- Always carry a whistle, consider taking a self defense class. (Self Awareness is often more important than Self Defense);
- Be alert and aware of your surroundings. Don't take short cuts through unlit areas;
- Get license plate numbers of cars with suspicious occupants, or whose occupants should out anti-Gay slurs ... then report it to police.

bizarre was by the Rt. Rev. Edward MacBurney, Bishop of Quincy, Illinois. He decried what he alleged was Integrity having forced removal of one of the hymns in the morning liturgy (it was actually removed because of time constraints) and claimed that "the homosexual lobby has lead the Church into a Babylonian captivity!"

Many deputies said that while they were overwhelmed with over 25 pounds of paper from EURRR, the mailing from Integrity of its newly published book **A Book of Revelations**, edited by Dr. Louie Crew, more than overcame the anti-Gay propaganda.

A high point of the Convention was the introduction in the House of Bishops of the Rev. Elder Troy Perry, moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. The UFMCC Convention was also being held in Phoenix. This introduction, which was arranged by Integrity, marked the first time that the Rev. Elder Perry had been introduced at a convention of a mainline denomination.

Other highlights included a Eucharist hosted by the local joint Dignity-Integrity chapter at the Episcopal cathedral, at which Newark Bishop John S. Spong gave a compelling sermon calling for full inclusion of Lesbians and Gays in the church. A few days later, the Episcopal Church's only woman bishop, the Rt. Rev. Barbara Harris of the Diocese of Massachusetts, told an Integrity luncheon that the church is "pimping" Lesbians and Gay men by using their talents without acknowledging them.

For the second time, two Integrity representatives were seated as voting members of the "third house" of convention - the 500 member Triennial of the Women of the Church. Integrity is the only Lesbian/Gay caucus with official voting status in a mainline denominational body.

One piece of legislation which was passed by both houses of convention was a proposal that clergy and laity be educated about Lesbian and Gay issues. This bill, which represented a consolidation of three resolutions

introduced on Integrity's behalf, was passed overwhelmingly by both Houses.

The compromise resolution on human sexuality an ordination which originated in Bishops, but which was strengthened considerably by Deputies, calls for continuing dialogue on Lesbian/Gay issues and mandates still another report to be presented to the next General Convention. Unlike past reports, however, Lesbian and Gay members are officially slated to be included in the membership of the committee.

Despite pre-Conventions predictions, the Episcopal Convention was nothing like the Presbyterian Convention in Baltimore earlier this year. A remarkable sense of calm pervaded the proceedings. The only exceptions were activities by the Church Army, a right-wing lay organization, based in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. They distributed a provocative brochure with the word "FAG" on the cover which suggested that "healing of homosexuality" was possible. They also paraded around the exhibit area daily in an attempt to exorcise the demons which beset General Convention. These activities alienated most Deputies, Bishops and visitors to General Convention.

Over fifty Integrity members served as volunteers at General Convention, staffing a booth at the convention center, a hospitality room and a nerve center, as well as serving as lobbyists.

Several Deputies and Integrity representatives noted that there had been a fundamental shift in the nature of the discussion at General Convention. The consensus was that General Convention would never again return to the basic stion of the appropriateness or inappropriateness of the full inclusion of Lesbians and Gay men, but rather would focus on how best to accomplish such inclusion and might begin to focus in the near future on the blessing of committed same-sex relationships.



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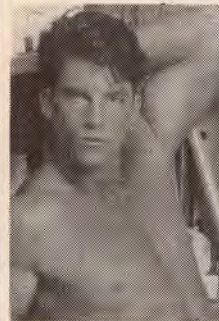
Top — Dahmer victim Tony Hughes family is surrounded by participants in the Candlelight Memorial to Remember the Victims during the march to MacArthur Square. Middle — Marchers head west on Kilbourn [photo looks east]. Bottom — the pre-march gathering at Juneau Park.

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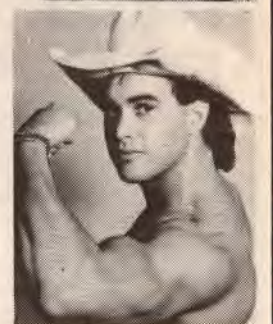
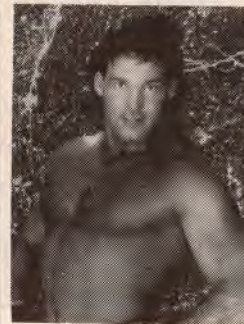
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contd. from page 60

address the Gay/Lesbian community about the pain they were feeling. Cheryl Vaughn, Director of Life Care Services at The Milwaukee AIDS Project, offered MAP's offices as a meeting place and then helped Barb Coyle and myself contact Gay/Lesbian therapists and leaders, as well as individual Gays and Lesbians.

Both politically and from a fundraising point of view, there were many reasons for MAP to stay as far away as possible from the Dahmer case. Yet the organization rose to the challenge because they are deeply committed to our community. They did what was right, not what might have been expedient.

The meetings which were held on Wednesday, the 31st, allowed our community to begin to take the first steps toward healing. Anger and blame could be expressed and the road to letting go could now begin.

On Monday, August 5th, a vigil and march continued the healing process, as well as emphasized the pride and courage that we were beginning to reclaim.

So from the sickness, the pain, and the horror of a Jeffrey Dahmer, we see great strength and courage. Because of non-Gay community leaders like Vaughn and Shanklin-Flowers, we see fairness and decency, not just bigotry and ignorance. The chaos is almost behind us. We can begin to believe in goodness again.

Yes, the damage has been severe. It will take great effort to overcome its effects. Yet together we can defeat the bigotry and educate the ignorant. It will take all of us — Black and White, Gay and Straight — united. But cynicism need not triumph. Brave people have come forward. All the rest of us have to do is join them!



contd. from page 62

doesn't actually ease the pain of rejection. In most cases, a swift kick to the shins should do the trick.

When you get right down to it, cruising

and sex aren't necessarily even connected. The truth about sex is that you can always say you've had it whether you've had it or not. No one can actually see whether you've had it. No one can tell, just by looking at you, who you have or have not been sleeping with.

My recommendation is cruise and lie. Then pray to God that the bare-chested waiter doesn't find out you've been falsely claiming him as one of your sexual conquests.

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Group Notes

MAPfest hopes to raise \$30,000

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee AIDS Project's sixth annual **MAPfest**, sponsored by Miller Brewing Company, is scheduled for Sunday, September 1, 1991, at Schlitz Park, N. 3rd St., and Cherry St., in Milwaukee. Festival organizers expect to raise \$30,000 for AIDS care and education. At least 2,000 people are anticipated to attend.

"MAPfest has grown considerably during the past six years to become one of Milwaukee's outstanding festivals and essential to our efforts to raise funds for AIDS care and increase community awareness of the challenges of AIDS in Milwaukee," said Doug Nelson, executive director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

Some of Milwaukee's top local entertainers will perform reggae, rock, blues, and jazz. Those already scheduled to appear include Rufus and the Singing Machine, John Kruth and the Atomic Croutons, and Impulse. The exciting Bachelor and Bachelorette Auction, emceed by John Luedtke, and the annual dog show will be back for more fun and entertainment.

Tickets are \$3 for adults, \$2 for children under 13. Bring three non-perishable food or personal care items and get \$1 off the price of admission. T-shirts will be sold at the event. This year's poster and t-shirt were designed by well-known local artist and donor to the Art For AIDS auction, Steve Slaske.

Proceeds from MAPfest are used to support case management and support services for people affected by HIV disease, and prevention programs designed to slow the spread of the virus.

"This historic support from Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian community has made MAPfest an outstanding, successful fundraiser and an annual social gathering that no one should miss,"

Nelson added.

A Trek Model 800 Antelope bicycle, a floral arrangement each month for a year from T.T. Tulip and other prizes have been donated to this year's raffle. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5 and can be purchased through the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

Mapfest is this year's third special fundraising event produced by the Milwaukee AIDS Project. Make a Promise, held in March, the Art for AIDS auction held in June, and the Wisconsin AIDS Walk, to be held September 22, must raise nearly \$375,000 in 1991 in order for the agency to ensure a comprehensive continuum of AIDS-related services for people throughout southeast Wisconsin.

Bachelors needed

Milwaukee — The Bachelor/Bachelorette auction is one of the biggest hits at the Milwaukee AIDS Projects annual fundraising festival, **MAPfest**. The sixth annual event will be held September 1, 1991 at Schlitz Park (3rd and Cherry Street) from 2-10pm. MAPfest will feature exciting entertainment, games, food and fun.

The Bachelor and Bachelorette Auction, which begins at 4pm., is sponsored by Tom Boll, owner of T.T. Tulip Floral. Boll is now accepting registrations from men and women who wish to put themselves, and their planned dates on the auction block.

In 1990, 20 bachelors and bachelorettes brought in over \$1,200 to benefit client support programs at the Milwaukee AIDS Project and Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project. Festival organizers hope that this year's auction will draw at least 30 men and women and raise more than \$2,000.

To register to be a bachelor or bachelorette, call Tom Boll at T.T. Tulip, (414) 277-8518, or Louise Searing at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, (414) 273-1991, with the details of your planned date.

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Juicy Bits

by W.W. Wells III

Cruise-ology

In the age of AIDS and renewed interest in relationships many Gays are asking themselves, why bother cruising Gay bars in search of a love partner? Why even bother having sex?? Sure, you can point to some bare-chested waiter with "Pecs of Death" and nonchalantly mention, "Yeah, I've had him." But then what? Can you sell the video rights of your experience to William Higgins or Falcon Studios? How many times can you brag about how good he looked in a Swatch Condom? Less fortunate (or promiscuous) friends may be impressed by a knowing shrug and sly smile, but in fact, all you've actually done is waste anywhere from sixty down to two minutes, (depending on how drunk he was and whether you had this waiter in luxury hotel suite or the backseat of your Volkswagen Rabbit, now that's Farvegneggen!).

Just think of all the things you could have accomplished during the time it took to make it with this hunk! You could have moussed and styled your hair, volunteered to man the AIDS Crisis Line, done an aerobics class, or at least watched one Madonna video on VH-1. But, I'm not just talking about wasting time. I'm also talking about the trouble and aggravation involved in the entire cruising process.

Cruising can be a great source of misery. Not only do you have to shower, shave, put on moisturizer and cologne, buy clothes, change the sheets, clean the litter box, think up topics of conversation, rehearse pick-up lines, be witty, practice lustful glances, suck in your stomach for several hours and work on your attitude, but the truth is, you really never know who it is you are cruising. Even the cutest guy with the nicest smile, firmest butt and most expensive clothes might in fact be an off-duty drag queen, a body absorbed workout junkie or even a member of ACT-UP!

Even if he's not a drag queen, you know

perfectly well, that if he becomes interested in you, he's going to want more than just a roll in the proverbial hay. Yes, the 90's Gay male is interested in relationships, monogamy, even intimacy and commitment. He's going to want you to meet his friends, his mother, his therapist and his cat. For these reasons alone it may be better to abandon cruising and stay home. In case that's not enough, here are the top ten drawbacks for cruising.

Top Ten Cruising Drawbacks

1. Prolonged lustful leering causes contact lenses to irritate eyes.
2. Awkward pose and snotty attitude often mistaken for abdominal distress.
3. People you don't know will tell you to 'smile.'
4. Accidental cruising of ex-lover can occur in dim bar light.
5. Accidental cruising of boyish-looking Lesbian.
6. People will spread rumors about you.
7. Person you approach may say 'No.'
8. Person you approach may say 'Yes.'
9. Temporary low self-esteem induced by large pimple on forehead ruins entire cruising experience.
10. You might meet someone and inadvertently form a warm, loving relationship.

But that's not all, there's always rejection. Some people might suggest that rejection can actually be a good thing. These are usually the same people who urged you to break up with a boyfriend you discovered later you really loved. Which is why you now find yourself cruising bars for near-anonymous sex. "It just wasn't meant to be," they might say, or perhaps "Just think of it as an opportunity to learn something about yourself and grow." If we examine these theories we can draw one, inescapable conclusion, unless you're not that cute (flabby thighs, oversized rear end, undersized weenie, bad complexion, tragic taste in clothes, bad hair, etc.). The theories are all bullshit. Unfortunately, knowing this

contd. on page 64

The Pageant slated for Nov. 3

Milwaukee — Pageant Productions promises an evening filled with fine dining, talent and glamour as they present 'The event of the year.' THE Pageant '91-92 will be held Sunday, November 3 at the Marc Plaza Hotel's Crystal Ballroom. Contests will be held to name both a Mr. and a Miss Gay Wisconsin.

Cocktail hour will begin at 5pm, with dinner at 6:30pm and the Pageant at 8pm. Tickets for dinner and The Pageant will be \$35, with Pageant only tickets running \$25. Dinner will consist of filet mignon as the main entree, with a dessert top-off of an ice cream filled cream puff drizzled with chocolate. The meal should provide all the makings for a truly scrumptious dinner.

All contestants will display their talents in a number of their choice. They will also be judged in the following events: interview, fantasy walk, evening gown (Miss) and swimsuit (Mr.).

Join them as the tradition continues. Ticket information and contestant applications will be available soon. Watch In Step Magazine for details.

Womyn's picnic

Green Bay — Lesbian parents and friends are invited to come spend a fun-filled day with your children at Northern Womyn Inc.'s Family Picnic! We'll start at 11am and go until 6pm Saturday Aug. 31 at Colburn Park in Green Bay.

Northern Womyn will provide face-painting, a clown and organized games for the kids; you provide your own food, grill and beverages. We'll also provide the facilitator for a 2pm Lesbian parents rap session and equipment for pick-up games from volleyball to softball (well, most of the equipment: Please bring your own glove!).

To find Colburn, take U.S. 41 to Mason Street, go east on Mason to Fisk Street, then south on Fisk to the park (The entrance is at the intersection of Sixth and Fisk). It's a big place, so look for the Northern Womyn banner to find us.

ENTERTAINERS AGAINST AIDS '91

THANKS -

Even with the weather as it was, we still raised over \$2,500 for MAP with your help!

Special thanks to all the Entertainers, emcees, workers, & all of you who supported it.

Sharon, from Fannies for Entertainers Against AIDS '91

(Entertainers '91 T-Shirts are Still Available at the Bar!)

Lavender Mardi Gras Aug. 18

Absolutely everyone is invited to attend the spectacular "Lavender Mardi Gras" on Sunday, August 18th at the Renaissance Place, 6:30- 11:30pm. This annual fundraiser for the Milwaukee AIDS Project is now in its 8th year. As its popularity has continued to grow attendance is expected to reach 600 this year. If the turnout is as great as we expect, and hope, Lavender Hill will be able to raise \$20,000 for the Milwaukee AIDS Project!

'Lavender Mardi Gras' is the theme this year for the Lavender Hill Fundraiser for MAP. Hundreds of hours of work have been donated to this fundraiser and the hard work will certainly be evident the evening of the event. The Renaissance Place will be decorated in the fashion and atmosphere of New Orleans during Mardi Gras. The most spectacular floral displays will be on display, creations of talented floral designers from the Milwaukee area.

You will have the chance to win these beautiful creations during the raffle that will be held during the fundraiser. Another beautiful prize for the raffle is a framed and signed, limited edition print of 'Lavender Mardi Gras.' Elizabeth Taylor (Yes! The one and only!) graciously donated a signed, special edition bottle of 'Passion' perfume to also assist Lavender Hill in reaching its intended fundraising goals through raffle ticket sales. The tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will take place during the fundraiser.

The posters are new this year and have been rendered in a glossy four color silk screen. If you want to be certain of taking a print home, they will also be available for sale. For a limited edition signed print the cost is only \$25, and just \$15 for an unsigned print. We would also like to thank the five artists that participated in this years beautiful 'Lavender Mardi Gras' design: Cory Haywood, Michael Phillips, Tom Rezza, Steve Slaske, and especially David Fischler.

If you enjoy the print you may also want to show your support around the city after Lavender Hill by sporting a 'Lavender

Mardi Gras' T-shirt. These are screened with the same design as the prints and will be available the evening of the fundraiser for only \$10!

If you don't have a costume to wear there will be gorgeous feathered Mardi Gras masks on sale for only \$5. Or to adorn even the most outlandish costume, there will be strings of beads given to everyone who attends!

There is still time! If you would like to attend the best costume party/ fundraiser of the year we will be accepting donations (suggested donation: \$30) at the door, so feel free to stop by if you didn't reserve your space in advance! To find the party just look for the stream of costumes entering The Renaissance Place, 1451 North Prospect Ave. on Milwaukee's East Side. Again the event will take place from 6:30 to 11:30pm. There will be music by Muzic in Motion, Inc. to keep people moving on the dance floor. Beer and hors d'oeuvres are included in the ticket price.

People of color & friends picnic

Black and White Men Together (BWMT), Club Muse, and the Lesbians of Color (LOC), are cosponsoring a community picnic on Sunday, August 18th from 1 to 6pm at the Dineen Park Pavilion. The Dineen Park Pavilion is located at 66th and Vienna which is two blocks South of Capitol Drive.

The picnic is free and open to all Gays and Lesbians within the Milwaukee area. Food, beverages and games will be provided by the sponsoring organizations.

Club Muse, LOC, and BWMT feel it is time for the Gays and Lesbians of Milwaukee to get on with our lives after the trauma of this summer. It is hoped that this picnic will help the healing process of our community. Plan on attending and having a good time!

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Reflections from the Joan Zone

by Joan Lawrence

We don't need this...

When I first heard the news about Jeffrey Dahmer, my immediate reaction was, "Oh no, we don't need this!"

It was a selfish response. Selfish because my first reaction was one of concern for the Gay/Lesbian community and for myself, rather than concern for the victims and their families.

Frankly, my initial reaction was cynical, bitter and very political.

This was before the term 'homosexual overkill,' before the news of his frequenting Club 219, before the speculation began about his sexual preferences and his HIV status.

In light of all that came after it, my first reaction seemed right on target. Jeffrey Dahmer's actions, along with the medias' handling of his story, could do more harm to the Gay community than any other incident in recent history.

When AIDS first occurred in this country and the media kept reporting it as the Gay Plague, the hatred and bigotry toward our community increased tremendously. Many people believed that HIV disease was the result of our lifestyle, that God had sent this 'plague' to wipe us out. Yet I believe that the Dahmer case has the potential to create more hatred, bigotry and fear both locally and nationally, than all the scurrilous information about HIV disease ever did!

Nor will Dahmer only do harm to the Gay male community. Most people who are so ignorant that they believe the lies about 'homosexual overkill,' or who are so full of hatred that they really believe his actions had anything to do with his sexual preference are not going to make any distinctions between Gays and Lesbians. Just as with the AIDS controversies, the entire homosexual community will suffer. Myths and lies will be believed; our lifestyle will once again be seen as sick — even as one that creates or encourages

monstrosities.

But being the cynic I am, I can not state that I was particularly surprised by any of this. The bigots have always found reasons to hate us; the ignorant, reasons to fear and condemn us. Hatred and ignorance thrive on misinformation and sensationalism.

Yet amid all my cynicism, and despite or perhaps as a result of all the horror and gore, true heroines and heroes have emerged, as well as wonderful examples of courage and decency.

Kitty Barber, Karen Gotzler and the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee exemplify that courage. They did not stay silent hoping the Lesbian community could avoid joining in this controversy. Rather, while the rest of us sat around seething — feeling more afraid and vulnerable than at any other time since we knew we were Gay — Kitty and Karen organized a press conference at which Kitty appeared. They stood up and took on the bigots. They refused to stand by and let the lies go unanswered. They insisted that the establishment face up to these problems and make the necessary changes.

Scott Gunkel from Lambda Rights Network, Larry Taylor of the Pride Committee and Black and White Men Together and L.G. Shanklin- Flowers, representing non- Gay coalition members, also appeared at this press conference. While the rest of us were about ready to go back in the closet, these brave souls defended our community. And, for the first time that evening's newscast and newspapers were forced to present our point of view!

This press conference gave us back our courage! We could feel proud again. We could once again feel hope!

The press conference was just the beginning. Shortly afterward, the National Organization for Victim Assistance contacted Kitty and other community leaders, asking for opportunities to

contd. on page 64

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Tri-Cable spotlights Dahmer case

In response to the tragic murders of Gay men in Milwaukee by Jeffrey Dahmer, a special 90 minute edition of the New Tri-Cable Tonight on the Gay & Lesbian perspectives to the murders was aired live on August 1st. The program was live and had about 25 people in the studio audience as well as numerous people calling in with their comments of anger, frustration, grief, support and encouragement, and occasional hatred and homophobia. The program was moderated by Michael Lisowski, who fielded comments from the audience, and Michael Ross, who received phone calls. This special program was designed to offer an opportunity to vent reactions to the catastrophe as well as receive validation from members in the community. As the show was not designed to be a 'Homosexuality 101' course to defend 'Gay/Lesbian life styles,' the few negative calls received were quickly and decisively handled.

Radio stations WMIL & WOKY kindly provided a special audio tape of recent sound bites from news conferences with background music that was used midway through the program during the videotape change. After post-production editing, the 90 minute Special Edition program will be replayed several times in August and September on M.A.T.A. Channel 14 on Warner Cable: Sundays, August 18 & 25 and September 1, from 5 - 6:30pm, and Thursdays, September 5 & 12, from 6:30 - 8pm.

The next regular edition of the 30

minute New Tri-Cable will feature psychologist Gary Hollander and Reverend Margarita Suarez of the New Hope U.C.C. who will talk about coping with the ramifications of the tragedy.

The regular editions of the New Tri-Cable, a Gay/Lesbian issues-oriented program, usually feature a panel of sometimes opposing viewpoints, led by a knowledgeable moderator. Watch for the unique and innovative fifth episode of the fabulous Gay comedy **Yellow On Thursday [YOT]** late in September! Both programs are productions of the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network of the Cream City Foundation. All regular programs are scheduled at 10:30pm on Thursday and Sunday evenings on City of Milwaukee cable MATA Channel 14. Suburban viewers must request the program for their own cable system in order for the program to be recablecast there.

Community helps fund MAP programs

Milwaukee — Since the beginning of 1991, more than \$32,000 has been raised through special fundraising events held by bars, private individuals, and community organizations to be used for client services at the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

The following organizations held special events in May, June and July of 1991, raising \$23,000: HIT Against AIDS (May); Challenging Party III (May); "Clash of

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

Rod's [Madison]: Allen, George & Ray Jacobson host a benefit pig roast for MASN.

Club 3054 [Madison]: Mr., Ms. Madison Leather Contest, 10pm, featuring, Ms. Intl. Leather '91 Kay Hallenger, Mr. Chicago Leather '91, Chuck Windemuth & other special guests. Over \$500 in prizes & other leather contest sponsorships.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Station 2: Golf outing to Brookfield Hills.

Fannie's: Fannie Fest '91, food, entertainment, basketball, dunk tank, putting green, other games, DJ, over \$500 in prizes & raffles, outside of Fannies from 2-10pm.

M&M Club: M&M's 15th Anniversary celebration.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

Club 219 Plus: BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing from 9pm-midnight.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

Nothing To Hide [Madison]: Cable channel 4, 9pm, BWMT's national conference '90, featuring co-author of "Lesbian Woman."

Club 219 Plus: 'Continental on Parade.' Featuring six former Miss Gay Continental title holders plus the current reigning Miss Gay Continental Chanel Dupree. Showtime 10:30pm. Tickets \$7 at the door; or \$35 for a table of 4 (includes bottle of champagne).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

Miller Maritime Festival: McKinley Marina, Milwaukee's Lakefront, through Sept. 2nd.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

Club 219 Plus: Extended happy hour, \$1 rail & 75 cent tap beer 4pm-midnight.

Wreck Room: 20th Anniversary Weekend starts today!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

Wreck Room: 20th Anniversary Weekend, monthly party night, great prizes.

Northern Womyn Inc. (Green Bay): Family picnic 11am- 6pm, Colburn Park. See article in Group Notes for details.

Rod's [Madison]: Labor Day Weekend full of T-dances, beer bashes & BBQ's through Sept. 2.

contd. on page 70

the Titans'' at The Triangle (continuing); JoDee's International (July); Piggy Party (July); Entertainers Against AIDS at Fannie's (July).

The Milwaukee AIDS Project sincerely thanks everyone who planned, organized and attended each of these events. Their support of the work done at the Milwaukee AIDS Project is truly heartwarming.

There is much work to be done. If you are interested in planning a special event for the Milwaukee AIDS Project, or its affiliate Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project in Kenosha, call the Milwaukee AIDS Project for more information, (414) 273-1991.

Alternative HIV Clinic opens Aug. 23

Milwaukee — The AIDS Care Enhancement Health Institute (ACE- HI) will open in Milwaukee August 23 — staffed by volunteer practitioners from the community — offering alternative complimentary therapies to those battling HIV/ AIDS. Milwaukee will join several other cities with similar alternative clinics including Chicago, San Francisco and New York.

The co- founder, and clinic Director of Therapies is Arthur Shatluch, a board certified and licensed acupuncturist from Chicago who recently founded that city's Northside HIV Treatment Center. Over the past five years, Shatluch has treated hundreds of people in the Windy City with HIV both in his clinical and private practice.

Co- founder and clinic administrator will be Milwaukeean Bill Sparks, a veteran HIV warrior since 1985. He has served as a buddy for the Milwaukee AIDS Project since 1987, and as a Brady East STD Clinic HIV counselor.

The new clinic is located at 1240 A East Brady Street, on the second floor above the BEST CLinic (use gate entrance). Initial clinic hours will be Fridays from 9am to 5pm and will expand according to client needs and clinic resources. For more information or to make an appointment, call (414) 449-4939.

The Newly Crowned MISS GAY WISCONSIN-USA



MARY RICHARDS

wishes to thank her sponsors:

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Thanks to Tia,
B.J. Daniels,
Dominique Mahon and
all the contestants for
their help, friendship &
well wishes.

And a very special
"Thank You" to
Christopher Ellex, whose
talent and friendship is
truly appreciated.

I LOVE YOU!
Stretch!

BESTD Clinic needs help

The BESTD Clinic has openings for volunteers to participate in providing direct client services. The positions include several for health-care professionals (Physicians, Nurses, Nursing Assistants); several for persons with counseling skills and several which require no specific professional skills.

The Brady East STD Clinic, Inc., is a not-for-profit health care facility managed and operated by volunteers at 1240 East Brady Street at the corner of Arlington Place. The clinic provides HIV counseling and testing at the Brady site and in numerous locations throughout the community. In client use, it is one of the largest such HIV testing sites in the state of Wisconsin. BESTD also provides general STD diagnosis, counseling and treatment; Hepatitis screening; and alternative women's clinic and a 12-step program. The clinic provides all services without charge, although donations are always welcome since they provide the funding for the site and medical equipment and supplies.

Erv Uecker, treasurer of the clinic, stated that there has been a significant increase in the demand for BESTD's services in recent months and thus the need for additional volunteers. In addition, the board of directors would like to initiate a third HIV on-site testing clinic with additional hours, also requiring more volunteer help. All volunteers will be trained and placed in positions which best utilize their skills. Working with the various clinic managers, all volunteer staff can schedule their hours in segments and intervals as their schedule permits.

The Brady East Clinic provides services to all segments of the population, although its roots and sensitivities are especially focused to the Gay and Lesbian communities. The clinic has a firm policy of non-discrimination both for staff and clients and clinic services are provided to everyone requesting them regardless of means. The clinic has served the greater Milwaukee area for over 17 years.

Those interested in discussing volunteer opportunities may contact clinic

Vice President Ross Walker at 353-4798. If you want to help BESTD Clinic help others, please call today!

"Some I Love Has AIDS" fundraiser

Boston, Massachusetts — The "Living With..." Group, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to broadening public understanding of the scope of the AIDS epidemic, has unveiled its awareness campaign, "Someone I Love Has AIDS." The campaign centers on a provocative graphic image created by Marc Sawyer, president of the Boston-based design firm, Geneva Design.



"People don't need to be infected to be affected. Each new AIDS diagnosis creates a ripple effect of concern that touches a whole group of people. There is a wide range of understanding developing in the general population," says Mr. Sawyer. "It is the people who thought that they were insulated — that they could never be affected by AIDS and suddenly are because they know someone who's become sick — that this campaign ultimately tries to reach. There are a lot of frightened friends and families and a lot of sad parents of people with AIDS. These people need to know that they are not alone and that their emotions are also valid."

Calendar

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

Pivot Club [Appleton]: Performances by Goldie Adams, Echo Chambers & Jim.

Nothing To Hide [Madison]: Cable channel 4, 9pm, Real Eyes Realize Real Lies with Jay Hatheway.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

LAMM Meeting: "Getting To Know Us Part 2" Potluck at 6, activities at 7, Milw. Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th. For more info call 264-2600.

Clarenbach Fundraiser: A fundraiser for Rep. David Clarenbach in Milwaukee. All invited, campaign contributions accepted. Beer, hors d'oeuvres. 1843 N. Palmer, 5-7pm in backyard. Make checks payable to 'The Clarenbach Committee.'

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

Beer Town Badgers: Club Night at Boot Camp Saloon. Drawings for prizes & drink tickets, 10pm until 1:30am.

Club 219 Plus: Extended happy hour, \$1 rail & 75 cent tap beer 4pm- midnight.

Irish Fest [Milwaukee]: Maier Festival Park, Lakefront, through the 18th.

Wreck Room: BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing from 4- 8pm.

Visions: Rescheduled grand opening - Clip coupon from centerspread ad this issue for free 1st drink.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

Rod's [Madison]: Orgasm contest.

Triangle: Trojans & Bad Boys Softball teams auction, 7pm. Money raised will help send both teams to Gay World Series in Boston Aug. 19-26. Free buffet. All donated items welcomed!

Ballgame: Sheepshead Tournament, 4pm.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

SEWAP Lake Geneva Cruise: Fundraising paddle wheel steamer 3 hour cruise, boarding time 9:30am. Call SEWAP at (414) 657-6644 (Kenosha), or 1-800- 924-6601 to reserve \$30 tickets. Includes brunch & entertainment.

Bette Davis Bowling League [Madison]: Organization meeting, team captains, members & those interested in bowling should attend, 2pm, or call Joe at (608) 273-3825 for info.

People of Color & Friends Picnic: BWMT, Club Muse & Lesbians of Color co-sponsor a community picnic from 1-6pm at Dineen Park pavilion (66th & Vienna, 2 blocks South of Capitol Drive). The picnic is free & open to all Gays & Lesbians in Milw. area. Food, beverages, games provided.

Lavender Hill '91: With the theme of 'Lavender Mardi Gras' this is its 8th year. \$30, at Renaissance Place, 1451 N. Prospect, 6:30-11:30. See article in Group Notes for details.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

Nothing To Hide [Madison]: Cable Channel 4, 9pm, Conversations with Sam Day & friends.

Club 219 Plus: Benefit to send Wisconsin's Dominique Mahon to the Miss Gay Continental pageant over Labor Day weekend. Features Ginger Spice & The 219 Girls, Mimi Marcs, & special guest. \$3 cover.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

Men Aloud: Safer Sex Workshop for Gay & Bi-sexual men. Presented by MAP's Gay community educator. Games, hot videos & condom tips. 7-10pm, MAP office, 315 W. Court St. Call Mike Lisowski at MAP, 273-1991 to make a reservation.

M&M Club: BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing from 8- 12.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Club 219 Plus: Extended happy hour, \$1 rail & 75 cent tap beer 4pm- midnight.

Partners: Curt's Birthday Party - free food & more.

Mexican Fiesta: Maier Festival Park, Milwaukee's Lakefront through August 26.

Club 3054 [Madison]: International Male Dancers, showtime 11pm, \$3 cover.

The OFFICE 815/965-0344

Rockford's Hot Party Place

1-90 to Bus. 20
Clacktower Exit

513 E. State Street
Rockford, IL

contd. from page 54

next year! Even with the weather, it raised over \$2,500 for MAP [Sharon added in over 30% of the till ring out to reach that impressive figure.]

Hunter and the Headliners, one of Gay Milwaukee's favorite male dance troupes was back in town July 31 for a date at Club 219. After the recent arrests in town for 'in-appropriate attire' the group decided to wear bikini swimsuits instead of g-strings to be sure they were in compliance with local codes. I think they would look sexy even if they were wearing complete body stockings!

King Productions, in preparation for their Miss Gay Wisconsin -USA contest that weekend, put on a 'USA on tour' show that traveled to dates at The Pivot Club, The New Bar, and Za's. The tour featured the current and two past Miss Gay USA titleholders and some WI-USA titleholders, and was extremely entertaining. The tour was to build up interest in the pageant held August 3 & 4 in Milwaukee.

All 22 Wisconsin preliminary winners and several first runners up participated in the Preliminary Night competition held at Club 219 Plus on Saturday, August 3. They competed in Evening Gown, Talent, and Interview that night before a good size crowd. [Competition began at 5:30pm and was over shortly before 11pm - pretty good considering there were 22 contestants!]

Sunday evening was the actual pageant, held at the Marc Plaza Crystal Ballroom. Approximately 200 people looked on as the 22 were weaned out and the top 10 named for that evening's final competition. The assortment of 10 finalists gave even geographic representation to 'girls' from the entire state, keeping Fox Valley and Madison audience members hopeful until the very end of the pageant.

The main faults of the evening were the rubber chicken served for dinner and the over-abundance of entertainment interludes. Half as many performances would have been plenty considering the number of contestants. Jimmy King has already realized this and I'm assured he'll make changes in the future.

And now the winners - second runner-up Dominique Mahon (Miss Gay Appleton), first runner-up Cassie Malone (Miss Gay Capitol City), and Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA '91-92 is Mary Richards. Mary had won the Miss Southeastern Gay Wisconsin preliminary title.

That same evening, Rod's held their annual Mr. Rod's show and contest - always a highlight of Madison's summer scene. Five hunky contestants vied for the title and the studded leather vest that goes with it. Winner was David Scheele, with Greg Lewis and Robert Pavolt coming in 1st and 2nd respectively.

Travlur Lounge in Rockford - just across the state line - held their 2nd anniversary day-long picnic. The picnic included lots of food and drink and plenty of games with a color television as a grand prize. Congrats to the staff on two fun years.

Don't forget to stop in at Za's on Sunday evenings between 7 and 9 to listen to the sounds of Jeff Jennings singing live and accompanying himself on piano.

Also don't forget to stop in La Cage and check out their new slate of nightly specials. Surely you'll find something to quench your thirst...

I'd like to introduce you to an all new cartoonist we've added to the pages of In Step. We proudly feature original cartoonists Tom Rezza (The Gay Side) and Bob Arnold (Life's A Drag) - they appear exclusively in In Step. We've also been bringing you the syndicated 'educational' cartoons of L.S. Welch (Out of the Darkness) for about six months. Now we proudly present the work of Jennifer Camper and her 'Camper' full page multi-panel cartoon. Camper's work had been appearing bi-weekly in New York's now demised Outweek. She's also had cartoons published in Gay Comix, Wimmin's Comix, Strip AIDS, Choices, Young Lust and other comic books. She has also been published in the Women's Glib and Silverleaf anthologies, The Village Voice and many of the nation's Gay/Lesbian newspapers. We'd like to now welcome her to the pages of In Step.

Part of the initial phase of the campaign is a 2' square button featuring the three-color copyrighted image. "Living With..." is making the button available to AIDS service and educational organizations on an 'at-cost' basis to assist them in their fundraising and promotional efforts. Concurrently, "Living With..." is actively seeking people nation-wide who have positions of visibility to wear the "Someone I Love Has AIDS" button and thereby increase the effectiveness of the campaign.

Inquiries should be directed to: Tom Halley, The "Living With..." Group, 304 Newbury St., Suite #251, Boston, MA, 02115-2832; ph. (617) 353-0560.

Chicago AIDS Walk

Internationally known jazz composer and musician has confirmed that he will join the Honorary Committee of AIDS Walk Chicago and serve as a celebrity emcee on the day of the Walk, Sunday, September 22, 1991.

"The participation of Mr. Lewis is an

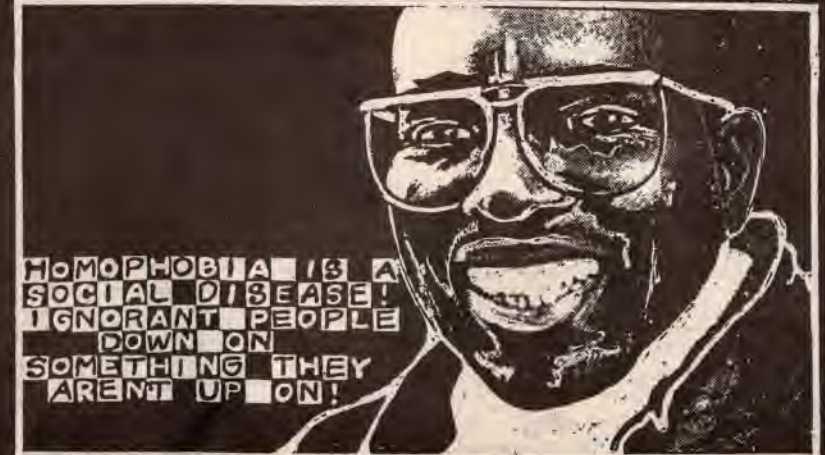
honor for the Walk and Chicago. His presence shows that we all need to be in the fight against AIDS," notes Executive Director Stephan Donovan.

Mr. Lewis adds that "It is only with the involvement of our entire community - locally, nationally and worldwide that we will ever find a cure for this devastating disease. The least I can do is offer my wholehearted support."

This year's AIDS Walk Chicago will be held on Sunday, September 22, in Grant Park east of Lake Shore Drive. There will be free, live entertainment from 1pm to 2:30pm.

For more information about walking or volunteering for this event, call (312) 334-0448, or write AIDS Walk Chicago, 4753 N. Broadway, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60640.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS © 1991 L.S. WELCH



Letters

What's up with police?

The recent tragedy in Milwaukee has fueled the flames of scrutiny, which seem to be burning at the door of every police department in the country these days. What's happening? Surely the police departments have policies in place concerning professionalism, and protecting citizens from differential treatment by it's officers. I guess when you add the 'Human Factor' to the equation, the policies are only as effective as those men and women expected to abide by them. Are standards set high enough for those entering the career of law enforcement? And are recruits screened thoroughly, and monitored sufficiently once on the job? As indicated by many highlighted incidences across the country, the answers to both of these questions are at least up for grabs.

We have a right to expect, and the responsibility to demand that those individuals given the authority to police our population, do so with integrity, and in a spirit which reflects the constitution of the United States for which they work. As one becomes a member of the law enforcement community, he or she assumes the responsibility of exemplifying respect for the rights he protects. We cannot tolerate behavior in an Officer of the Law, which is comparable to the behavior of an offender.

Ironically, the very nature of the profession can attract power-hungry egotists who can tend to be more concerned about theatrically displaying their authority, than they are about assessing a situation reasonably and fairly. This is the element of the Police Department which can cost the many fine, dedicated Officers the respect they deserve. This is the weed in the lawn. As evidenced by the media's revealing of discriminatory use of slang terms, apathetic and judgmental treatment of minorities, and audio and video tapings displaying gross unprofessionalism and unethical behavior, the problem is not new and not isolated.

The 'club-loyalty' which exists in the law enforcement community, as well as other professional communities, succeeds in smokescreening a large portion of the

iceberg. Ideally, loyalty should be about an allegiance to the organization and profession as a whole. Members should be self-policing to keep ethics, standards, and respect for their profession high. Unfortunately, the 'closed mouth-overlook the situation-keep it under the rug' attitudes which co-workers grant each other, and incorrectly describe as loyalty, actually disintegrate the integrity of the whole. By condoning a wrong, you share the irresponsibility for the perpetrator's action. You also miss a golden opportunity to solidify the integrity of those involved, not only by rectifying the situation at hand, but by setting an example that others will follow.

When the investigations into misconduct are complete, we will be awaiting the next step of the process: What policy changes will be made within the law enforcement profession to assure that our tax dollars are paying salaries to qualified personnel who fully understand the scope of their responsibilities as authorities.

—Sincerely,
Paul [Cricket] Jacob

Thank you

Congratulations Community, and Thank You. Your out pouring of love and deep concern for Milwaukee is appreciated, and I was pleased to see so many of you turn out for the Candlelight Vigil held Monday, August 5 for the victims of Jeffrey Dahmer.

The police department estimated that 900 caring citizens turned out to march down Kilbourn Avenue to MacArthur Square. More joined us there. I recognized many faces — and made some new friends. A busload of people came up from Chicago and marched with us side-by-side.

I want to take this opportunity to thank some of you who dedicated themselves to making the Vigil work: Sara and Kris who came to the meeting as 'concerned' and left the meeting 'organizers'; Brady East STD Clinic and Erv Uecker, who was there with a 'yes' every time I called; Joe and his staff from Meda-Care Ambulance — care givers in the true sense of the word;

55

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Don't Forget to join us this
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 7pm
for our **SOFTBALL AUCTION.**
Free Buffet - Everyone is Welcome.



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Steppin' Out

by Ron Geiman

A few comments on the Dahmer case...

It's very gratifying to finally see the Black and Gay communities find 'common ground' — problems we both share — and can work together to change. However, it's too bad the common ground has to be so bloody.

If you have complaints about the way Mark Belling, WISN AM radio talk show host has been slamming the Gay community in relation to the Dahmer case — call the WISN Listener Comment Line at 342-2620. The recording will ask for your first name, where you live and your comments.

I'm very proud of the way the Gay and Lesbian community responded to the case. Under the guiding of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, community members met for an emergency meeting on July 25, two days after the story broke, to formalize plans of action. Out of that meeting came the July 30 press conference at City Hall, and the August 5 Community Unification Vigil. The group also highlighted future plans of action and outlined demands.

A special note to the person who called the In Step office and complained about "the poor taste" of having Club 219's rear cover advertisement featuring the male dance troupe 'Victims of Desire' on the rear of the last issue of In Step, and a cover featuring the logo from the Candlelight Vigil to Remember the Victims of Dahmer — you didn't give me a chance to explain before you rudely hung up. Sometimes, that's the way things go when the advertising and editorial arms of the magazine [actually both arms belong to me] keep things separate. In the best of media worlds, the two departments don't talk to one another, at all. Secondly, Club 219 had booked the dancers in late June, for the August 8th appearance — long before the Dahmer case broke. Thirdly, Victims of Desire is the dance troupes' trade name. They've been booked in town before and people know their name, and what to expect from them.

I wish the anonymous caller had given me a chance to explain this to him on the phone, because I imagine he has spread his thoughts around town since that call. At least I have this opportunity to explain it to all who may have had similar reactions.

The **Triangle** hosted "Butts and Guts" work-out video host Allen Naparella on July 27 for a session of video and poster signings. Naparella, a very personable [and cute] Chicagoan [and native of Wisconsin], has promised to donate a percentage of Milwaukee area sales of his video to the Milwaukee AIDS Project, and a percentage of Madison sales to the Madison AIDS Support Network.

You could almost break out in a stutter with all the BBBBBoys whose names started with a BBBBB at **3B's Bar** 'B' party July 27, what with the half-priced drinks and all.

The **Ballgame** held their 18th annual Christmas in July affair that evening, complete with sing-a-longs to music by Dave at the piano, lots of food and door prizes. Santa did not make an appearance in his summer uniform — red felt bikini briefs trimmed in white fur.

I got pie-eyed, and so did many other 'celebrities' at the **H.I.T./ Cream City Chorus** pie toss benefit held on **Partner's** patio. The fun filled event raised much needed funds for both groups, with a number of bids going over \$100 for the honor to pie your pick of victims. At least the cream-filled pies were tasty.

Fannie's annual MAP fundraiser, **Entertainers Against AIDS '91** was once again on the wrong side of mother nature. For the third year in a row, rain fell periodically throughout the day, Sunday, July 28. It seems no matter when Sharon, her crew and the volunteer entertainers schedule the event — spring, summer or fall, it always rains! Sharon has assured me that she has a circus tent lined up for

contd. on page 56

Queen Hyler from STOP the Violence and Jeanetta Robinson from CYD, Inc. for their inspiring and stirring speeches; Mayor Norquist, Paul Henningsen and the Common Council; the family members of the victims, who displayed courage and compassion in the face of adversity; Burnell (who I'm very proud of); George Prentice from LaCage and Ron Geiman from In Step who helped us out with finances, Select Sound, Tim Grair, Chris Lubus and Stan from Queer Nation-Milwaukee — I'd do this again anytime with you guys; Stephanie Hume, Kitty Barber for taking firm, yet flexible control of stage managing; Cheryl Franklin, for being perfectly agreeable about being volunteered to speak; and all the speakers who bared their souls to a huge crowd of strangers.

To you, the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Community, I'm proud to be of service to you, and am honored that you have given me your trust and respect. You truly know the spirit of Milwaukee.

— Sincerely,
Annabelle Havlicek

Strong arm tactics?

As a business man in the Gay community I am outraged and offended at the attitude of the Wisconsin Light in their August 1st special "Extra" edition — and their editorial demand made upon myself and my business — regarding my participation in the Candlelight Vigil for the victims of the Jeffrey Dahmer tragedy. Those demands were as follows, and I quote:

• "The taverns and nightclubs serving the Gay community, some of which were used as stalking grounds by Dahmer, have a responsibility and moral obligation to provide support for this candlelight remembrance."

• "While we march and remember the victims of Dahmer, no one in this community should be sitting upon a bar stool... At 7pm they should close their doors. No one in this community should be sitting in a bar between 7 and 9pm on Monday, August 5th. To remain open during this period, for 'Business-as-usual' would be a callous disregard to the memories of the many victims, and a sad commentary on social and moral responsibility."

• "Anything less is unacceptable."

I have worked successfully with Gay/Lesbian groups and organizations in the past. However, I find the attitude and demands of this editorial to be threatening and dictatorial. I support their original idea, but not their strong arm tactics to enforce it.

In troubled times like these, our community must pull together, not divide. Let no self-proclaimed authority — in the name of good intentions — "turn out the lights" of rational communication in Milwaukee's Gay community.

— Sincerely,
[Name withheld by request]

Sociological insights

During the last week in July, in a neighboring state, we have been shocked and dismayed by news of a crime spree. The rape, mutilation, and murder of at least 17 victims, including a teen, at Jeffrey Dahmer's hands affront the public morality, and do so as almost no other crime could. As an openly Gay man, a sociology and social work graduate student, and a citizen, I join my communities in asking a troubling question: Why?

Answering that question adequately requires an intellectual framework informed by sociological insights. Some criminologists tell us that all crimes are caused by social inequality. Certain social theorists describe inequality, oppression, and corruption as inevitable flaws of ethnocentric, capitalist, heterosexist patriarchies. ("Patriarchy" refers here to the structured, systematic subjugation of all women by nearly all men.) I assert that heterosexism is the fundamental form of inequality. All other forms of inequality are constructed from this elemental form, forming a basis for social order and change as we experience them at this historical time.

Heterosexism may be defined as the exploitative, oppressive, and inherently violent subordination of Lesbians, Gay men, Bi's, and other sexual minorities by the heterosexual elite. Thus, it is a structural phenomenon, which cultural homophobia endorses, legitimates, and supports. One contradiction inherent within heterosexism is that it restricts even the most virulent homophobe, preventing her or him from experiencing the full range of her or his erotic potential

and from enjoying her or his own homoeroticism. For the particular purpose of ensuring their sexual access to womyn, heterosexual men construct and maintain a social world artificially split between a private sphere and a public domain. In the private domain, womyn are forced to perform domestic labor and social reproduction; within the public sphere, men enjoy an unjust advantage in wage work. (Perhaps the European American major corporate shareholders and board members among heterosexual men are especially guilty of maintaining this oppression.) Historically following the artificial construction of this division, capitalism emerged and brought after it peculiar forms of oppression, including the economic exploitation of diverse peoples of color.

The Dahmer case provides a specific instance for considering these phenomena. Perhaps Dahmer is afflicted by false consciousness, unaware of the ways his own expressed homophobia reflects the coercive influence of the historically-specific sociocultural milieu in which he is enmeshed. Nevertheless, taught and forced by structural heterosexism and cultural homophobia to despise his own sexuality and both to fear and to hate other men, Dahmer seems to me a sadly conflicted pawn. Restricting him from enjoying his own sexuality with other men in healthy, life-affirming ways, the heterosexual elite forced him to play it out in twisted, sickening, perverted forms. Thus, detesting those whom he might have loved (and with whom he should have joined erotically, lovingly in a revolutionary collectivity aimed at destroying the patriarchy by upsetting the power relations between not-men and men), he was driven by that conflict to destroy his partners. Perhaps we should keep in mind that abuse, molestation, and non-consensual sexual cruelty are not held under monopoly by sexual minorities (lies and half-truths from Berean League 'Christians' and Citizen Alert notwithstanding). If heterosexuals outnumber Lesbians and Gay men, then so must their sexual crimes and perversions. Heterosexism, homophobia, and their effects are revolting, frightening, and painfully sad.

—Sincerely,
Joseph Eric Peters

Lay off Gays

I have some comments on your story *Outrage* in Milwaukee.

First of all, my heart goes out to all of the Milwaukee Community, especially the victims and all of the relatives left behind.

Second, to all the Lesbians and Gay Community, which is suffering more now than ever, please be strong during this time.

I've been to Milwaukee during Summerfest 1990. Milwaukee is a beautiful, exciting, and a very clean town. The people are fun and even though I'm a out-of-towner, they accepted me just like a friend.

The bars are also wonderful. To walk into a Lesbian Bar and let my hair down and to be with my own kind is wonderful. We don't have a Gay bar in our town (yet).

Now for the Milwaukee Police, I'm completely angered with them, to harass Lesbian & Gay People in their homes or anywhere is downright prejudiced.

From all of the information I've heard, from newspaper and radio and the history on Dahmer, they should have picked him up, long ago and thrown away the key. Since the police usually keep their eyes wide open anyway with repeat law breakers. I guess the police weren't watching him to close, and didn't seem to give a damn.

So to the Milwaukee Police, please get your act together and, lay-off the Lesbian and Gay Community that are loyal and respectable citizens of the Milwaukee area, and keep your eyes on the real criminals.

To the Lesbian & Gay Community, I pray that the people and police of your community, start to have a change of heart and to let you all live 'normal' lives again, because I intend to visit your beautiful town and friendly bars again. Once again, my heart goes out to all of you.

—From a friend in Dubuque, Love
Robin M. Kennicker

Case reflects needs

I am prompted to write about the Dahmer case, even though all of us are tired of hearing about this whole affair.

If he had AIDS and been identified
contd. on page 46

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The Arts

Bay City Chorus concert Aug. 31

Green Bay — The Bay City Chorus concert scheduled for Saturday, August 31 has been changed to a different time and place — 9:30pm at ZA's, 718 Bodart St., Green Bay. This will be a shorter program than originally planned due to the difficulty in getting people together in the summer. Tickets will not be sold but donations will be accepted.

Rehearsals will resume September 15 at 7pm, Sunday nights, and new members are encouraged to join. Fall and Christmas events are being planned. for further information call (414) 337-9160.

The Bay City Chorus would like to thank those who have been supportive, both in the Green Bay/ Fox Valley area and our Milwaukee friends, as we get organized. A special thank you to Christopher Jensen/ Lorinda Kelly, Miss Gay Wisconsin- USA 1990, for inviting the chorus to perform at Club 219 on August 3 — that was a real treat for all of us. The support of ZA's is also greatly appreciated!

“Les Mis” is back!

Les Miserables, the international musical sensation based on Victor Hugo's epic 19th century novel of injustice and revolution in France, returns to the Performing Arts Center Tuesday, August 27 in a special return engagement, for one week only, through Sunday, September 1. **Les Miserables** appeared in Milwaukee for two sold out weeks last August.

Les Miserables opened on Broadway in March, 1987, and won eight Tony Awards, including Best musical. It also received Best Musical honors from the New York Drama Critics Circle, the Outer Critics Circle, and the Drama Desk. In addition, **Les Miserables** received the

1987 and 1991 Grammy Award for Best Cast Recording.

Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, it is an epic saga that sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th century France. The show is also the story of one man, the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous inspector Javert in a lifelong struggle to evade capture.

The \$4.2 million production returning to Milwaukee is the most expensive and elaborate Broadway show ever mounted for touring and replicates the Broadway production in its entirety. This production has set numerous attendance records, selling out in virtually every city it has visited since premiering in Tampa, Florida in November, 1988.

The performance schedule for the August 27 — September 1 return engagement is Tuesday — Saturday, 8pm, Sunday 7:30pm, with 2pm matinees Saturday and Sunday. Prices range from \$42.50 to \$31.00. Tickets are available at the PAC box office, all Ticketmaster locations (select Boston Stores, Mainstream and Radio Doctors), or by phone at (414) 276-4545.

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(LAST DAY APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23)

contd. from page 44

through MAP, it is possible that he may never have killed. Since he does not seem to have had AIDS, he wasn't able to become involved in that service system. He was just one more person with an extreme internal battle over his sexuality. He fell through all the cracks with no system in place to provide help.

I make this startling statement, since with AIDS he would have had the opportunity to have become involved with the social workers at the Milwaukee AIDS Project. There is a possibility that he could have been convinced that intervention was necessary and that he would have accepted.

He rejected several overtures from the 'straight' social service system. From what I read, they did not have the sensitivity to understand what he was going through.

This community after this tragic incident is over, needs to deeply consider that only the Milwaukee AIDS Project has any counseling available for our entire community. No other vehicle exists anywhere outside Madison's United in this state for any Gay or Lesbian to obtain counseling, intervention or any kind of other help when one is struggling as this man was. We have been shown the dire consequences when we do not have such agencies in place.

The straight Social Service system does not meet Gay/ Lesbian social service needs, and as a result in every major city in the country, the Gay/ Lesbian community has set up help programs. As a large city, we are far behind the times. We, however, should now learn a lesson and correct that situation.

Far less serious problems are faced by so many in our community every day — Gay youth, Gay Parents, those who wish to adopt, just day to day living for so many, but there is no way to handle these either. Each can be helped within a sensitized agency setting, but none exists here.

In fact not one organization has any staff, much less trained staff, and this is the largest city in the State.

Milwaukee has always feared that someone might make a living off the Gay community if it ever hired a staff person.

I say that a trained counselor being supported by us to help us is not ripping us off, it's meeting a crying need that is

not now being met. That person or staff must have the proper credentials, and their work must bear review by the community, but to out of hand reject a salaried person in the face of such need, seems to me that we are bent on the self-destruction of our community.

Eighty- eight organizations are active in this state. Only one has a staff member. Our two state foundations, Cream City Foundation and New Harvest have determined over and over that much more money needs to be raised to support such things as good social services, yet neither has even had the money to consider such a move.

It is well known and has been proven over and over again that dramatic growth in funding occurs when a staff person is added. (A- Choice, an alternative fund in which Cream City participates, went from \$12,000 three years ago to over \$160,000 when it added a staff member).

If Cream City had the funds, we could at once set up a social counseling agency, today, to make sure that another tragedy doesn't happen, or a lot of little unpublicized tragedies are met while they can be helped.

The United in Madison has been receiving funds from the United Way and raises funds in addition on its own. Can our United Way see it's way clear to drop its homophobia and fund desperately needed Gay/Lesbian social Services?

Can we have a community meeting to finally come to grips with our being one of the only major cities in the country, without any social services of a professional nature?

Can we all contribute a larger and more considered gift this year to Cream City Foundation to allow them to add a staff person, and get the kinds of money into the Foundation that will allow us to meet other crying social service needs?

Milwaukee, I hope we can see just how desperately we need this kind of agency organized and active at the earliest opportunity. Will the community react? I for one hope so.

—Sincerely,
Bob Melig

that police perceive Gays as effeminate, irresponsible, and weak, they may tend to feel a special distaste — even contempt — for people who they think lack exactly the qualities they value most. In addition whatever their private feelings may be, they have every incentive to try to earn the respect of their peers by speaking contemptuously of Gays to one another as a potent visible indication of their own toughness: it is a way of asserting to fellow officers that one dislikes these people because one values (and presumably embodies) all the opposite qualities. Such behavior is certainly common among the young and in lower economic levels generally.

Yet another part of the problem stems from the fact that the police mostly encounter Gays (at least those whom they know to be Gay) in situations where Gays are breaking some law, behaving unwisely, or violating some social taboo — e.g., doing public sex, cross dressing, cruising (which police sometimes confuse with soliciting for commercial sex), being drunk in public, and so forth. Without significant input to the contrary, such


experiences are likely to create or reinforce negative views of Gays by the police.

But how could such attitudes ever change? People tend to learn to tolerate (or like) Gays as a class when they have known some of us personally. But police in large cities, who develop and "us versus them" attitude toward the rest of society, tend to socialize primarily with one another, so their exposure to us socially is limited to non-existent. While there are certainly some Gay police officers, they are — for obvious reasons — not very likely to come out to their colleagues.

As a result we can — as Gay activists — give talks to cadets at a police training academy for an hour or two, but even if we talked until we were blue in the face, how can we compete with a strongly ingrained prejudice, powerfully supported by the nature of police work and by older policemen who say to the newly graduated cadets, "Okay, kid, forget everything you learned at the academy, we're going to tell you how it really is."



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Publisher's Comment

by Ron Geiman

A call for a 'Lavender Ribbon Panel'

The appointed Blue Ribbon Panel named by Mayor Norquist to study the reactions and level of sensitivity to minorities by the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD), does not — in our opinion — best represent Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian community.

The one Gay member of the panel is not seen as being an active, involved member of our community. Many of us feel left out and worry that our needs and concerns will not be served.

We therefore call for the creation, by concerned members of our community, of a 'LAVENDER RIBBON PANEL' to present a list of our demands, concerns and questions to the so-called 'Blue Ribbon Panel.'

The African American community also feels poorly served by the Mayor's

commission and has called for a 'Black Ribbon Panel.' We share their concerns over un-met needs.

We urge that the 'Lavender Ribbon Panel' be created immediately. THE PANEL WILL BE YOU AND YOUR CONCERNS.

Those of you with suggestions for improving our relationship with the Milwaukee Police Department and other city and county agencies — please contact In Step Magazine, 225 S. 2nd St., Milwaukee, WI 53204 (phone 278-7840, FAX 278-5868), or Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer St., Milwaukee, WI 53212 (372-2773). We will then forward your comments, suggestions and personal experiences to the Mayor's commission.

— Ron Geiman — Terry Boughner
Editor, In Step Editor, Wisconsin Light

Viewpoint

Notes on police homophobia, Part I

By Paul Varnell

Are all policemen bad? No, but some are and that is enough for concern. Certainly some officers are homophobic, but the more general problem is the social and psychological circumstances that lead to more general widespread institutional police homophobia.

Part of the problem stems from the fact that most police are from the lower-middle and lower social strata, strata in which stereotyped and hostile views of Gays are powerful and endemic. For such people, the alternately boring and dangerous police work provides a step up in salary, class, and prestige. Why after all, become a policeman? A passion

for justice? "Well," one officer told me, "I looked at the benefits package and I thought it looked pretty good." Visiting a man I know who has a nice but not elaborate middle class home, one policeman observed, "We don't often get into places like this."

"I suppose you think we're dumb, just because we didn't go to college," another officer said to me, out of the blue. A third, very young officer, looking at the books in my apartment once asked — almost touchingly — "What should I read?"

Another part of the problem stems from the fact that police work is sometimes dangerous and police depend to a high degree on an aura of competence and authority to help them cope with and control a situation. They value size, strength, toughness, and a macho image as contributing to that effort. To the extent

Letter to the Chief

(A copy of the following letter was sent to In Step for publication. It was dated August 2nd.)

Milwaukee Police Chief Philip Arreola:

We are outraged by the behavior of the police officers who responded to the emergency call placed by Nicole Childress on May 27, 1991, after she saw Jeffrey Dahmer chasing Konerak Sinthasomphone. Any of the facts that the officers claim mistaking Mr. Sinthasomphone, a boy of 14, for a 19-year-old adult, that the stench Dahmer's neighbors had complained of for months didn't raise their suspicion, that they thought of nothing returning a bleeding boy who didn't seem to react to his environment to the custody of a stranger based on his word, is enough to raise serious questions about the competency of the Milwaukee police force. Your own words in the Chicago Tribune, August 1, 1991 edition state that the officers "failed to conduct a basic, proper police investigation into the matter."

The death of five people could have been avoided, if the officers would not have reacted out of their racism and homophobia. The Milwaukee police force has a history of harassment of members of the Gay community. It is sad that the officers seem to be more interested in enforcing the regulations concerning the size of G-strings performers wear than preventing acts of violence, as evidenced by the arrests made in the recent ACT UP benefit.

The Milwaukee police has to earn the trust of the city's minority communities. It is no easy task, but that is the only way of solving some of the problems which plague the city. The first step must be dealing with the insensitivity within the police force, and increasing interaction between the police force and community. We urge you to work with the Milwaukee Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual organizations, set-up sensitivity training programs on minority issues which include sexual minorities, and actively recruit officers from the minority communities. We also demand you to send a clear message to the officers that homophobia and racism will not be tolerated.

— Yours Truly,
Jari Junikka and 22 other co-signers,
Queer Liberation Front, Madison

'Speak Out' says thanks

During the recent Pride celebrations, more than 45,000 people in 42 states signed up for Speak Out, HRCF's constituent mail program. By doing so, they'll help produce literally hundreds of thousands of pieces of mail to their legislators and demonstrate public support for fairness and a better government response to our health concerns.

Already, their constituent mail is being used on issues such as AIDS appropriations, combating the Helms amendment on HIV and healthcare workers, advancing the National Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights bill to end job and housing discrimination and on the issue of HIV and immigration.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank two groups of people. First, the Gay/Lesbian Pride Committees across the country. For, without the well-coordinated, smoothly-run Pride events that result from unbelievably hard work from too-often-un-thanked Pride Committees, we recognize that we would not have been able to help produce this grassroots mail to Capitol Hill for the Lesbian and Gay community. A simple 'thank you' seems too little for all they have done.

Moreover, we would like to thank those that attended the more than 90 Pride events where our Speak Out volunteers enrolled people. Despite many competing demands for attention, that our volunteers were outgoing and people were sometimes asked to sign up by more than one Speak Out volunteer and the fact that our constituent mail program has a modest cost associated with it — people were extremely kind and friendly. And, as we said, literally tens of thousands of people happily signed up to make a difference on our community's concerns on Capitol Hill.

Our work is not yet done. There are countless other events and, of course, a range of community gathering places where we hope to secure more grassroots mail.

—Sincerely,
Cathy Nelson, Tom Swift, Rene Narvaez
Canvass Unit,
Human Rights Campaign Fund



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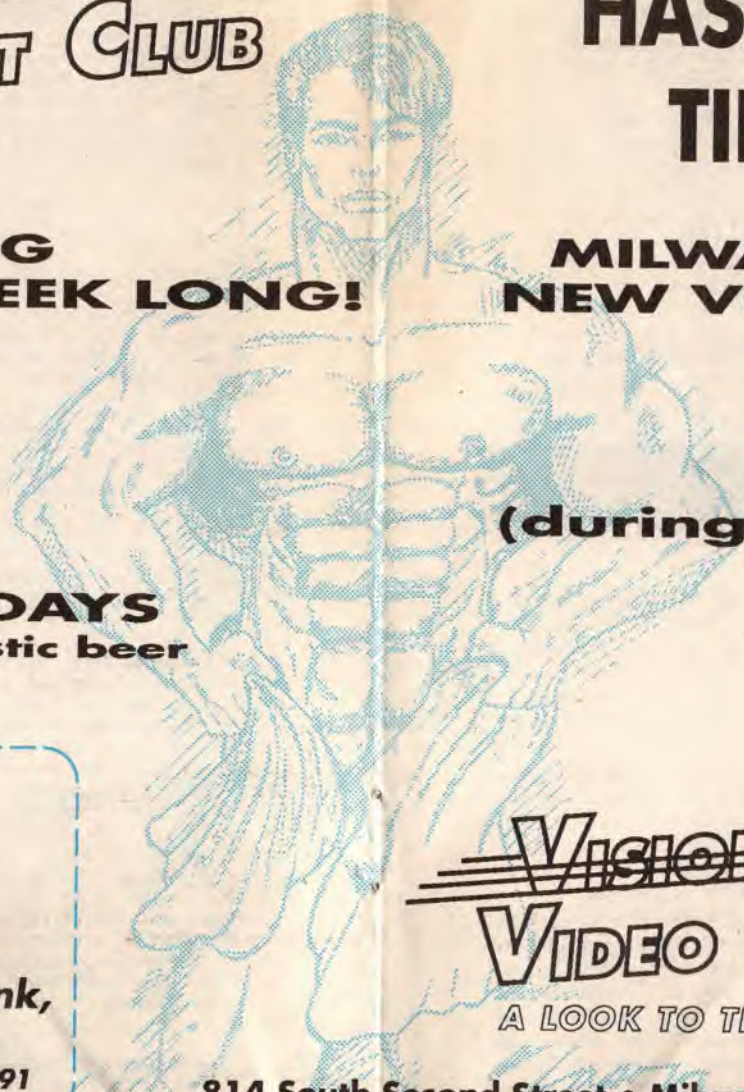
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