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Wisconsin's LesBiGay Magazine



Greg Louganis

Talks to In Step

Plus

Hotel Washington Fire

The Wacky "Birdcage"



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COVER STORY: *Olympic champ Greg Louganis will visit Afterwords Bookstore in Milwaukee March 25 to sign copies of the paperwork edition of his autobiography Breaking the Surface. He talked to In Step in advance of his visit. See Feature, p. . Photo credit: Clint Seib/Washington Blade*

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NEWS

Eight Days in February: Madison and Wisconsin Ride an Emotional Roller Coaster with Hotel Washington Fire and Anti-Gay Marriage Bill

By John Quinlan



The Hotel Washington ablaze at about 6:30-7am Sunday morning February 18th.
Photo: Hotel Washington staff.

Madison — They were eight days in February that no one in Madison will ever forget.

On Monday, February 19th, hundreds of candles pierced the darkness, and the overwhelming warmth of a shared sense of community overcame the chill of a cold winter's night at a rally in the shadow of the State Capitol. Madison's LesBiGay community and its supporters had come together to mourn the loss of the Hotel Washington which had burned to the ground early on the morning before.

The historic hotel, which was celebrating its ninetieth anniversary, was now rubble. Early on Monday, the spindly brick facade was pushed down into the pile of debris which was all that remained of the hotel that had been home to the New Bar, Rod's, the Cafe Palms, the Club de Wash, the Barber's Closet, and numerous other establishments over the years.

While, miraculously, no one was hurt or injured in the fire, 12 people found themselves homeless, and 110 people were out of work. Losses were estimated to be in excess of \$2 million, most of

which would be covered by insurance, according to co-owner Greg Scheel.

Although arson was originally suspected by many in the community, fire officials had found no evidence to support that possibility as of press time. Hotel Washington staff say the fire was most likely accidental and seems to have originated in an area behind the Cafe Palms.

Despite the catastrophe, the overwhelming feeling of all who gathered that Monday night at the Capitol was one of hope, of solidarity, and of newfound resolve to face the challenges that lie ahead.

For more than two hours, almost a hundred people took their turn at a microphone at the top of the steps near the State Street entrance to the Capitol. Each took a few minutes to reflect upon the week's events, to read poetry, to sing songs, and to pray.

They told stories filled with fond remembrances of experiences shared at the building which now lay in smoldering ruins. It was a place where many had first "come out," where others had met their life partners, and for virtually all, a place where friends and acquaintances had become family.

A VOW TO REBUILD

As hard as the previous day and a half had been for them, co-owners Greg Scheel and Sherry Nelson greeted the cheering crowd with arms spread wide and faces filled with optimism and gratitude. They spoke about the re-building they believed would inevitably come.

On Sunday and Monday, amidst the devastation, there had been small,



The remains of the Hotel Washington later that Sunday. Photo: Hotel Washington staff

but significant symbols of hope. A Rainbow flag flew proudly from one of the few pieces of the structure that still stood. Among the few items that were recoverable was the week's payroll. Most significantly, boxes of photos and videotapes that recounted the history of the historic hotel had survived.

Scheel vowed that these pictures would one day hang on the walls of a new Hotel Washington, built on that same site. Discussions have already begun with an architect, and plans call for a four-story structure modeled closely after the floorplan of the late, beloved complex. To help in the effort, make checks payable to The Hotel Washington Rebuilding Fund, in care of the Associated Bank, 222 W. Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53703.

The evening rally at the Capitol began with the tragedy at the hotel as its focus, but, as the night proceeded, speaker after speaker echoed a common theme. A house had been lost, but the

sense of home that so many have found in Madison's LesBiGay community was stronger than ever.

It had been quite a week. Just one week before, Wisconsin's LesBiGay community came face-to-face with a threat that many could not believe would ever appear in Wisconsin — a piece of anti-Gay legislation. Many have felt cushioned against the kind of anti-Gay attacks prevalent in other states because, after all, Wisconsin is a state with a strong progressive tradition that passed the nation's first Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill in 1982, seven years before any other state followed suit.

ANOTHER THREAT

But on the morning of Monday, February 12th, a sense of gloom descended over openly Lesbian state legislator Tammy Baldwin as she read a press release from the office of State Rep. Dean Kaufert (R-Neenah). It announced his intention to introduce a

proposal to ban same-gender marriage in the state of Wisconsin.

In a year that will see an increasing tangle of legal maneuvers in response to the anticipated decision by the Hawaiian Supreme Court affirming the constitutionality of same-gender marriages there, it was not just the prospect of the bill itself that had Baldwin concerned.

What she and other community leaders dreaded most was the bruising and divisive debate that could ensue should the bill reach the floor of the legislature. It was the kind of scene that was repeating itself in state capitals all across the country. And this was not just coincidence. In the previous two weeks, nine states had had similar bills introduced, bringing the total of states where bills had been or were about to be introduced to 19.

At an early February weekend rally that preceded the Iowa caucuses broadcast nationwide on C-SPAN,

(Madison News, Continued on Page 6)

Join the Efforts to Help Hotel Washington's Tenants and Staff!

Madison — In the wake of the disaster at the Hotel Washington Complex, several efforts are underway to assist the tenants who have lost their homes and the many workers who have lost their jobs.

The Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center's Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Business Alliance, in association with the Wisconsin Community Fund, has created a special relief fund to support the former tenants of the hotel. Funds collected will help support these individuals with transitional housing, food, clothing and other critical needs.

"Our goal is to bring together a substantial amount of funds to help persons displaced by the fire get back on their feet," said Tom Neal, a LGB Business Alliance member.

"Your support is needed now, so we can help people just as soon as we can," said Steve Starkey of the Wisconsin Community Fund, a foundation which funds progressive organizations and social change.

Donations can be made to the fund by sending a check or money order to

the Wisconsin Community Fund, 122 State Street, Suite 508, Madison, WI 53703. Indicate the donation is for "Hotel Washington Tenant's Relief Fund."



A huge rainbow flag was draped over the Hotel's only standing wall, and people left memorabilia and messages on the fence surrounding the site.

Photo: Janie

In addition, the LGB Business Alliance is putting together a list of LesBiGay and LesBiGay-friendly businesses which currently have openings for part- or full-time employees. The purpose is to find work for all the employees displaced by the Hotel Washington fire.

Several members of the LGB Business Alliance will offer their services — such as resume production and printing — for free or for significantly reduced costs.

Displaced Hotel Wash employees should contact Greg Scheel for a list of job opportunities or discounted job-related services.

LGB businesses that have part- or full-time openings, or that wish to donate services to displaced Hotel Wash workers should contact Tom Neal at (608) 256-2667.

Finally, a Hotel Washington Rebuilding Fund has been established. Send checks to the Fund in care of the Associated Bank, 222 W. Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53703.



(Madison News, Continued on Page 5)

Christian Coalition leader Ralph Reed bragged that such efforts were underway by his organization in all 50 states.

While some details remained murky at press time, it soon became clear that Rep. Kaufert had been chosen by Radical Right forces to introduce the bill because of his reputation as a moderate. Kaufert himself remarked that had a far right wing colleague introduced the bill, it would have stood little possibility of passage.

In a conversation with Rep. Baldwin early in the week, Kaufert assured his openly Lesbian colleague that his sponsorship of the bill was nothing personal.

As the week proceeded, however, Kaufert was to learn just how very personal it was indeed. Dozens of people, most of them constituents from the Fox River Valley cities of Neenah and Menasha, told their stories to Kaufert and his staff. At times, the phone lines were so jammed up that not even Rep. Baldwin, nearby in the Capitol, could get through.

PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN

Countless Gay and Lesbian constituents bravely "came out" to Kaufert — and no longer could he pretend that Gays and Lesbians lived only in someone else's district. Members of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) told him of their fears for their loved ones, and religious leaders spoke of the need to withdraw the bill until an atmosphere of under-



*This was the eerie scene at the gas station adjacent to the Hotel Wash the night of the blaze.
Photo: Jamie*

standing and conciliation could be created around the debate.

Kaufert listened — and learned. Apparently, he also heard from proponents of his bill who were equally influential in changing his mind. He received scores of calls from fanatical Right Wingers who welcomed Kaufert

as one their own with rhetoric filled with hatred and vitriol. Kaufert, who prides himself on his even-handedness and reasonableness, was reportedly sickened by their embrace of him.

On Thursday, February 15th, Log Cabin legislative director Scott Evertz had an extremely productive meeting with Kaufert. By late in the day, word reached Baldwin's office that Kaufert was having second thoughts. And on the morning of Saturday, February 17th, Baldwin announced to an alternately tearful and cheerful crowd of 300 at Madison's First Unitarian Society Church that the anti-Gay initiative had been turned back.

For a single day, LesBiGay community members from across the state basked in the glow of shared accomplishment.

Knowing full well that another legislator might introduce a similar bill at any moment, however, community leaders proceeded with plans for a Sunday night organizing meeting. Despite their success, movement leaders realized that much more work remained for the statewide political group Action Wisconsin and other groups throughout the state.

MORE ON HOTEL WASH

Then on Sunday morning, the world was turned on its head as the Hotel Washington erupted in flames.

The first call went out at 6:15am and new Madison Fire Chief Debra Amesqua arrived on the scene by 6:20 am.

Shortly thereafter, what had begun as a call made in response to suspicious smoke quickly escalated into a full-fledged fire call. Within minutes, flames were shooting through the roof.

Thanks to the quick thinking of several Hotel Washington employees, all residents and guests were quickly evacuated. Miraculously, the only casualty was a resident's cat.

The speed with which the flames spread immediately raised suspicions of foul play. However, fire officials and community leaders did their best to quell rumors until such time as real information would be forthcoming.

Adding to community fears were a recent string of homophobia-based incidents in the greater Madison community. Two weeks before, the front window of The United, Madison's LesBiGay social service agency, had been smashed out with a brick.



*At the Capitol in Madison, speakers address the approximately 1,000 people at a rally held in wake of the Hotel Washington fire.
Photo: John Quinlan*

At about the same time, fire fighter Ronnie Greer was informed that he faced potential disciplinary action for handing out anti-Gay tracts while on the job. On the morning of the fire, Greer, with his three young sons in tow, was seen on the street in front of the hotel.

Greer told reporters: "It's a tragic loss of a historical building, but I'm glad to see certain establishments in the place are gone. If it means the end to certain types of business, I don't have a problem with that."

When people discovered who he was, Greer faced a series of angry confrontations mitigated only by the presence of his young sons. Later, Madison Mayor Paul Soglin joined with the area's Gay and Lesbian leaders to condemn Greer's remarks.

Suspensions of a homophobia-based hate crime had also been raised because the hotel complex had been prominently featured in "Rhythm," an entertainment supplement that appears in both Madison daily newspapers. It had hit the newstands just two days before the fire.

A picture of drag queens was on the cover, and an extensive description of the establishment's mission as a Gay hangout filled much of the supplement. Had someone needed a target for their hatred, many reasoned, the hotel's prominence in "Rhythm" might well have been the catalyst for their actions.

CHIEF AMESQUA CALMS FEARS

On Sunday night, an organizing meeting originally scheduled to deal with the anti-Gay marriage bill took on new purpose as 70 activists came together at the University of Wisconsin's Memorial Union.

(Madison News, Continued on Page 13)

STATE News Briefs

Dane Co. D.A.: Charges Against Kitty Barber Pending

Madison — Responding to persistent questions from the media as to why no charges have been filed against Lesbian activist Kitty Barber in relation to a high speed chase and shooting incident last December, Dane County District Attorney Bill Foust confirmed recently that charges against Barber will indeed be filed.

"We're waiting for her medical condition to stabilize," Foust said of Barber, who has undergone several follow-up surgeries since she was shot by law enforcement authorities December 1.

The incident in question occurred in the early morning hours of December 1 when Barber, driving her minivan on Madison's east side, reportedly began speeding and led police on a chase that ended only when she finally pulled into a Super America at the junction of highways 19 and CV northeast of Madison.

Barber allegedly emerged from the van and placed a gun to her head. Officers of the Madison police and State Patrol told her to drop the weapon, at which point she reportedly aimed the gun at an officer. Barber was then shot by the police and sustained five gunshot wounds. She spent weeks in intensive care, had follow-up surgeries and is recuperating in the Milwaukee home she once shared with her former partner, Karen Gotzler. Gotzler is a candidate for 3rd District Alderperson in the March 19 election.

Observers suggest that charges against Barber could range from speeding and fleeing lawful authorities to reckless endangerment and even attempted murder. Barber, a singer and longtime Lesbian activist in Milwaukee, had most recently been a law student at the University of Wisconsin.

Friends of Barber have established a fund to aid her recovery and defense. The Kitty Barber Fund can be reached at P.O. Box 617, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

400 Attend LesBiGay College Conference in Beloit

Beloit — More than four hundred Lesbians, Gay men, Bisexuals, Transgendered people and their supporters converged on Beloit College February 23-25 for the 4th annual Midwest Bisexual,

Lesbian and Gay College Conference. The conference was called "Building Queer Success in the Midwest."

Organizer Lisa Doyle told *In Step*: "It was phenomenally successful. The campus community really pulled together well, and everyone who attended had a good time. Those who had some complaints gave us constructive criticism, so we feel we really have something to build on for the future."

Keynote speeches were delivered by Lesbian writer and historian Lillian Faderman, Madison's Paul Wesselmann, who spoke about empowerment and coming out, and Miriam Ben-Shalom, who discussed her legal battle for acceptance in the military and urged others to become politically active.

Workshops covered everything from teaching Gay and Lesbian Studies and creating successful LesBiGay newspapers on campus to sexual orientation and career decision-making, queer spirituality and mentoring relationships.

Entertainment was provided by Lesbian comics Karen Williams and Tracey Rose as well as the Wilde Boys, who presented their original and hilarious musical/comedy revue.

AIDS Death Toll in Wisconsin Now Over 1,849

Madison — The AIDS/HIV Program of the Wisconsin Division of Health reports that as of December 31, 1995 1,849 residents of Wisconsin have died from AIDS complications. A total of 5,240 people had acquired the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV) and 3,141 have been diagnosed with AIDS.

Of the 5,240 who contracted HIV since statistics were compiled in 1982, 13.1% are female, a number that has been slowly but gradually rising. Of all those with HIV infection, 61.6% are white, 29.5% are black and 7% are Hispanic.

Of the total number of AIDS cases, 64.1% were contracted through male to male unprotected sex with an infected partner. Injection drug use with contaminated needles contributed to 13% of the cases. The combination of unprotected male to male sex and injection drug use accounts for 6.1% of cases, and 6.7% are due to unprotected heterosexual relations with an infected partner.

National statistics issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that as of December 31, 1995, a half million Americans have been diagnosed as HIV-positive and more than 300,000 have died from AIDS complications.

— Briefs Compiled by Jamakaya

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HRC Leader Calls Pat Buchanan a "Walking Hate Crime"

Washington, DC — Declaring that Pat Buchanan's anti-Gay rhetoric makes the GOP Presidential hopeful a "walking hate crime," the Executive Director of the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian civil rights group, Elizabeth Birch, has challenged Buchanan to a debate.



Elizabeth Birch, HRC

Birch, head of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), said: "Buchanan's campaign for President has been the most anti-Gay in the history of presidential politics. On the campaign trail, and elsewhere, Buchanan has maligned and mischaracterized the lives of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Americans."

"Since no other Republican candidate for President is challenging his anti-Gay positions, I hereby challenge Patrick Buchanan to a public debate on these issues that he himself has raised during his bid for the Presidency."

On a recent edition of *Meet the Press*, Buchanan said he would not appoint openly Gay people to his administration. "I do not believe this is a valid, legitimate, moral lifestyle. Period. Paragraph." He criticized last year's international women's conference in Beijing as "a crazy dingbat conference" run by Lesbians. He has referred to "the false god of Gay rights" and denounced same-gender marriage as a "threat" to the traditional family.

Openly Gay US Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-WI), a supporter of Bob Dole, seconded Birch's debate challenge to Buchanan: "I join with Elizabeth Birch in calling for a dialogue or debate on these issues. The party of Lincoln," he said of the GOP, "the party of freedom, the party of individuals' rights to chart their own destinies cannot be home to prejudice in any way, shape or form."

Gay Doctors Press Shalala on Gay/Lesbian Health Issues

Washington, DC — Leaders of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) met with Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Donna Shalala February 26 to press for action on the plight of HIV-infected health workers and the range of critical health issues facing the Gay and Lesbian community.

According to Benjamin Schatz of the GLMA, GLMA representatives urged Secretary Shalala to convene a high level task force to examine Gay and Lesbian health concerns and to issue a report to draw attention to them. Shalala agreed to pull together key HHS officials to determine the scope of HHS activities on Gay and Lesbian health and to plan how to proceed with a broader, more proactive approach.

On the issue of HIV-positive health care workers, Shalala instructed HHS officials to determine whether current

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines that restrict infected health workers are scientifically valid and whether they result in unnecessary discrimination.

Schatz described the meeting as "productive and encouraging," and Shalala promised to follow up on both issues raised.

Log Cabin Club Touts Pro-Gay GOP Leaders in Congress

Washington, DC — The Log Cabin Republicans, the Gay GOP group based in the nation's capital, has released a list of Republican members of Congress and ranked them according to their votes on a number of Gay and AIDS-related issues that have been voted on in the first half of the 104th Congress. The ranking also took into consideration their public statements on Gay topics.

In the Log Cabin report, just two members of the Senate and seven members of the House received the top ranking of "leader." The "leaders" in the Senate are Sens. John Chafee (RI) and Jim Jeffords (VT). Two GOP Senators — Jesse Helms (NC) and Bob Smith (NH) — are dubbed "antagonistic," three are called "hostile," while another 13 were called "non-supportive."

The House members ranked as "leaders" are: Steve Gunderson (WI); Michael Flanagan (IL); Christopher Shays (CT); Connie Morella (MD); Peter Torkildsen (MA); Jim Kolbe (AZ); and Steve Horn (CA). Thirty-six House GOP members were called "hostile" and six "antagonistic." The largest number of GOP House members are dubbed "non-supportive."

"Too often it is the case that Republicans who are leaders and friends are both ignored by Gay political groups and attacked by the far Right," the Log Cabin report noted. "As we issue this report, Log Cabin applauds those Republicans who have demonstrated leadership in this difficult political environment."

Groups Unite to Challenge "Indecency" Law in Court

New York, NY — A coalition of media and civil liberties groups have united to mount a legal challenge to the Communications Decency Act, part of



HHS Secretary Donna Shalala

the omnibus Telecommunications Act of 1996 recently passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton. Gay leaders say the bill could have a chilling effect on Gay and Lesbian subjects on TV and over the Internet.

Touted as a telecommunications "deregulation" and "reform" bill, the legislation actually imposes substantial content regulations over TV and the Internet.

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is particularly concerned that the "V-chip" technology will be applied indiscriminately to block out programs that deal in any way with homosexuality. By diminishing the scope of a broadcaster's accountability, the law may discourage rather than encourage real diversity in programming.

In addition, the criminalization of "indecent" in online communications may lead to the censorship of many legitimate Gay and Lesbian chat boards and newsgroups currently online.

One federal judge has already made the preliminary ruling that the provision barring "indecent" material is unconstitutionally vague. But a lawsuit consolidating many of the legal challenges will be heard in full later this month.

Among the groups joining the lawsuit are: the American Library Association, the Center for Democracy and Technology, America Online, Prodigy, and the Microsoft Network.

Cases of Workplace Discrimination Sought to Bolster ENDA

Washington, DC — As part of its continuing campaign to educate the public about discrimination, the Human Rights Campaign is looking for people who have been denied job opportunities, fired or otherwise discriminated against in the workplace merely for being Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgendered.

HRC plans to present these stories to members of Congress and the public in hopes of increasing awareness, gaining new co-sponsors, and putting more pressure on legislators to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). ENDA, endorsed by President Clinton and more than 100 members of Congress, would outlaw job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"Most Americans are shocked when they find that people can lose their jobs because of their sexual orien-

tion — even their perceived orientation," says Michael Roybal of HRC. "And they are rightly outraged when they hear Gay men and Lesbians tell the stories of losing their jobs, despite being good, productive workers."

People who want to contribute their own stories of workplace bias should call the Human Rights Campaign at (202) 628-4160, extension 4000.

Rainbow Card Donates First \$50,000 to Community Groups

Philadelphia, PA — Last October, tennis legend Martina Navratilova introduced the Rainbow Card, an internationally accepted Visa credit card, the use of which supports Gay and Lesbian organizations. In mid-February, Navratilova announced the awarding of over \$50,000 to such groups on behalf of the Rainbow Endowment, the non-profit group which contributes funds derived from use of the Rainbow card.



Martina Navratilova poses with representatives of the LesBiGay groups that have received the first grants bestowed by the Rainbow Card Endowment. Photo: Peter Lein

The six organizations given grants of \$8,500 each include the AIDS Information Network, the Astrea National Lesbian Action Foundation, the Community Research Initiative on AIDS, the National Breast Cancer Coalition, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association and the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

"Initial cardholder support of the Rainbow Card has been tremendous," Navratilova commented. "Each of us working on the Rainbow Card program are grateful for the overwhelming support that we've received from the Lesbian and Gay community and the opportunity to give back to our community in such a significant way. These early contributions are a tribute to all of the cardholders who have responded so enthusiastically to the Rainbow pro-

gram and the needs of the community."

Those interested in obtaining a Rainbow Card, which has no annual fee, an introductory interest rate of just 6.65% and the option for domestic partners to apply jointly for increased credit lines, should call (800) 99-RAINBOW.

To Ban Gays, Utah School Board Restricts All School Clubs

Salt Lake City, UT — Rather than allow one group called the Gay/Straight Alliance to meet at East High School, the Salt Lake City Board of Education has passed a resolution prohibiting the gathering of any school groups or clubs. Hundreds of students poured out of school February 23 to protest the action.

The school board could not take action solely against the Gay/Straight Alliance because of a federal law called the Equal Access Act of 1984 which guarantees all student groups equal access to school facilities. (The law was passed to enable Bible classes to be conducted after hours at public schools.) The Board therefore decided to prohibit all school clubs.

The controversy drove the Utah legislature to pass a law forbidding teachers from "encouraging, condoning or supporting illegal conduct" — a measure aimed at intimidating teachers who might try to support or advise Gay students or their groups.

Expressing the fears of many in this conservative, Mormon-dominated state, State Sen. Craig Taylor said: "Young people reach their teenage years, and their sexuality starts developing. I believe they can be led down that road to homosexuality." The Mormon Church itself has condemned homosexuality, saying, "Such thoughts and feelings, regardless of their causes, can and should be overcome and sinful behavior should be eliminated."

Members of the Gay/Straight Alliance plan to continue to meet after school at restaurants or at each others' homes. The attempt to ban Gay school groups is unlikely to succeed elsewhere. The Gay/Lesbian/Straight Teachers Network reports that hundreds of such groups are currently in existence, and more are forming every day.

(Continued on Page 12)

Group Notes

United Sponsors "An Evening in the Garden" March 9

Madison — The United, Madison's LesBiGay community center, will host its second annual wine tasting and dance benefit, "An Evening in the Garden," at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave., on Saturday, March 9, 1996.

Wine tasting will be held from 7pm to 9pm, featuring more than 20 wines from around the world, including non-alcoholic wines, along with an appetizer buffet, light jazz and classical music, and two cash bars.

Dancing to Randy Tewes' dance and light show will follow from 9 to 11pm. The conservatory will be open for strolling from 7 to 11pm.

Tickets are available for advance sales only for a suggested donation of \$25 from The United, A Room of One's Own, Art House Cafe, Border's, Column One, Community Pharmacy, Gary's Art and Frame Shop, the Greenbush Bar, Home Environment, MASN, McMillan Gallery, Mother Fool's, Orange Tree Imports, and Willy Street Coop.

For more information, call Sande Janagold at The United, (608) 255-8582.

Lesbian Filmmaker to Address Alzheimer's Conference

Waukesha — Lesbian filmmaker Deborah Hoffman will be the keynote speaker at a March 19 conference sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association of Southeast Wisconsin.

Hoffman was nominated for an Academy Award for her documentary *Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter*, a film that has received 25 international awards for its chronicle of the nine years Hoffman spent struggling with the changes Alzheimer's disease caused in her mother. The film was shown on PBS last summer.

The conference at the Country Inn Hotel is for caregivers and professionals who deal with patients with Alzheimer's or related dementias. The cost is \$25 for family caregivers and \$60 for professionals, with some scholarships available.

For more information, call Jon Kaupla at the Alzheimers Association office, (414) 479-8800 or (800) 922-2413.

"Street Beat" Fashion Extravaganza Set for March 30

Milwaukee — Miss Gay Wisconsin will be the featured guest at the "Street Beat Fashion Extravaganza and Benefit" for the Milwaukee AIDS Project on Saturday, March 30. The fashion show, hosted by BJ Daniels, will be held at Survival/Revival, 246 E. Chicago Street. Chrisanne Robinson, also known as Sister CashBox, will provide the fashion commentary.

Over 200 people attended and enjoyed an exciting evening of shopping, dancing and viewing an "alternative" fashion show at the first "Street Beat" last September. Highlights of this year's show are a raffle, music by the Melting Prophets, and refreshments. There will be huge discounts storewide.

There will be a \$6 admission fee at the door. For further information, call (414) 281-2856.

Scripture to be Topic at Gay Men's Discussion Group

Milwaukee — The Gay Men's Discussion Group at the Counseling Center of Milwaukee will discuss "Homosexuality and Scripture" from 6 to 8pm March 24, at 2038 N. Bartlett Ave.

David Schimmel, M.A., M.Div., will facilitate the discussion on whether the Jewish and Christian scriptures often used to condemn Gay and Lesbian love really oppose Gay sex, whether errors in translation have skewed meanings, and what the authors of the scriptures had in mind when they wrote these texts.

Schimmel publishes a monthly newsletter, *Passion: Christian from a Gay Perspective*, and often speaks and conducts retreats on spiritual issues.

The meetings are open to the public for a \$3 donation. For more information, call Bill Hanel at (414) 271-2565.

Madison LesBiGay Resource Directory Seeks Listings, Ads

Madison — The Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center (MG/LRC) is preparing the eighth edition of its annual publication *The Directory: A Guide to the Organizations Serving Madison's Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Community*. This resource guide provides information on Madison-area organizations, including histories of the group, size, structure, goals, and address and telephone.

All organizations listed in the 1995 edition will be contacted for updates. New organizations or groups inadvertently missed in previous editions should mail in an organization description of up to 200 words and the contact name, address, and phone.

MG/LRC plans to print at least 3,000 copies of the 1996 directory in June to be distributed at local businesses, organizations, and social events.

Publication costs are underwritten solely by advertisements. Businesses should contact Darren Kittleson at (608) 277-2782 for information on sizes and rates.

For more information, contact MG/LRC, Directory Committee, P.O. Box 1722, Madison, WI 53701.

Sell-Out Crowd Expected for "Make a Promise" Dinner

Milwaukee — Only 200 tickets remain for the gala "Make a Promise" dinner and auction to be held Saturday, March 23 at Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel. Over 800 tickets have been sold. The prestigious annual event is produced by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. and benefits AIDS care, prevention and research.

A special feature this year will be the premiere viewing of *Faces of AIDS: Portraits of Hope*, a series of still photographs and videotape featuring people infected and affected by AIDS.

Another highlight is the silent auction. Nearly 200 items have been donated, with an estimated value of \$42,000. Some of the most valuable items include an Amish Quilt from Land's End, a Milwaukee Admirals skybox, a trip to Washington, DC for the showing of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt this fall, a trip to San Diego, and a one week timeshare in Cancun, Mexico.

For more information or to purchase tickets to this elegant event, call (414) 273-2729.

"HIV/AIDS and Spiritual Life" Retreat March 29-31

Milwaukee — The St. Camillus AIDS Ministry will present a retreat on "Embracing the Mystery: HIV/AIDS and the Spiritual Life" from March 29 to 31. Participation is free but enrollment is limited.

The retreat, in St. Francis, has been designed to help participants reframe their often negative experiences of living with HIV disease. It is open to anyone living with HIV/AIDS.

Guided meditation, reframing of emotional resistance, group sharing, trance journeying, body work, music, and ritual will be woven into a holistic exploration of tools for healing that participants can integrate into their daily lives.

For more information, to receive a brochure, or to make a reservation, call the Office of HIV/AIDS Ministry, (414) 259-4664.

"Celebrating the Body Erotic" Workshop in Chicago

Chicago — A two-day workshop for men, "Celebrating the Body Erotic," will explore connections between touch, physical pleasure and spiritual awareness on March 23 and 24 from 9am to 6pm in Chicago.

Matthew Simmons, a Body Electric School instructor and certified massage therapist based in San Francisco, will lead the workshop.

Social conditioning has taught men to disconnect from their bodies, and most Western traditions teach men to abstain from pleasure. The workshop will use rituals based on Taoist, Tantric, Sufi, and Native American traditions to allow men to experience their erotic energy as playful, sacred, energizing, and transformative through breathing, stretching and touching.

The cost is \$275, with scholarships available for men living with HIV. For more information, call (708) 524-8334.

NOWAP Hires Tina Emerson as Prevention Specialist

Eau Claire — The Northwest AIDS Project (NOWAP) has added Tina M. Emerson to its team of education/service providers. In the past, Emerson has worked as an NOWAP volunteer and contracted provider.

Emerson graduated from Alverno College, Milwaukee, in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in nursing and psychology. She is licensed as a registered nurse in Minnesota and Wisconsin and has worked at Olsten Kimberly Quality Care providing home care.

Emerson has also made presentations on AIDS to schools, nursing homes, hospitals, and churches for NOWAP. She is a native of northwest Wisconsin and an active member in the Wisconsin HIV/AIDS Prevention Planning Council and the Northwest Wisconsin Ryan White Consortium.

"I am convinced that Tina will be successful in NOWAP's targeted prevention outreach strategies," said Jamie Sorenson, acting director of NOWAP. "Her history of professionalism, HIV/AIDS education, and persistent advocacy ensure that she will be an outstanding prevention specialist."

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H.I.T. Hosts "Rita Bowl" and "Slots of Fun" in March

Milwaukee — The Holiday Invitational Tournament is inviting everyone to participate in the group's first big fundraisers of 1996, "Rita Bowl" and "Slots of Fun."

The seventh annual "Rita Bowl," which throws out all the rules of regular bowling and can get pretty wild and wacky, will be held on Friday, March 15 at 9:30pm. The cost for bowling will be \$15, or \$18 for those who want to take the round-trip bus ride to the Red Carpet Regency Lanes. The bus will leave the M&M Club, 124 N. Water Street, at 8:30pm.

The 2nd annual "Slots of Fun" Casino Tour takes place March 30. This is a one day trip to the North Star Casino in Bowler and the Menomonee Casino on Keshena. Cost per person is \$35, which includes rebates from both casinos worth \$43.

Participants in "Slots of Fun" will meet at the Ballgame bar, 196 S. 2nd Street, between 6 and 7am. The bus departs at 7am. First stop will be the North Star Casino around 10am, and at 2pm the bus will depart for Keshena. The bus heads home at about 6:30pm.

For more information on either of these events, call Rick at (414) 482-1964 or Jeff at (414) 332-9414.

(Continued on Page 12)

(Group Notes, Continued from Page 11)

Chicago Set to Launch Chamber of Commerce

Chicago — The new Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce will hold its first meeting at 5:30pm Wednesday, March 27, at Ann Sather's Restaurant, 929 W. Belmont, Chicago.

The initial meeting will give new and prospective members an opportunity to help guide the organization's first

year, identifying projects and goals for promoting LesBiGay businesses.

"The level of enthusiasm is really exciting," said Chamber co-founder Tracy Baim, co-owner of Lambda Publications, which publishes six newspapers and magazines for the Chicago LesBiGay community. She said 30 businesses joined before promotion of the Chamber began.

One of the Chamber's first projects will be a "walking map" of LesBiGay-owned businesses in the Lakeview area.

The map is scheduled for release in time for June's Pride Celebrations and will be used during the National Democratic Party Convention in Chicago in August. Chamber members will also be listed for free on a special Chamber home page on the Internet to be in operation by April 1.

Membership dues are \$35, with supporter memberships for non-Gay-owned businesses available. For more information, contact the Chamber at Box 805, 3712 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60613-4198, or call Lambda Publications at (312) 871-7610.



(National News, Continued From Page 9)

Also on the Newswire...

Washington, DC — If you would like to contact your Senator or member of Congress at the Capitol but don't want the long distance charge, use these toll-free numbers, compliments of the Christian Coalition: (800) 962-3524 or (800) 972-3524. The numbers will connect you directly to the Capitol Switchboard which will, in turn, connect you to your representative.

San Francisco, CA — Lesbian activist Roberta Achtenberg, who lost her bid to become mayor of San Francisco last November, has decided to return to her former position as Assistant Secretary of Fair Housing in the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

New York, NY — Ms. Magazine is seeking to prevent Lesbian etiquette columnist Meryl Cohn from obtaining a registered trademark for her column's name, "Ms. Behavior." Cohn's attorneys are seeking the hearing testimony of Gloria Steinem and Ms. magazine's current editor to understand, in Cohn's words, "why a Lesbian/feminist columnist cannot use the title "Ms."

Annapolis, MD — Gays and Lesbians in Maryland are hopeful that this year their state could become the tenth state in the union to adopt a law prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation. Such bills have fallen just a few votes short of passage in the last few years. But now, Democratic Gov. Parris Glendinning has himself introduced such a bill and promises his aggressive support toward its passage.

— Briefs Compiled by Jamakaya

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PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE UNITED, AN AGENCY
SERVING THE DANE COUNTY GAY, LESBIAN, AND BISEXUAL COMMUNITY.

(Madison News, Continued From Page 6)

Fire Chief Debra Amesqua made a special appearance in order to calm fears. "This is a tragedy," she said. "It is an enormous loss of an important landmark for this community."

Since little was known about the cause of the fire at that time, Amesqua's principal goal was to let members of the LesBiGay community know that they would be informed of all developments as they became known.

Amesqua's comments were well received, and then more than 30 questions and theories about the fire poured out from those assembled. Throughout, Amesqua's tone was authoritative but conversational, and she kept repeating over and over again the need to get everyone's fears out on the table where they could be discussed, and where people could come together as a community to confront them.

One set of fears was less easy to address, however — the campaign of hatred being waged by fire fighter Ronnie Greer. Prior to Amesqua's arrival at the meeting, the matter had been very much on the lips of everyone gathered there, and it became the subject of an intense discussion after the most pressing questions about the fire were answered.

Because it was a pending personnel matter, Amesqua initially declined comment. However, when pressed, she addressed concerns about the potential for declining morale resulting from a

possible lack of trust by Lesbian or Gay fire fighters in relation to their straight colleagues on the force. Amesqua replied that the issue was moot — the level of trust was high.

A more pointed question came from a Lesbian who wondered if some Madison fire fighters might be less vigilant when arriving at the home of a Gay or Lesbian family whose home was adorned with a Rainbow flag. Here, Amesqua was unequivocal that no member of her force would ever be in a position of giving differential service to people based on who they are.

As Amesqua left the meeting, 45 minutes after arriving, those assembled thanked her with loud and resounding applause.

LEADERSHIP RECOGNIZED

As the gathering proceeded, the energy level was high as Action Wisconsin president Juliet Brodie, Log Cabin Republican leader Scott Evertz, and Rep. Baldwin recapped the week's events. Receiving special recognition and prolonged applause was Action Wisconsin board member Mike Fitzpatrick, who recounted the Fox Valley region's substantial contributions to the success of the efforts to turn back the anti-Gay marriage bill the previous week.

The meeting ended quickly, and soon dozens of people, ranging in age from five to fifty, quickly dispensed with the task of putting out a 3,000 piece statewide mailing.

On mid-Sunday afternoon (Feb.

11th), over 200 people had gathered for an interfaith service at the old Madison rail depot, only 100 yards from the still burning Hotel Wash. Although the shock of the loss was still acute, the process of healing was already beginning.

Late on Sunday and throughout Monday, a small but dedicated core of people came together to spread the word about the Capitol rally on Monday evening. While the papers and broadcast news outlets also carried the news, most of the turnout was ascribed to word-of-mouth, as friend reached out to friend at work, on the street, and on the phone.

By the time 6pm rolled around, well over 1,000 gathered at the Capitol, stretched out over an arc more than 100 yards wide and 50 yards deep.

That day, almost unprecedented banner headlines screamed out the news in both daily newspapers, and all three TV news shows led their broadcasts with live reports from the rally.

Mayor Paul Soglin, County Executive Rick Phelps, University of Wisconsin Dean of Students Mary Rouse, and Equal Opportunities Commission Director Anthony Brown all expressed their sorrow and their solidarity with the gathering.

As candles glimmered for as far as the eye could see, hugs abounded, as did other expressions of love and community. As one speaker noted, all of those gathered there — Gay and straight, black and white, Jew and Gentile — had come together to mourn the loss of a shared history, and to look to the future.



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Profiles

Human Rights League Bestows Cream City Brick Awards

Milwaukee — On Wednesday evening February 28, the Human Rights League for Lesbians and Gays handed out the annual Cream City Brick Awards, a tradition of honoring those who have served the LesBiGay community that dates back to 1984 when first initiated by the Cream City Business Association.

This year's recipient of the Group Spirit Award, given to the Gay or Lesbian group or organization whose efforts establish or promote the Lesbian and Gay community in a positive fashion, was the **Cream City Foundation**. A Certificate of Merit was presented to the **Sherman Park Rainbow Association**.

The winner of this year's Bridge Award, given to someone who has acted as a "bridge" between the Gay and Lesbian communities and the broader communities, was **Chris Ahmuty** of the Wisconsin chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The President's Award, given for service to the LesBiGay community which has been above and beyond the call of duty, was presented to **Erv Uecker** and **Ross Walker**, mainstays of the Brady East STD Clinic who recently offered to help fund a Gay community center in Milwaukee.

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Kevin Quader accepts the Cream City Brick Award as Pace Setter of the Year. Photo: Cindy V

The Spotlight Award, given to the media person(s), department, station or newspaper whose coverage best promotes understanding of the Gay and Lesbian community, went to In Step editor Jamakaya, with a Certificate of Merit to **Margo Huston**, a **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel** reporter.

The Ambassador Award, for a Gay or Lesbian person who has made outstanding, substantial contributions in the area of human rights, demonstrating the highest principles of the Human Rights League and representing our responsibility to participate as active

citizens in a diverse world, was presented to **Sandra Holtzman**. Holtzman went to court to gain visitation rights over the child she helped raise with her former Lesbian partner.

The Ground Work Award, given to a business which has made significant contributions to the Gay and Lesbian community, went to the **Oriental Theatre** for booking many Gay films and hosting various movie fundraisers of local Gay and Lesbian groups.

The Torch Bearer Award, given to a non-Gay identified person or group who has advanced the understanding and acceptance of the Lesbian and Gay community, was presented to Alderman Paul Henningsen, with a Certificate of Merit to Alderwoman **E. Fay Anderson**.

Last but not least, the Pace Setter Award, given to a person who has promoted the Gay and Lesbian community in a positive fashion, was presented to Kevin Quader, who is actively involved in Dignity/Milwaukee, Senior Action in a Gay Environment, the Sherman Park Rainbow Association and the Human Rights League. A Certificate of Merit was presented to Nanette Smith.

Brother Stephen Braddock Honored by Dignity/Milwaukee

Milwaukee — Brother Stephen E. Braddock, OS Cam, PhD., founder and Executive Director of the St. Camillus AIDS Ministry, was honored by Dignity/Milwaukee in February on the occasion of the Catholic group's 21st anniversary.

Braddock was presented with the "Pope John XXIII Humanitarian Award" in appreciation for his "example of Christ-like service and openness."

Dignity spokesman Joe Zopp said: "As Pope John XXIII initiated Vatican Council II, which opened the Church to a wide expression of faith and opened the Church to many people, Dignity honors Brother Stephen for his work and dedication."



Viewpoint

Bill Clinton is the Best Choice in the March 19 Primary

By Kim R. Anderson
and Julie Marie Totsch

In our opinion, all Log Cabin members should go out into the woods and do what they do best — build log cabins!

Richard D. Mohr in his Viewpoint article "The Case Against Clinton" (Jan. 24-Feb. 6 In Step) has attempted — poorly — to persuade the whole of Gay society that "Bill Clinton is the weakest President in US history." We believe the contrary. Mr. Clinton, if anything, has brought important Gay issues to the forefront of national debate. For example, his administration introduced the issue of allowing Gays to serve honorably in the military under certain conditions without threat of expulsion and the appointment of openly Gay officials as assistant cabinet secretaries.

And what have the Republicans done for us? Has Mohr ever seen Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) have an apoplectic fit on the Senate floor over the nomination of Roberta Achtenberg, screaming that she was a "damn Lesbian?"

In addition to bringing Gay issues to the national forum, hasn't Clinton kept his promise on "It's the economy, stupid?" This president has done more for the economy and more to make Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, smile than George Bush would have ever dreamed. Just look at how the Dow Jones average has risen since the 1992 election! Weakest president — au contraire — Clinton is one of our finest presidents, and the best is yet to come during his next term!

Regarding this administration's policy on Gays in the military, Mohr's assertion that President Clinton's "new ban is different and worse" is totally absurd and oxymoronic. We ask: different from what and worse from when? Historically speaking, this policy was debated on the Senate floor — for the first time! Chairman Sam Nunn (D-GA) executed exhaustive, comprehensive hearings about this issue in his Armed Services Committee for the very first time. The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy is even supported by openly Gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), who said that the policy is "our foot in

the door which can never be taken out."

Even though President Clinton's Justice Department will defend the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, we assert that Clinton has cleverly placed himself politically in the right place at the right time. Some might say that the President is straddling the fence on this issue. But we believe this president has directed the issue to the right venue. He is astutely allowing the courts to decide whether or not the Gay "ban" is constitutional.

Please note that it was a Republican President, Dwight D. Eisenhower, who issued an executive order in 1953 barring innocent Gay men and Lesbians from all federal jobs. This action opened the door for many state and local governments and private corporations to follow suit, as well as the FBI, beginning a surveillance program

against homosexuals. It was President Clinton who stopped this heinous policy. Whom is Mohr trying to fool?

APPOINTEES

Furthermore, we think that President Clinton has much more to worry about than Gay issues. To represent 250 million citizens, a president must concentrate on more than one issue. We think Gay voters have much more political acumen than voting a president into office based on one single issue.

In addition, President Clinton's record of appointing openly Gay members to his administration is exceptional. Two of these appointees are Roberta Achtenberg, former Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development,

(Continued on Page 16)

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(Viewpoint, Continued from Page 15)

and Bruce Lehman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. Achtenberg was confirmed by the Senate on a 58-31 vote; Lehman was confirmed on a voice vote. There are more Gays and Lesbians in the Clinton administration, though in lesser positions. (Curiously enough, however, a close look at Clinton's cabinet would probably reveal two or three others. If they came out of the closet, would Mr. Mohr and the Log Cabin Club feel better?)

Mohr calls Marsha Scott, Clinton's liaison to the Gay community, a "flunky." He claims that Scott "doesn't get the moral issues any more than her boss does." He implies that Scott is not qualified for the position because she is a straight woman. Based on that logic, Mohr leaves us to believe the President must therefore be Gay, black, Hispanic, female, Native American, etc. in order to understand properly the views of the rich, varied groups of people who comprise this great democracy.

Appointing a Gay person to the position of liaison is tantamount to hiring a person because of his or her sexual orientation. That kind of hiring practice is exactly against what we have been fighting for so long. A person should be hired because of his or her qualifications, experience, education, etc., and if he or she does not do well in the position, then a new candidate must be found. We, the authors, would never accept a position just because we are homosexual. We do not want someone to be hired because he or she is not homosexual, so how can we expect someone to be hired because he or she is homosexual?

On Mohr's contention that George Bush did something for Gay rights by signing into law the federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, we have to acquiesce. Bush should be applauded. However, Bush is not running for elective office, so Mohr's point is moot.

THE ALTERNATIVES

This election cycle, Sen. Robert Dole (R-KS) is presently the leading GOP candidate. Dole accepted a contribution of \$1,000 from the Log Cabin Club. Then, when his campaign found out the Log Cabin Club was a Gay Republican organization, it promptly and publicly returned the money. Mr. Mohr, do you honestly believe that Dole and the GOP will do any better on Gay issues when

they do not even want your money?

Soon we Gay voters will be in the voting booth (Wisconsin's primary is March 19) and we will have only two choices to make: Republican or Democrat. Shall Gay voters pick one of the most bigoted, conservative candidates like Pat Buchanan or Robert Dornan (R-CA) as their presidential preference?

Maybe our hands should touch the lever of the elder statesman who has been "tested and tested and tested again" — Bob Dole. Although he says he is against discrimination of any kind, Dole's voting record in the Senate has consistently been against the Gay community and he says homosexuals do not deserve "special rights."

No. The lever that any sensible Gay person should pull is that of President Bill Clinton. Anything else would be sheer and utter madness.

According to Neil Miller in his book *Out of the Past*, "the first years of the Clinton administration proved to be a remarkable period for the American Gay movement." We believe that the first years of the Clinton administration were only a glimmer of what is yet to come for the American Gay movement in the next four years of his administration.

We, the "worthless scum," as Mohr refers to Clinton-supporting Gay people, will pick a President not because of one issue but because we're confident President Clinton in the next four years will surpass his already honorable achievements for the Gay community as well as for the whole of the American community.

The authors live in Racine.



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Feature

Louganis: "Love Yourself Enough to Protect Yourself"

"Out and Proud" Athlete Visits Milwaukee March 25

By Jamakaya

The last two years have been a whirlwind of activity for Olympic champion Greg Louganis.

In 1994, in an appearance at Gay Games IV in New York City, he confirmed what many suspected all along by announcing "It's great to be out and proud!"

Last year, his revelation to Barbara Walters in a *20/20* interview that he has AIDS riveted the nation. The interview coincided with publication of his heart-wrenching autobiography, *Breaking the Surface*, in which Louganis revealed his painful lack of self-esteem, his bouts with depression and attempted suicide, his drug addiction, abusive relationships and the loneliness and fear of living life in the closet.

Louganis then embarked on a tour of the country for much of the year, signing books and speaking to people about his diving career and his troubled past. Everywhere he appeared, people lined up for blocks to see him, to express their admiration, to offer him support.

Louganis, a painfully shy man, had to steel himself for the tour, fearing negative response to his exposure of some of the most personal details of his life.

Happily, his fears were misplaced. "I guess I overestimated people's prejudices and underestimated their compassion and love," Louganis says in the epilogue to the new paperback edition of *Breaking the Surface*.

Louganis will be at Afterwords Bookstore in Milwaukee Monday, March 25 to promote the book. He talked to *In Step*, via telephone interview, in advance of his visit.

The response from people has been "incredible," says Louganis.

"The people who come to the book signings run the gamut — people from the sports world, straights, Gays, young people, old people, guys with HIV — and reactions were different because it affected everyone differently."

"INCREDIBLE IMPACT"

"Some people told me reading

about my experience gave them the strength to leave an abusive relationship. Others told me about being adopted or about living with HIV, or about growing up dyslexic thinking you're retarded. It's had an incredible impact on a lot of people."

"I've had men lean over the table at book signings and whisper, 'I'm positive too,' and I know I'm probably one of the few people they've come out to. It makes them feel not so alone. That's what I hear from people who've written me notes telling me what the book has meant to them."

"It's also helped me understand better as well," Louganis adds. "It's really helped me get a firmer understanding of where I am and where I've been. It's been kind of therapeutic. It's true, you don't feel as alone as you thought you were."

Does he ever feel burdened by people's expectations?

"Yeah," he says hesitantly, "a little. I've got to keep things in perspective. You know you can't save the world singlehandedly. And I've got my own responsibilities. You can't be everything to everybody. I guess the point that's been driven home to me again and again is that everybody has a story. We all kind of struggle along and learn survival skills, and that's real positive."

Louganis lives along the beach in Malibu with his six dogs — five Great Danes and a Pembroke Welsh Corgi. His voice brightens audibly at mention of the dogs, most of which have competed and placed in dog shows. "I enjoy the dog shows. It's kind of nice because the focus is on the dogs."

"And what the dogs give me is unconditional love," Louganis says, "and that's nice to get back to. The hardest thing is being away from the dogs when I'm on the road."

And does he swim in the ocean?

"Nah," he laughs. "I'm not much of an ocean person. Give me a heated pool anytime!"

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He's got a stationary bike and weights at home that he works out with, but he more regularly gets his exercise and stays in shape by walking and roller-blading with the dogs. "And they don't really pull me along like everyone thinks," he says defensively about his Great Danes. "They make me work."

TV MOVIE PLANNED

Louganis has been busy working on the script of a movie based on his autobiography.

"USA Cable picked it up. They're making the movie. We're trying to get it done before the Olympic Games, so they can air it as a precursor to the Games."

"A lot of people are asking, 'Well, don't you want to play yourself?' and it's like, 'Ah, no thanks, I already lived it once.' But I would like to do the diving. I'm gonna have to get back in shape though, get back on the boards."

"I'd like to do more acting though. Last year, I did Dan Butler's one-man show *The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me...* That was an athletic event in itself, you know — 14 different characters. One hour and twenty minutes alone on stage — just me! It was exhausting! The first week of rehearsals I lost seven pounds. It was really grueling, but I'm glad I did it. It was a great challenge. It enabled me to showcase some range that people have never seen from me as an actor...I'd love to do more TV and film — but wouldn't any actor?"

Louganis says the catalyst for the dramatic changes he made in his life the past few years came with the ending of his Olympic career in the late 1980's.

"That was a very difficult transition," he concedes. "Suddenly I didn't have the diving to hide behind anymore. It really forced me to take a look and examine things in my life. There's some positive things that go with athletics. It was easy. It was predictable, and you could focus and concentrate on that. Facing other things was much more difficult — it was easier to hide."

But Louganis has no regrets about his athletic achievements.

"No, I have no regrets about that at all. It's interesting because now I can look back and appreciate the performances I gave. That was my reaction last year when I watched Barbara Walters and the *20/20* piece. I just starting sobbing, because that was the first time in my life that I ever saw beautiful

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dives and gave myself credit for doing beautiful dives."

HIS MESSAGE

What's the most important message he's trying to convey through his personal appearances?

"The message that I try to get out to young people especially is to love yourselves enough to protect yourselves. Because we know how to prevent the spread of HIV. What it comes down to a lot of times is self-esteem. I also encourage early testing in order to take responsibility and act responsibly."

In preparing to interview Louganis, this reporter asked friends what they'd like to ask him. Everyone wanted to know about his health and offered the latest tips and home remedies for HIV/AIDS.

Of his health, Louganis says he's "doing okay, holding my own." And regarding everyone's expressions of concern, he said, obviously moved: "It's very sweet. It comes from such a place of caring. I really appreciate it."



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Interview

“Deaf and Lesbian — That’s all There Is To It!”

MJ Bienvenu on Deaf Culture and the Lesbian Community

By Sowa Unora

She’s probably a dyke, I thought. MJ appeared on several of the videotapes I had to study during my training to become a sign language interpreter. At least, I hope she is! The image that she conjured in my mind was not so much a stereotype of a dyke, as an archetype of what I wish every dyke could be: Self-assured. Vibrant. Proud.

MJ Bienvenu is an outspoken advocate for the rights of Deaf people and for recognition of their unique culture. Born in an all-Deaf family, and attending the Louisiana State School for the Deaf and then Gallaudet University, MJ grew up steeped in that culture.

She has been an educator and consultant for some eighteen years, and developed a Master’s degree program in American Sign Language (ASL) instruction at Western Maryland College. Fluently bilingual in ASL and English, she is a Deaf interpreter and interpreter trainer.

From 1987-1995, she and Betty Colonos co-directed The Bicultural Center, providing resources on American Deaf Culture, ASL, and interpreting. MJ now owns and directs the Language and Culture Center in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

I met MJ at her workshop, “Fingerspelling in ASL,” at Carroll College in Waukesha January 19-21. She turned out to be just as tough and outspoken as her reputation suggests. She was also witty, sometimes playful, and very down-to-earth.

You grew up with a strong Deaf identity, right?

Like most families, I got my culture and my identity from my family, because I was a Deaf person in a Deaf family. Most Deaf children are born into hearing families so they don’t have that experience. For me, I was Deaf, my family was Deaf, I was always a part of that culture.

What about your Lesbian identity?

I started using Lesbian as a label about — somewhere in the 1970’s, maybe when I was 17 or 18 — but in

1990 I began to do a lot more self-evaluation regarding identity itself. I saw counselors and they asked me what I really wanted to know about myself. I said, okay, I don’t have a problem being a Deaf woman; maybe I want to figure out my identity as a Lesbian — where do I fit within that world? I realized that being a Lesbian was not even a close second, was more of a distant second to my identity as a Deaf woman — that was a very easy identity for me. After



MJ Bienvenu.
Photo: Sowa Unora

that time, a lot more analysis, a lot more discussion, a lot more involvement with Lesbian and Gay issues. After that I think I would have to call it an uphill battle of really noticing everything and really figuring it out.

I think I’m in a much different place now than I was at that time. So now I feel like I have two identities, I’m a Deaf woman and I’m a Lesbian. If I could join those two worlds, I guess I would, but I’d say in general I consider myself more Deaf. Not that I don’t identify myself as a Lesbian, I think that’s an important aspect of identity also.

Your work and social life center around Deaf issues?

Definitely. Deaf people, and so forth. Let’s say, maybe there was a big issue with Deaf people and a big issue with Lesbians, probably the Deaf issue would take precedence for me. If there were a conflict for me I would always choose the Deaf issue. If there’s nothing going on in the Deaf world, then I’m fine — get more involved in the Lesbian world. I want to be more encouraging to Deaf Lesbians, and also interpreters. So it’s not just that one thing that’s important to me, there are other things.

You spoke of your coming out process. Were you always aware of being attracted to women?

Well, I always knew, I was always fascinated with them. I read a lot of books and so forth and noticed that the girls always had crushes on their male teachers, and I was always more interested in my female teachers. I never really fully realized that, it was more of a fascination. I started to think, well, I’m supposed to be having crushes on these male teachers, but I didn’t feel that way, so that was interesting to me.

Now, looking back on that, I think “No wonder!” but that was in the 60’s, well my God, that was in my teenage years, my budding teenage years. In the 80’s of course, being a Lesbian or being Gay became more popular and more common.

What sorts of Lesbian and Gay issues have you been involved in?

Well, the Gay Pride parade. The March on Washington, that was a Gay and Lesbian issue. Last summer they had a Deaf Women United festival where there were two different workshops. Homophobia was one, that was the presentation I did. Then there was another topic, Celebrating Lesbianism. That was a chance to get together and talk about why we have pride as Deaf Lesbians — and that was really great, because there was a place where I could have both of my identities... That’s not a very common thing. Deaf issues, that’s more of an everyday thing.

(Continued from Page 22)

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(Interview, Continued from Page 20)

In my experience Lesbians have been leaders in promoting inclusion or accessibility — for example, I more often see interpreters at Lesbian events. Has that been your experience?

If I compare the different groups, it's possible that Lesbians are more sensitive, but I think that there are many straight women that tend to be more sensitive than males also. There are a few straight men who are very comfortable. They recognize, they understand our culture and so forth. However, I think there's something about women in general, more than being a Lesbian, that makes you more sensitive. Now I don't know if it has to do with empowerment, if that gives you more confidence, if that makes you open-minded, I don't know.

As far as the Lesbian community, I think one good example: the Gay Pride Parade, that happens yearly. Men are in charge of that, and I've always said to them 'Please get interpreters,' and they ask for volunteers, and I've really gotten after them. Now recently they've had a Lesbian doing that and she contacted us — "Hey, who should we get for an interpreter?" They were thinking about us. So that's a good example. Maybe they are more sensitive, I don't know.

I think straight women, Lesbians, Gays, straight men, are very different, but they all have difficulty understanding the difference between the cultural aspect of being Deaf and a disability, and why they don't fit. Despite the experience of being Gay or the Gay culture, there's something that makes it difficult for them to understand the parallel — why it's different to be Deaf and not be disabled.

They still don't "get it?"

It's not that they don't get it. I think they can understand the fact that there are Deaf Lesbians, but they don't understand why I don't want to be labeled within the disabled community. The March on Washington, the interpreters, they put them under "Disabled Services" and that's not correct. Gay Pride [in D.C.] and the March on Washington had no Deaf speakers. They had Hispanic speakers, they had a variety of different Asian speakers and so forth, they had a lot of cultural groups and a group of people in wheelchairs, and they had the Deaf groups with the disabled groups. That is the one main issue that's difficult to really get across. I think we should have been labeled under the cultural issues — Black and Hispanic and so forth — not as a disabled group.

They understand it as an identity — okay, you're Deaf, that's who you are — but they don't understand that there's a whole culture linked to that?

Right. And not that many disabled people understand. "Why do you have a special group? You're just one of us." ...They don't understand why we don't want to be a part of their disability... They just don't understand, no more than many straight people understand being Gay. It's a really difficult point to get across.

So our struggle for rights and cultural identity as Lesbians and Gay men doesn't make us any more supportive of Deaf culture.

Absolutely. It's possible to oppress a group even though you yourself are oppressed. You're not exempt.

If a Deaf woman were exploring her identity, seeking out Lesbians, would she be more likely to do that among Deaf people than within the hearing Lesbian community?

I think that there are two groups. Within the Deaf community there are Deaf women, and within that, a smaller group of Deaf Lesbians. Then there are Lesbians that are more a part of the mainstream [Lesbian community], maybe they went to a public school or something like that, they grew up in the hearing world and later became part of the Deaf world, and now they see themselves as part of the Deaf world second. [The first group] feel Deaf first and Lesbian second. And identity — it does seem that it depends on which group you're a part of as to which you identify more with, the Deaf part or the Lesbian part.

I'd like to sidetrack a bit and catch up on what you're doing these days. Last year The Bicultural Center closed its doors, and now you have a new venture, Language and Culture Center. Is that a lot like TBC?



MJ Bienvenu clowns with a cheese-head after a long weekend workshop. Photo: Sowa Unora

Is my new organization the same as TBC? No, not exactly. In TBC we did focus on Deaf culture and my organization also does; both focused on ASL. I think sometimes people forget that I had a hearing partner at TBC, and of course we didn't agree on all issues. Now with my new organization I don't focus just on interpreters, I focus on Deaf interpreters, and interpreters who work to improve their ASL skills, their understanding of culture, and I now emphasize their role as an ally. At TBC I felt there were some negative experiences, and who knows, maybe I will have some in my new organization. But if other things come up such as Lesbian issues I think I can respond to them more quickly. Within TBC I didn't feel I could do that.

In my new organization I feel that it's entirely MJ, it's all me. Who I am, who I work with, who I associate with — basically the same, just more MJ, that's all. Pure MJ. My experience with the new organization, I can't say it's been entirely positive, but even with my mistakes, they're my mistakes. If something happens, I don't care, I don't freak out or anything.

Before, people were so disappointed. "Why are you closing TBC?" Or "Why don't you want to work with hearing people?" That's not it. It got to the point where, things just changed. I still work with a lot of hearing people, I don't feel like that's any different, really.

Before we end, is there anything you'd particularly like to say to our readers?

I think I would want them to recognize that Deaf Lesbians are also members of another culture, that they have a language that's different than other groups within the Lesbian community. If two Lesbians, one Deaf and one not, get together, they will have a lot in common but there will also be differences, their experiences will be different. A lot of Lesbians seem to be very interested to get involved with Deaf women but they don't have accessibility, so it's more difficult for Deaf people to get involved.

You know *Dykes to Watch Out For*? The author [Alison Bechdel] came to Washington DC for a presentation and of course I was there, and I asked her, "You know, you include Black dykes and so forth, have you thought about adding Deaf women?" She said, "Well, would I have to have signs or anything?" and I said "Well, no, you could have pictures or whatever to make it

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more interesting." I thought, well, why not? We're part of the world too, why not have that as a part of your group? I really do like that author.

You think she'll try it?

Yes, she seemed interested in that idea. I think it hadn't occurred to her, and also there's the whole thing with having an interpreter and so forth. I suggested that she have a Deaf character, so I just kind of dropped that seed and she was very open to it.

Anything you'd specifically like to say to Deaf readers?

I think, just that it's okay to have two identities. You don't have to give up one in pursuit of the other. You can be involved in two identities and attend to whatever is most important within each of those identities. It doesn't have to be a competition. You don't have to say, "Well, I can't be involved in that because this part is more important for me" or you don't have to feel torn...I mean, yes, I can attend to both and yes, that does require some amount of switching but I am both, that's all there is to it. ▼ ▼ ▼

Milwaukee Rep Presents Chekhov Classic "The Seagull"

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee Repertory Theater is currently presenting Anton Chekhov's tragic/comedy classic *The Seagull* in its Powerhouse Theater. The play runs through March 31.



Rose Pickering, Kellie Waymire and Peter Silbert in the Milwaukee Rep's production of "The Seagull". Photo: Jay Westhauser

In this new translation by Paul Schmidt, Chekhov's poignant characters seek elusive happiness during a lazy summer on a country estate. The unfulfilled literary ambitions of a struggling playwright, Konstantin, and the unrequited love of the aspiring actress he admires set the stage for a story filled with passion, jealousy and irony. In the idealistic yearnings of young artists collide with the realities of love and art.

In his Milwaukee Rep debut is Jeremy Webb as Konstantin. Kellie Waymire is Nina, the young actress who rejects him for another, and Rep vet Laura Gordon is Masha, who would love Konstantin if he only let her. Other Rep favorites include Rose Pickering as Konstantin's vain mother, the actress Irina Nikolayevna Arkadina and Andrew May as the fickle writer/lover Trigorin. Directing *The Seagull* is Rep Artistic Director Joseph Hanreddy.

"Talkbacks" for *The Seagull* will take place following Sunday performances March 10, 17 and 24. Informal "Cabaret Chats" with the actors will be held in the Stackner Cabaret after Wednesday evening performances

March 13, 20 and 27. A "Pay-What-You-Can" performance will be held Wednesday, March 20 at 7:30pm. A sign language-interpreted show will be presented Sunday, March 31 at 2pm.

For full information on showtimes and tickets, call the Milwaukee Repertory Theater at (414) 224-1761.

Racine Symphonic Chorus Makes Beautiful Music March 24

Racine — The Racine Symphonic Chorus will bring the lush, lyric sounds of 20th century choral music to music lovers at 3pm Sunday, March 24. *Atlantic Criss-Crossings* celebrates the music of American composer Randall Thompson and British composer Ralph Vaughan Williams.

The resplendent architecture of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 614 Main Street in Racine, will enhance the luxuriant sounds of Thompson's *The Peaceable Kingdom* and *The Last Words of David*. Selections by Williams include *Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Refuge* (Psalm 90) and *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* (Psalm 100).

Five Mystical Songs features the rich baritone voice of guest soloist Gregory Berg. Williams' orchestral composition *English Folk Song Suite* is included in the program as well. The Chorus will be accompanied by the Racine Symphonic Chorus Chamber Orchestra under the direction of James Schatzman.

For adult tickets, \$10, and student/senior tickets, \$8, call the Racine Arts Council Office at (414) 636-9278. Tickets are also available at all area Heritage Banks.

Alix Dobkin Brings Womyn's Music to Alverno College March 22

Milwaukee — Alix Dobkin, a founder of "womyn's music" who has been serenading the Lesbian Nation and chronicling its progress for more than 20 years, will bring her political insight and musical versatility to Alverno College on Friday, March 22 at 8pm. The performance, sponsored by Hurricane Productions, will take place in Alphonsa Hall, 3401 S. 39th Street.

Part of the folk music scene of the

late 1960's during which time she was labeled a "troublemaker" by the FBI, Dobkin left her husband and came out in the early '70's, dedicating herself to women and women's music. Her 1973 release, *Lavender Jane Loves Women*, was the first overtly Lesbian-themed record album to achieve wide sales. A generation of women came out to such Dobkin tunes as "Any Woman Can Be a Lesbian" and "Because She's a Woman."

Since then, Dobkin has played all the major women's music festivals and toured internationally. Subsequent albums have included *Living With Lesbians*, *XX Alix*, *These Women: Never Been Better*, *Yahoo*, *Australia!* and *Love and Politics*.

Tickets for Dobkin's Alverno performance are \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door. Tickets are available at Outpost Foods, Just Us, Afterwords Bookstore and People's Books.

"A Raisin in the Sun" at Madison Rep Through March

Madison — The Madison Repertory Theatre is presenting Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, the classic tale of one African American family's struggle to better their condition, from March 8-31 in the Isthmus Playhouse of the Madison Civic Center, 211 State Street.



Audrey Morgan is Mama and Vikki Myers is daughter-in-law Ruth in the Madison Rep's production of "A Raisin in the Sun." Photo: Jon McGinty

As *A Raisin in the Sun* opens, Lena Younger is a day away from receiving \$10,000 from her late husband's insurance policy. She sees the windfall as a chance to get her family into a house with some elbow room in a more

secure neighborhood.

Her son Walter Lee (originally played by Sidney Poitier), however, wants to quit his demeaning job as a chauffeur and buy a one-third interest in a liquor store. Meanwhile, his sister Beneatha, a spirited woman with an emerging awareness of her African heritage, wants part of the inheritance to pay her way through medical school.

Not all these hopes can be realized. But in resolving the drama, Hansberry presents a compelling picture of family dynamics, economic oppression and aspirations, racism and race consciousness and other critical themes that have given *Raisin* — first produced in 1959 — such staying power in the American theater.

With *A Raisin in the Sun*, Hansberry (who studied literature and drama at the University of Wisconsin from 1948-50) became the youngest American (29) and the first African American woman ever to win the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play of the Year.

In the Madison Rep production, co-produced with the New American Theatre of Rockford, **Audrey Morgan** plays Lena Younger, **Cedric Young** her son Walter Lee, and **Jenna Ford**, Beneatha.

For tickets and showtimes to *Raisin*, call (608) 266-9055.

Chicago's Mountain Moving Coffeehouse Sets Spring Schedule

Chicago — Fresh from her salty and sassy appearance at the 4th annual Midwest Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual College Conference at Beloit College in February, lesbian comic **Karen Williams** heads the line-up for the spring season at Chicago's Mountain Moving Coffeehouse.

Williams will host a lively talk show called *Lez B Gay* at Mountain Moving March 16. The following Saturday, March 23, activist and poet **Chris Grussendorf** will speak out on the realities of the "sex abuse industry." On March 30, a memorial service will be held to honor African American lesbian writer **Terri Jewell**, who took her life late last year.

On April 13, in her annual Chicago gig, **Alix Dobkin** will perform at Mountain Moving. On April 27, homegirl **Marcia Wilke** will present her critically acclaimed monologue *Are You Happy?* On May 4, **Jamie Anderson** will present her warm and witty original

lesbian tunes, and on May 11, Quebec songbird **Lucie Blue Tremblay** will weave her magic in a special show in conjunction with Mother's Day. Mothers who accompany their daughters can attend the concert free.

Mountain Moving Coffeehouse is located at 1545 W. Morse Street in northern Chicago. Doors open at 7:30pm. Most shows begin at 8:30pm and consist of two sets. For further information, call (312) 477-8362.

Florentine Opera Offers Verdi's "Rigoletto" March 15-17

Milwaukee — The Florentine Opera Company will mount Giuseppe Verdi's operatic masterpiece *Rigoletto* at Uihlein Hall of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts March 15, 16 and 17.

Based on a French play by **Victor Hugo**, *Rigoletto* tells the story of a tragic comedian who is both physically and emotionally deformed. In this opera, Verdi created one of his most powerful characterizations, while the opera as a whole is perhaps his most brilliantly tuneful score. The music of *Rigoletto* is immediately recognizable with specta-



The Florentine Opera presents "Rigoletto" March 15-17 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

ular arias, duets and the famous quartet.

In the Florentine production of *Rigoletto*, Maestro **Stephen Lord** will conduct the **Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra** and six internationally recognized vocalists will make their Milwaukee debuts: **Mark Rucker** and **Yalun Zhang**, baritones alternating in the title role; **Jane Giering De Haan** and **Jeanine Thames**, sopranos alternating in the role of Gilda; **Jianyi Zhang** in the tenor role of the Duke of Mantua; and **Edward Russell**, a bass as the assassin Sparafucile.

(Continued on Page 26)

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(Arts, Continued from Page 25)

Two added highlights: UW-Milwaukee Music Professor **Corliss Phillabaum** will give an *Opera Insights* talk in the Magin Lounge of the Marcus Center before each performance; and the Italian Community Center will display an exhibit of *Rigoletto* memorabilia outside the shows as well.

For tickets to *Rigoletto*, call (414) 273-7206 or (800) 472-4458.

Mrs. Fun Joins Other Top Performers at Bloomington Festival

Bloomington — Milwaukee's jazz-funk duo **Mrs. Fun** will be performing their eclectic compositions at the **National Women's Music Festival** in Bloomington, Indiana this June. The 22nd annual fest runs from June 6-9.

Mrs. Fun's **Kim Zick** and **Connie Grauer** will be sharing the bill on Friday night's Mainstage concert with vocalist **Melanie DeMore** and outrageous Lesbo comic **Lea Delaria**. Saturday and Sunday night Mainstage acts include: **Ronnie Gilbert**, reading and singing from her original play *Mother Jones*; **Swagi Taiko**, Japanese drummers and dancers; **Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir**; blues crooner **Dianne Davidson**; **Kathryn Warner**; and the salsa band, **Azucar Y Crema**.

Additional festival features are dances, jam sessions, open mikes, round robins, karaoke night, a women's film fest, theatrical presentations, sports and more. Speakers include **Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer**, writers **Jewelle Gomez**, **Pat Califia** and **Karla Jay**, activist **Mandy Carter**, and many others.

For a registration form, write to NWMF, P.O. Box 1427, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Or e-mail to: wia@indynet.com.

Three New Exhibits on Display at Madison Arts Center

Madison — The Madison Arts Center is hosting three important exhibitions by modern artists through May 12.

Louisa Chase: Prints, 1981-1996 includes over 30 prints in a wide variety of media, including woodblocks, etchings, lithographs, serigraphs and mono-prints. It surveys the whole of **Louisa Chase's** innovative printmaking career.

Comprised of 23 oil paintings and 13 ink drawings, *View — Julia Fish: Selected Paintings and Drawings, 1985-*

1995 is the first museum survey of work by the Chicago artist **Fish** depicts familiar subjects such as clouds, brick walls, lawns and floor tiles in closely cropped views. Her treatment of the painted surface is inventive, with lush, dramatic colors and a subtly skewed perspective.

Also on display is *Survoyeur*, a multimedia installation created for the Art Center's State Street Gallery by Madison artist **Daniel S m a j o - R a m i r e z**. Combining painting, sculpture and video, this room-scale environment uses the large window to dramatize the acts of looking and perceiving.

The Madison Arts Center is at 211 State Street. For more information, call (608) 257-0158.

Music Compositions of Paul Bowles Now on CD

New York — **Paul Bowles**, acclaimed author of *The Sheltering Sky* and other works, was actually a composer first — a composer who studied with **Aaron Copland** no less. For the first time ever, some of Bowles's music is collected on a CD, released by Largo Records.

That Bowles's music is not better known is due mostly to his own reclusiveness, his expatriate life in Tangiers, and his unwillingness to label or promote himself as a composer. But compose he did, much of the best work in the 1930's and '40's, and he collaborated with such world class artists as **Copland**, **Leonard Bernstein**, **Marc Blitzstein**, **Benjamin Britten**, **John Cage**, **Merce Cunningham** and **Lukas Foss**.

The CD includes Bowles's *Concerto for Two Pianos, Winds and Percussion*, *Music for a Farce*, *Incidental Music for "Hippolytos"* and *"Salome"* and several concert works: two wind instrument sonatas, a song cycle and the *Night Waltz*.

Ask for the Paul Bowles CD at your classical record outlet, or call (212) 371-6690 to order it.

Also on the Arts Scene...

Waterloo — *The Winds of Heaven Dance Between Us — A Ballad for America*



"Thicket," a 1983 black and white woodcut by Louisa Chase, is just one of many Chase prints currently on display at the Madison Arts Center.

will be performed by **Jinx Davis** to the musical accompaniment of **Hannah Jon Taylor** and **Merritt L. Mapp** at the **Mode Theatre** in Waterloo, Wisconsin in northwest Jefferson County Saturdays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 8pm. One Friday show will be performed March 29. For tickets and directions, call (800) 280-9632.

Milwaukee — The **Wisconsin Cream City Chorus** had the honor of performing for employees of the **Miller Brewing Company** during a weeklong celebration of diversity in February. Miller has been a supporter of the chorus for years. Preparations are underway for two spring concerts: *The Gay Concert II*; *Anything Goes* April 13 and the annual spring concert in June. To learn more about the Cream City Chorus, call (414) 344-9222.

Milwaukee — The **Milwaukee Players** will present *I Hate Hamlet* at the **Pitman Theater** of **Alverno College**, 3401 S. 39th Street, March 21-24. Performances are Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 2pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for those age 17 and under. For tickets, call (414) 647-6050.

In Step seeks Arts News from towns and cities across Wisconsin. Send press releases and photos to: *In Step*, 225 S. Second Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204. Or fax us at (414) 278-5868.

CORRECTION: In the Arts section of our last issue, the photo of Present Music's Kevin Stalheim should have been credited to Huibregtse Photography. We regret the error.



Film

"The Birdcage" is Likely to Be a Big Hit

Robin Williams, Nathan Lane Star in Great Gay Farce

By Dale Reynolds



Robin Williams and Nathan Lane play the very Gay couple Armand and Albert in "The Birdcage," a new version of the French farce "La Cage Aux Folles." Photo: Lorey Sebastian

Dying is easy, as the old theatrical adage goes; it's comedy that is hard. Of course, if you've ever performed anything anywhere, you know just how easy it is to die on stage or in a mis-fired film. But when it all comes together — script, direction, performances, etc. — you could die happy.

The Birdcage, the unfortunate title of the remake of the 1978 French farce *La Cage Aux Folles*, is one of the funniest films ever made. This tale of a middle-aged Gay couple who have to bend their own reality to accommodate their son's desire to show off a "normal" family to his prospective in-laws has the benefit of the brilliant talents of Elaine May's screenplay, Mike Nichols' direction, and the ensemble talents of Robin Williams, Nathan Lane, Gene Hackman, and Dianne Wiest.

The Birdcage is one of those perfect acts of art which never condescend to the characters and their situation (unlike the original in which Gays were objects of ridicule), in addition to being blessed with emotions and desires a non-Gay

audience could recognize.

May has kept the original plot intact. Albert and Armand run a drag nightclub in the South Beach of Miami which caters to straight tourists as well as Gays. As in the original, Albert (Nathan Lane) is suffering the pangs of middle-age angst and Armand (Robin Williams) has to constantly cajole and wheedle in order to keep him on-target as the lead act.

Into this stress comes Armand's 20-year-old son, Val, with the announcement that he is soon to marry — not just a sweet, wonderful young woman, but the daughter of a radical-right, Moral Majority-type senator. Val asks Armand to entertain the homophobic couple, and in order to carry it off, Albert will have to be kept from his own home. This, of course, creates one of the more memorable dinners in cinematic history, climaxing in the drag queen saving the senator's ass from the hostile press. Naturally, all ends well, and comically.

Nichols' acknowledged strengths lie in his ability to keep comedy within human proportions. He's a genius in the

field, having become a master after 40 years of work. In one sense, *Birdcage* is a distillation of his entire career, combing plot and character into a seamless whole, making audiences laugh uproariously in one continuous mood of elation. This critic laughed so hard, he peed — straight up!

GREAT COMIC PERFORMANCES

The comic rhythms of *Birdcage* start with the written word (May adapted it from the groundwork of the original French writers), aided and abetted by Nichols, and fleshed out in both script-form and improvisations by the cast, all of whom are dead-on perfect, from the leads to the actors playing the press. One fabulous line is delivered by the *National Enquirer* reporter, who has been staking out the senator and his wife. Bitching about the other press having found out, he exclaims, "Those vultures!"

The Birdcage is a film which can be appreciated by non-Gay audiences as well as Gay ones. But this time around the central characters, and the other performers, are not objects of ridicule. Perhaps the blazing trails which *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, and *To Wong Foo... Cleared of Homophobic Brush* make it easier for the film makers to show that drags are theatre people, no more, no less. Of course, Albert is a melodramatic woman, but Lane keeps it within bounds, and his playing out his role of Val's "mother" is quite realistic within the guise of comedy.

The cast truly is extraordinary. Great actors such as Williams and Hackman and Wiest no longer surprise us with their acting abilities. But I don't think Hackman has ever been given the opportunity of a great comic director backing him up, to play such outrageous farce with such cool, deadpan, demeanor. His is a performance well-nigh perfect.

(Continued on Page 33)

MARCH
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TV/VIDEO

"Jeffrey," "Two Girls in Love" Now on Home Video

Los Angeles, CA — *Jeffrey* and *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love*, two of the best queer films



Bryan Batt and Patrick Stewart play lovers Darius and Sterling in "Jeffrey," now on video.
Photo: Michael Ginsberg

released in the US last year, are now available on home video.

Jeffrey is Paul Rudnick's hilarious tale of a '90's kind of Gay guy, Jeffrey (Steven Weber), who decides to swear off sex because of the AIDS epidemic. The problem is, he's just met the man of his dreams, the HIV-positive hunk Steve (Michael T. Weiss). The movie's supporting characters include Patrick Stewart as the flamboyant Sterling, with Bryan Batt as his partner, Darius.

Two Girls in Love tells the charming story of first love between high school students: the working class tomboy Randy, played by Laurel Holloman, and the wealthy, brainy and ever-so-proper Evie (Nicole Parker). In scenes that are alternately poignant and hilarious, the movie focuses on the reactions of teenage friends and each girls' family members to the budding relationship. The climactic scene has the lovers holed up in a hotel with friends and family members closing in.

Ask for both *Jeffrey* and *Two Girls in Love* at your local video store.

Self-Defense Video for Gays Just Released

San Jose, CA — *The Best Defense: Surviving the Streets*, the only self-defense video exclusively for the Gay

and Lesbian community, has just been released by Wolfe Video and the Best Defense Inc.

The Best Defense: Surviving the Streets is the first in a 3-tape series. Tapes 2 and 3 will be released during Pride season this June. The tapes demonstrate easy and practical self-defense techniques that can be learned and used by the average person with no formal training in the martial arts. Interviews with Gay and Lesbian counselors, violence survivors, a former police chief and Seattle's Q-Street Patrol are included.

"The idea for *Best Defense* grew out of discussion among martial artists at the Gay Games in 1994 in New York," said Darl Schaff, lead instructor on the videotape. "We were concerned about the rising rates of Gay bashing and wanted to do something to help people protect themselves."

The Best Defense: Surviving the Streets is available from Wolfe Video for \$29.95. Call (800) GET-WOLFE to order.

Channel Surfing...

Los Angeles, CA — Pissed off about some anti-Gay slur you've seen on TV? Or tickled pink at some positive representation of Gays or Lesbians on the boob tube? Now you can let your feelings be known immediately. Here are the e-mail addresses of some of the major networks: ABC — abcaudr@ccabc.com; CBS — marketing@cbs.com; FOX — jpr@foxnetwork.com; and NBC — nbcshows@msn.com.

San Francisco, CA — *Out for a Change: Addressing Homophobia in Women's Sports* is an educational video suitable for high school or college classrooms and libraries. *Out for a Change* "exposes the devastating emotional impact homophobia has on all women athletes" and "clearly shows that homophobia is a political tool used to retain straight male control over the multi-billion dollar sports industry." A curriculum guide is also available. Call Woman Vision at (415) 346-2336.



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No Nonsense

St. Patrick's Day: Keep It Gayly Green on March 17th!

By Sister Dana Van Iquity

What's this I be hearin' then that ye're not plannin' on celebratin' the good St. Paddy's Day in true Irish style?

Sure, and the curse be upon ye now of a score of Notre Dame nuns whackin' yer knuckles raw with rulers, if such be the case with ya, ya naughty Gay lad or Lesbian lass. Sure and begorrah, if — (are you finding this brogue accent as hard to take as I am? Let's just chill and talk normal, Okay?)

So, you're just going to act like March 17th was just any other day, arguing that you're not first generation Irish and why should you make a fuss over some old sainted dweeb who drove the snakes from the Emerald Isle a bazillion years ago?

Yet, as card-carrying queers, we're supposed to have this frenzied compulsion to put on a special costume for every holiday that comes around! So why is it so many festive fags and decorative dykes manage to forget St. Patrick's Day — the one chance to drape yourself in green and not be issued major fashion violation citations? St. Patrick's Day is your opportunity to seek greener pastures in the world of haute couture. The nice thing is you needn't stray too far from your personal lifestyle while maintaining that touch of green — so Gay, so gala, so Irish. And remember, green is the third color in our wonderful rainbow flag!

WEARIN' OF THE GREEN

It may be too much to expect you leathermen to find special green chaps to wear for the occasion, but your regular leathers plus a nice green jock strap will certainly do the trick (and maybe the trick will even do *you!*). Try wearing a green cock ring (but not too tight, or the effect will be purple rather than green).

Sophisticated drag queens (as opposed to inexperienced, green ones) will want to plan ahead before the really high fashion greens are snatched up at Goodwill or that fine Irish boutique, St. Vincent O'Paul. And be sure to allow several weeks to track down size 14 emerald pumps and matching bag. You'll want to make a special trip to Wig-O-Rama for the perfect green hairpiece,

and perhaps weave in some shamrocks while spraying layers of Aqua (sorry, it doesn't come in green) Net. Beware the greenhouse effect while destroying the ozone layer with your hair spray.

You cowboys and cowgirls will make the cowhands green with envy, two-steppin' the Irish jig at the country-western bar in your green, ten-gallon cowboy hat and green boots with spurs (handy hint: buy cheap silver and let it tarnish to a nice green shade).

The true blue (green, I mean) queer activist will don a green plaid jacket with day-glo green protest stickers plastered all over it. Wear green baggie shorts and spray paint your Doc Martens green. If you don't have green socks, just let your dirty white ones ferment a few weeks in the laundry hamper until they become a lovely mildew green in color. Dye your hair green and put shamrocks on the spikes. Carry a green whistle and blow it against those red-neck fundamentalists until you are blue in the face.

GUPPIE ATTIRE

Guppies (Gay Upwardly Mobile Professionals) will shell out many greenbacks for green Armani suits with imported Italian green shoes (sorry, they don't import green Irish shoes — for that matter, I'm not sure the Irish even wear shoes). To achieve the proper Irish 'do, bleach your head severely, then spend several hours in an over-chlorinated hot tub until your hair turns a charming green tinge. Wear your green

linen shirt and your green power tie. And be sure to forego those trendy lattes for more suitable Irish coffees.

If you are protesting the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy on Gays in the military, here is an excellent opportunity to don your green fatigues, fill your green canteen with Irish whiskey and your mess kit with corned beef and cabbage.

For the truly daring, try renting a Leprechaun costume complete with those green pointy shoes with bells on the toes. Be sure to leap and frolic around alot, so at least you'll be a moving target and not a sitting duck.

The truly flamingly out-of-the-closet Irish will wear nothing but green from head to toe, with every little cutesy Irish button known to humankind: "I'm Irish, eat your heart out," "I have the luck of the Irish" and "Kiss me, I'm Irish." This last one will have delightfully surprising results if pinned to your crotch area.

But one important note: The Irish are not particularly known for their wisdom or safety consciousness, so avoid "Irishy" behavior and don't be a sexual greenhorn: carry plenty of green rubbers, green dental dams and green rubber gloves.

So, be it emerald, forest, kelly, lime, olive or leafy: Keep it Gayly Green on March 17!

*Sr. Dana (Dennis McMillan)
is a member of San Francisco's
drag troupe, the Sisters of
Perpetual Indulgence.*



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Zodiacscope

Out In The Stars

Astrological Forecast for March, 1996

By Sister Dana Van Iquity

Although they always say "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb," I refuse to believe it. I believe that, with the Sun moving from mystical Pisces into pioneering Aries, March comes out loud, proud and rambunctious, as we all should. Amen!

ARIES

Use this affirming time to strategize and revitalize all projects that will help you leave your mark on the world. It's time to consult spiritual advisors and meditate on what secret obstacles are holding you back. Then, in true Rambo fashion, pick up the lavender gauntlet and charge ahead. Others better get out of the way — fast.

TAURUS

Friends provide the support you need to deal with major career changes. Thank goodness that Proud Bulls are fairly stable folk, because the effects of both Uranus and Pluto will have you re-evaluating long-held views on professional goals as they impact inner contentment. Have you built your house of cards on other peoples' money and values? Expect a stale wind.

GEMINI

A warm Sun shines on professional aspirations. It may seem your timing is excellent this month as ideas and opinions find their way to the right authoritative ears. The secret is, of course, to balance career with the needs of partners. Expect transformative changes for all pink Twins in some one-to-one relationships. You can't live with 'em and you can't live without 'em!

CANCER

Even sheltered Gay Crabs need to poke their heads out of their shells every so often for a breath of fresh air. This is the time! Get out there and see the world. If funds are tight, improvise dear. Try a foreign film and an exotic dinner. It's time for changes in your day-to-day work, and I suggest that you

get some inspiration from these unlikely sources.

LEO

Proud Lions have more than their fair share of sexual decisions to make this March. The Sun highlights the beauty of sexual intimacy coupled with self-realization, while other planets upset the applecart of harmonious domesticity. Expect surprises galore in partnerships for good or otherwise. Thankfully, volcanic Pluto knows how to have a good time. Buy a lottery ticket.

VIRGO

If you thought work was boringly predictable, think again, dear Virgin. The planets conspire to throw all queer Virgos into a tailspin on the job. It may all seem too much, but I believe that sometimes it's good to throw a Molotov into the mix. Who knows? You may take over the entire company, and you can clean it up from the ground up. Don't forget to spoil partners mercilessly.

LIBRA

Sociable Libras should focus efforts on detailed, work-intensive projects. Your energy level is high, your mind is keen and focused, and you'll accomplish a great deal with relatively little stress. Fun, on the other hand, may have its ups and downs. Just when you thought it was safe to dive right in, someone drained the pool. Never fear, a fabulous lifeguard is there to revive you.

SCORPIO

Early March will have you swaying to the music, feasting lavishly on sweets and partying up a storm, but just wait. Dissipated Scorpions needn't worry about the impending bathing suit season. Exercise will pay off handsomely for all motivated Scorps with access to a Nautilus machine. Use the latter part of March to rack up those weights and to eat sensibly.

SAGITTARIUS

Gay Archers have several "outer" planets in very personal places. What this means is that great changes and modifications are in store for you within the basic areas of your life: what you value, how you communicate, and how you even appear to others. It may be that the world will see a brand new you from head to toe to brain next year at this time. Wear clean underwear.

CAPRICORN

Even serious, conservative Caps mirthfully chatter on this month. You are in the process of cleaning out your cosmic closet, and it will feel like a weight has been lifted off your shoulders. The Sun brightens communications, so use this energy to put in a good word or an insightful letter to the editor and push our agenda one step forward. Heck, make it two steps forward!

AQUARIUS

Surprises are in store for all Aqueerians who are planning that big coming out party. Feisty Uranus plants a wet one on your best laid plans, but don't panic. The Sun is there to keep you strong, steady and always in fashion. You have the composed wherewithal to keep on dancin' to the beat even as the planets rock and roll. Show 'em how it's done, honey!

PISCES

Prepare for a dollop of self-confidence as various planets impact and energize your public persona. It may seem that you can do no wrong, so get out there and show the world what you do when you are inspired. One word of advice: surprises are in store for the most unexpected sources. Some you will like and some you won't. Keep your third eye open and focused.

(c) 1996, Lichtenstein

QUEER DUCK

by Hofmann

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(Film, Continued from Page 27)

Wiest plays her ditsy housewife with a balance of submission and dominance which is frightening, as well as comically brilliant. Relative unknowns Dan Futterman as Val and Calista Flockhart as his intended, Barbara, hold their own, although they don't have the grand parts; leave that to their elders. Hank Azaria, normally a heavy, is the sissified Agador, sensibly made Latino here (this being Miami). He exhibits a farceur's brilliant timing in his inability to walk in regular shoes.

The Birdcage will be a hit and will be cited in decades to come for its freeing of American fears about Gay people. It shows us as regular folk when we choose to be, and how ridiculous the Christian Right looks trying to demonize us.



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STARK REALITY

Beautiful Life

The Benefits of Cyber Popularity

By Kirk Stark

Life becomes more and more fascinating as I get older. After years of being considered interesting and exotic (read:

weird), I have hit on something somehow and now am moving into a phase of my life where I am considered popular

No, I didn't sell my soul or anything that banal, all I did was go on the Internet.

Through various chat rooms I belong to on Internet Relay Chat (IRC), as well as a few pictures of myself that have by some miracle looked good without being touched up, I am being offered chances to travel across the country. Though my personality is considered repellent in my home area, it seems to be a magnet to men scattered around the 48 contiguous states, and I've become some bizarre electronic debutante from Hell, invited to all the best cotillions.

Over the past four months, on the power of my Cyber popularity, I've been to Vancouver, British Columbia, New York City, Chicago, Indianapolis, Washington, D.C., and Jacksonville Florida, meeting gentleman after gentleman, interviewing and assessing men for relationship potential. And — none of it has been on my dime.

I haven't asked them to do it, but for some reason, all of them have felt since they were the ones who wished to have me there, they should pay for the ticket and handle all the arrangements. Not that I'm complaining mind you. It's nice to have people desire one's company enough to work for it.

Now, all these men have been screened by my, thus-far, infallible ability to assess men for the slightest latent bizarreness. If they have any quality that would make me wonder if they are Dahmeresque I back off in a heart beat. I find that talking to someone on IRC for forty plus hours, combining that with long phone conversations and a picture generally gives me a clear enough idea if they are going to be worth meeting.

As it has all been successful thus far, it is interesting lying back and taking it all in. From being a pariah of the bars, someone no one would talk to, to being the one everyone desires — it's a heady change. You are not the wallflower or the one people avoid, you are the one whom people fight to have an audience with.



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OH, TO BE POPULAR!

The men I have met have been characterized by an excellent balance of civility, gentility, and perversion. I am treated like gold: taken out to excellent dinners and events, shown off as a trophy babe, and brought to fascinating events and clubs. And well — the sex hasn't been too damn bad either.

Now, this isn't to say that life is all caviar and Crystal. Not everything has been totally perfect. On one occasion I was not attracted to my host, and therefore could not give him what he wanted, and on another my host was not interested in me physically. The worst situation was with someone who, though they loved me, could not deal with it because it would have meant too much risk and personal disclosure. Other than that, it's been a hit and an unqualified success.

But, I do fear popularity has its cost. After four months of a near non-stop travel schedule, I have seen and done much. And while the offers haven't even begun to dry up, in the midst of this cavalcade the reality of it is giving me pause and making me wonder.

Popularity is a drug. It's addictive. For people who've never experienced it before, it is like a deluge after the drought — an oasis in the desert of datelessness. After drinking the rarefied waters, can one ever be content again with the lesser things? Can one again be content with less than excitement, with less than popularity, with the savage doldrums of "real life?"

This has been on my mind for the last month of my reign as the "Vixen of IRC." I've been thinking as I have traveled to my last few destinations: what if I am simply the flavor-of-the-month, what if this ends tomorrow, what if this is my only chance at happiness? Things that would make a less secure person curl into the fetal position, even if they are in first class sipping Dom Perignon.

The thought has bothered me, as I must say, it feels good to be desired and to have the ability to be picky. It is fascinating to travel, see new places, look at new faces, and see what life is like through other people's eyes. To be part of these other lives, seeing the possibilities, and in some cases, being courted in old-fashioned style is wonderful. It is high romance at times, and that is worth gold in itself.

GRAB THAT BRASS RING!

But what would I do were this to all end tomorrow? Would I become bitter, be disgruntled, or shoot at Strom Thurmond to prove my love to Antonio Banderas? Maaaaaybe. But except for idea number three, I doubt it.

At the very least this has provided me with wonderful memories, and all but one of the men I have met remain good friends of mine. I can count on them, as they can count on me. Good friends are worth their weight in Beluga. The adventures themselves, some of which make the best porno movies look boring and cliched, will be set in words of fire on my mind for at least this life and the next two after it.

It's been WORTH it.

If you ever fall into this, if the brass ring ever comes into reach for you as it has for me, grab that bitch and hold on tight. But as you hold onto the brass ring, have no expectations. Don't think it will bring you love, fulfillment, or permanence. Don't think anything, except about enjoying the time you have and the people you are with. Remember the words "please" and "thank you" (good manners win BIG points), pack your bags, and prepare to see EVERYTHING.

You'll never regret what you did as much as you'll regret what you DIDN'T do. Auntie Mame was RIGHT, so if you'll pardon me, I have to belly up to the buffet again before the serving stops, the next dish has been served up, and I think it's an Italian delicacy.



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Jock Shorts

John Cowles Volleyball Tournament Play March 9

Milwaukee — Final tournament play for the John Cowles Volleyball League will take place Saturday, March 9 beginning at 3pm at the Engelmann Hall Gym at UW-Milwaukee. Spectators are welcome to cheer their favorite teams on. At the end of February play, Bodies 'R' Us was in first place, followed by the BESTD Clinic team and GAMMA. The Triangle, the M&M Club, Just Us and CCF round out the League.

GAMMA, Milwaukee's athletic/outdoors/sports organization, is hosting four evenings of open volleyball in March. Volleyball play begins at 7:45pm at the Engelmann Gym on Wednesdays, March 6, March 13, March 20 and March 27. Newcomers are welcome.

On Monday, March 18, GAMMA holds its Book Club Discussion and on Friday, March 22 a Dining Out event at the Wells Street Station. For more information on these events, call (414) 425-2146.

Madison Wrestling Club Practice March 16

Madison — The Madison Wrestling Club holds practice and instruction sessions the first and third Saturdays of each month at 8pm. No experience is required. The next practice is set for March 16. For more information, call (608) 244-8675.

Chicago Smelts Set Swim Practice Schedule

Chicago — The Smelts, Chicago's mostly Gay and Lesbian swim team, invite you to "get wet." Swim practices take place at the Gill Park Pool, 825 W. Sheridan Road. Entrance to the Gill Park Pool is free. Practice times are: Mondays, 7-8:30pm; Tuesdays, 6-7pm; Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm; Thursdays, 6-7pm; and Saturdays, 8:30-9:30am and 9:30-11am.

For more information, call (312) 409-4974.

In Step would like to publish news about your sports team or athletic or outdoor

event. Send press releases and photos to: In Step, 225 S. Second Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204. Or fax us at (414) 278-5868.



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All you can drink

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HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY

Sunday March 17th

Green Beer

Free Beer for those with

Green Socks

or

Green Underwear

*Tight Butts
Drive'em Nuts !!*

SATURDAYS

Male Strippers

11:30pm

Performers Needed for Friday & Saturday Shows. Call for an audition.

Keepin' In Step

By Jamie

Another 2 weeks has gone by and lots has happened since last deadline. I'm sure you have heard that the Hotel Washington Complex burned to the ground, Sunday, February 18th.

My phone rang early that Sunday morning with In Step editor Jamakaya on the other end with the news. At first it didn't sink in, but after my Sunday morning brain processed what it just heard, I was stunned. Rod's, the only place in the world that I actually had my underwear ripped from my fully clothed body. New Bar, where I spent many nights dancing until I was drenched in sweat. Cafe Palms, where me and a bunch of people from Janesville sat for hours havin' a hoot. And of course Hotel Washington, where after all of the above activities, I would sleep until check-out time. They are all gone.

I made the trip to Madison that evening to get a look for myself. It was an incredible sight. People were standing outside of the safety fence in awe, some even with tears streaming down their face. I will admit I came close to tears standing there looking at what was left. I snapped a couple photographs and headed to my next assignment (I'll get that in a minute).

A week later, I went back during the daytime to get a better look and better photographs of Hotel Wash. People were still coming around to "get a look" and "pay their last respects" to the old building. It was like going to a funeral. I spoke to the security guard who told me that nobody was hurt and there are plans to rebuild. Hopefully the rebuild-

ing will happen soon. My best wishes go out to the Scheel family and all of the staff who were left wondering what was in store for them. For more details, see the article in this issue.

Valentine's Day!!! I actually received a secret Valentine's Day card. I went to the In Step office to drop off my column and there it was, waiting for me in my mail slot. An envelope with little

hearts all over it, addressed to me. It was soooooo sweet. To that secret Valentine I say thank you, you made my day, and of course I am curious who you are!

There were Valentine's Day events all over town. If you were lucky enough to have a date, M&M was serving up a romantic dinner for two, with candles, flowers, romantic music and of course

(Continued on Page 38)

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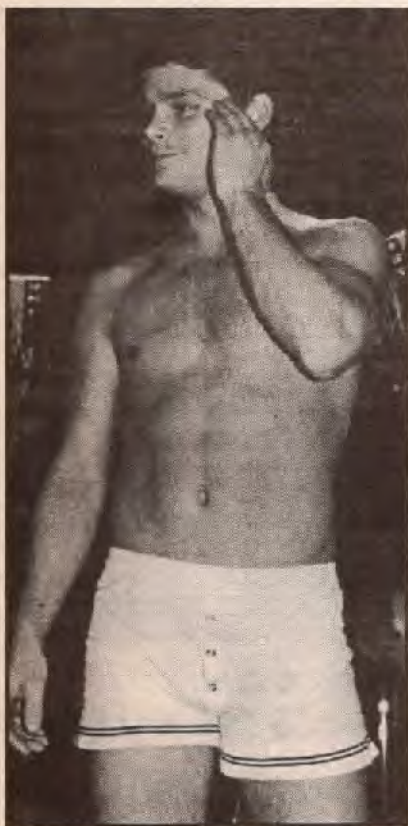
Paddy Cakes, Miss Gay Southern Wisconsin USofA poses with staff members of Manoeuvres.
Photo: Jamie

(In Step, Continued from Page 37)

great food. Mama Roux was also servin' up the romance with great food and a cozy, romantic atmosphere to win over the love of your life. Ballgame threw a Valentine's Day Fun Party with free food and door prizes. 1100 Club had a Valentine's Day Drag show with local "female impersonators." Gargoyles had a very steamy underwear contest that I was fortunate enough to cover (yes there are pictures). 3B's had a Valentine's Day Dance featuring Line Band Stardust. I have heard the band on a previous assignment, and I can tell you they are a great band.

For Valentine's Day I had a great time. I did not have a date so it was a night out with my friends, and yes, at the end of the night I did "get lucky." Unfortunately, I was the only person there to enjoy the moment. Oh well, maybe next year.

Manoeuvres in Madison hosted the Miss Southern WI-USofA pageant Sunday the 18th. (That was the "other assignment" the weekend I was in Madison.) It was standing room only. Of course, I usually get a decent place to stand so I got some great photos.



In Step shutterbug Jamie says this guy had his vote at Gargoyles' Underwear Party. Yeah! Photo: Jamie



Talk about cutting a rug! Paddy Cakes survived this strenuous routine to win the title Miss Gay Southern Wisconsin USofA at Manoeuvres in Madison, February 18. Photo: Jamie

Winner of the 1996 title is Paddy Cakes.

Later that week in Madison, Geraldine's brought in singer, Ronnie Nyles for a full house, February 23rd. Watch for Ronnie Nyles to make another appearance at Geraldie's on March 29th. Hopefully, I will cover that event and bring you pictures.

The Triangle "makeover" continues. The place is starting to come together. Some of the metal is up on the walls and it's lookin' pretty cool. For those of you who keep askin' Rob when completion date is, as I said in a couple of columns ago, "April-ish"!

Well, that is all I have report on for now, so as always: slower traffic keep right. ▼▼▼



A happy couple at La Cage on Valentine's Day. Photo: Jamie

Calendar

MARCH 6

GAMMAVolleyball (Milw): Open Volleyball tonight and every Wednesday, call 425-2146 for more info.

In Between (Milw): Grand Opening Celebration, Grand Opening Weekend, Let's Make a Deal, super grand prize.

MARCH 7

In Between (Milw): Grand opening weekend, Spin Our Wheel for special drink prices 9-close.

Mama Roux (Milw): Thursday evening Singers, featuring Lu Shanti at 9pm.

BESTD (Milw): Women's Walk-In Clinic: from 6-9pm. FMI call 272-2144.

MARCH 8

In Between (Milw): Grand Opening, midnight \$\$\$ balloon drop.

MARCH 9

In Between (Milw): Grand Opening wrap up, prizes, raffles.

"An Evening in the Garden" (Madison): United's second annual wine tasting and dance benefit. Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave. For more information, call (608)255-8582

Frontiners (Madison): Bridge for everyone, 7pm, FMI call David at (608)274-5969

Gay Video Club(Madison): "Jeffrey" "The Vampire of Budapest" 8pm. FMI call (608) 244-8675 eves

Gamma (Milw): Cowles Volleyball League Tournament: 3pm, FMI call 425-2146

Wreck Room (Milw): Oberons Club Night "March (Hare) Madness": Have a very merry un-birthday with us. Raffle, \$5 beer bust 9pm-1am

Women's Center of (Waukesha): Mrs. Fun with special guest performs in a benefit for the Women's Center of Waukesha. \$15 includes show and all-u-can-eat pizza, salad, garlic bread. The Venice Club, 1905 N Calhoun Rd., Brookfield. Great Raffle prizes



Hey, fancy meeting you guys here! Some of the folks at Geraldine's February 18th. Photo: Jamie

MARCH 10

Lesbian Mom's Space (Milw): (Counseling Center, 2038 N Bartlett). Monthly discussions and guest speakers. Child Care Available for a \$2 reservation fee. 2nd Sunday of the month.

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Today's session Co-Parenting

Integrity/Dignity (Madison): 3rd Sunday of Lent, Eucharist and Social Hour for AIDS Caring Community

MARCH 11

Club 219 (Milw): Ginger Spice Memorial Show with many special guests

Frontiers (Madison): Activities planning, FMI call David at (608) 274-5969

MARCH 12

GAMMA (Milw): Board Meeting, FMI call 425-2146

MARCH 13

Frontiers (Madison): Film circle "Celluloid Closet", 7:30pm, call David at (608)274-5959

GAMMA (Milw): Open Volleyball, UWM Engelman Gaym, 7:45pm. Newcomers welcome. Phone 425-2146 FMI

GLEEDA (Kimberly): Dinner & Program meeting 6:30pm, Liberty Hall conference center, Hwy CE. Dinner (optional at 6:30. Topic TBA

MARCH 14

Holiday Invitational Tournament (Milw): Annual "Rita Bowl" fundraiser, 9:30. \$15 or \$18 who want to take the bus to the Red Carpet Regency Lanes. The bus will leave the M&M Club at 8:30pm, For more info call Rick (414) 482-1964 or Jeff 332-9414

Manoeuvres (Madison): St. Pat's Day party a weekend long party. Buck shotz & green doctor's.

Wreck Room (Milw): BESTD HIV testing Traveling Clinic, 5-8pm

MARCH 16

LaCage (Milw): Dance Gay America" will be filming in Dance dance dance from 11pm-close

Frontiers (Madison): "Cruising the Nile", 8pm, FMI Call (608)274-5959

Wrestling Club (Madison): Practice/instruction, no experience okaym 8pm, FMI call (608) 244-8675 (eves)

Northern Womyn's (Green Bay): "Music Mocha & More" 7pm, Preble Park Presbyterian Church, admission \$3 (\$4 non-members)

Argonauts Joint Club Night (Green Bay): 7pm at Java's, special guests, The

Oberons, Buffet dinner, beer & soda bust for \$7.

MARCH 17

Ballgame (Milw): 23rd Anniversary & St Pat's day party from 4pm-on. Great food, door prizes. Shot specials, sing-along with David Wiggins. Thee place to be for St. Pat's!

Manoeuvres (Madison): St. Pat's Day weekend long party. Win a free t shirt for biggest green anything.

Lutherans Concerned (Milw): 5pm potluck and Eucharist at Village Church, 130 E Juneau, fMI call (414)372-9663

PFLAG Meeting (Milw): "Focus on Homophobia" Guests are welcome, treats for St Pat's day. For more info call (414)299-9198

Argonauts Joint Club Program (Green Bay): 2pm at Brandy's II. Special guests, The Oberons, raffle and auction.

Cest La Vie (Milw): St. Patrick's Day party. Green beer (Free for those with green underwear or socks.

Mama Roux (Milw): St. Patrick's Day Party, 3pm-? , Irish Whiskey specials, green beer, corned beef and cabbage, Irish stew & soda bread.

MARCH 18

GAMMA Book Club (Milw): Discussion, 7:30pm, call 425-2146 FMI

MARCH 19

Frontiers (Madison): "Man to Man" Rap, 7:30pm. call David at (608) 274-5959

Positive Voice (Green Bay): general membership meeting 6:30pm, Brown County Central Library, topic: "Farm Boys:The Rural Gay Experience". Illustrated lecture by author Will Fellows

MARCH 20

La Cage (Milw): BESTD Traveling HIV testing, 10pm-1am

Open Volleyball (Milw): call 425-2146 FMI

MARCH 21

Manoeuvres (Madison): Underwear Party. Celebrate the first day of Spring, 2-4-1 Rolling Rock, all night. Win a bar tab for most original underwear.

BESTD Women's Clinic: 6-9pm, FMI call 272-2144

MARCH 22

Alex Dobkin (Milw): A Celestial

evening with "Head Lesbian" and Goddess of womyn's music, Alix Dobkin presented by Hurricane Womyn's Productions. 8pm, Alverno College Alphphonsa Hall, 3401 S. 39th st, Milw. \$15 advance, \$17 door. Tickets available at Outpost, Just Us, Afterwords and People's Books.

MARCH 23

ARCW (Milw): "Make A Promise Dinner" and Auction: Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel. Benefits ARCW. For info or tickets call (414) 273-2729

Gay Video Club (Madison): "Lie Down With Dogs" 4th annual Gay Erotic Video Awards, Best of 95

MARCH 24

Gay Men's Discussion Group (Milw): "Homosexuality and Scripture" 6-8pm, 2038 N Bartlett Ave. For More Information call 271-2565

Integrity/Dignity (Madison): 5th Sunday of Lent. Eucharist and social hour for AIDS activities. ▼ ▼ ▼

**DEADLINE FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE:**

7pm - **MONDAY**
March 4, 1996



Oooh, shake your groove thang — dancing at La Cage Valentine's Day. Photo: Janne

Classies

ROOMMATES

Wanted Roommate: Mature man, quiet lifestyle, 250/month plus 1/2 utilities. Ken 344-1493

Seeking Roommate: GWM Non smoking, employed, roommate to share house in Milwaukee. Washer, dryer, and utilities included. \$270. No pets. (414) 259-0341.

GM Wanted to share my spacious East side condo. Large private bedroom and bath. Laundry, modern kitchen, large furnished living and dining rooms are included. \$360/month plus half electricity. Discount for extra housework. Call Bob at (414) 963-9833 between 9am-10pm.

Roommate GWM to share 4 bedroom house near 60th and National. Call (414) 259-0341. Rent of \$270 includes central air, utilities, and washer/dryer.

Share furnished house with two other gay roommates to help with expenses. Includes utilities, laundry, and central air. 5 miles from downtown. \$270 Call 259-0341.

Roommate Wanted to share 2 bedroom upper apartment, overlooking Lake Winnebago, in Oshkosh. Available Immediately, \$218/Month + 1/2 Utilities and \$175 security deposit. Call Mike (414)426-0109, please leave message

GWM - Looking for roommate possible relationship. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, 300.00 call Dave 871-4089

Sherman Park (49th/Center) Professional GWM, 34, seeks roommate to share large 4 bedroom upper with myself and one other. (My bedroom in attic). Spacious living/dining rooms, woodwork, artificial fireplace, bookcases/Buffer with stained glass, balcony, \$200/Deposit includes most utilities, dishwasher, pantry, cable, laundry, security system, "pet room", fenced yard (will consider pets). 442-3088 Message.

HOUSING

Milwaukee 2-Bedroom Upper Marquette Area: 5 room spacious upper available now. Woodwork, buffet, garage, security system and more. \$380 month + security deposit required. Call after 4pm (414) 342-3336. (Leave message and number.)

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Wanted on Eastside: 2-Bedroom Upper Flat or Apartment w/parking. GWM couple of 23 yrs. (43 & 44) able to make long term arrangement. - \$600. Looking to move June 1st. Phone: 962-5711

Eastside 1 Bedroom: 1855 N. Cambridge, No Pets, Excellent Manager, parking available, laundry, facilities, convenient locations, on buslines, \$375 to \$425, 225-9444, 962-3619.

Eastside 3 Bedroom: 1838 N Oakland, Humongous, Natural wood, century old, pantry, backporch, laundry facilities, NO Pets, parking available, near lake and downtown. 224-9785 or 962-3619.

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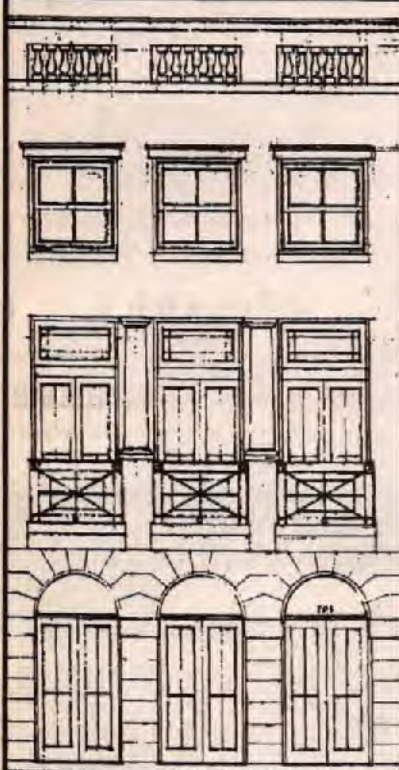
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35 year old GWM Looking for a friendship or relationship. I'm handicapped with speech impediment, but mobile. I would like to settle down with someone. Willing to relocate. Call Mark (414) 253-0921.

W/M 47, 150# seeking to provide pleasure to smooth dark skinned Black Men plus other races. French/Greek, nipple play, pumping, etc. Karl 836 Wheeler Woodstock Illinois 60098 (815) 338-9137.

GWM in Madison seeking other interested in friendship, letter exchange, encounter, experiences. Mature, sensitive, sincere, hairy, beard, bottom, eager & ready to hear from you. PO Box 6083 Madison WI 53716-0083.

Wanted by GWM: 40's, 24-40 yr/o, honest loving monogamous man, any race for friendship/relationship. Interests: movies, concerts, travel and romantic times. Fox Valley Preferred. Lets' Communicate: Don, PO Box 265 Hortonville, WI 54944 (414) 982-6159

GWM: 25, olympic athlete, must preserve confidences when necessary. Must experience to comprehend, appreciate & realize. Would like to share 1000 acre estate on river with intimate. Write JRB 11900 Steffek Road, Marshfield, WI 54449 905: People Men/Men

GWM BOTTOM, 44, seeks top GBM for hot times. I'm a bottom and very oral. Me; tall slender smooth and a little feminine! You; over 35, Man of color, well endowed, and horny. Write to Boxholder, PO Box 311, Appleton WI 54912.

Big Bad Stompin Boots attitude and lets fight behavior GWM 5'8" 50+ seeks rowdy young leather roughneck no taller than 5'8" 140 into mega tall heavy boots and gets off using them in friendly to rough endurance to submissions outdoors wrestle and fight workovers sex limited to dick engorging combat fore-play and cock to cöck humping lay cum in you jeans climax. Right height weight warrior big boots havenot gears from my stable of size 9-10 rugged twenty inch poleclimbers logger boots. no maybes or drugs 259-9069"

Wisconsin Bares: A Bi & Gay Male nudist group. Meet new men, make new friends in a safe, relaxed and confidential atmosphere. For information send your complete date of birth and a SASE to WB, P/O Box 1684, Kenosha, WI 53141.

European GWM Couple 32/33 goodlooking, hung, uncut, seeking intelligent goodlooking three-way, gay, bi, safe 25-50 yrs old partner.

Attractive GWM 30's HWP HIV- seek under 40 hiv- GWM for occasional B&D or ? get togethers (414) 390-3772 weekdays. Milwaukee, or Central UP.



Assessing the competition at the big Underwear Party at Gargoyles Valentine's Day. Photo: Jamie

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LETTERS

Letters must include the writers' name and telephone number, although the name can be withheld from publication upon request.

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Profiles will include news of weddings, awards, promotions and other accomplishments by LesBiGay people or groups across Wisconsin.

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Please submit the complete name, birth and death years and a photo (if available) of the deceased. If you want the photo returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

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Milwaukee, WI 53204
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Guide

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| MW |1/2 Men, 1/2 Women |
| M |Prefer Men Only |
| Mw |Mostly Men, Women Welcome |
| W |Prefer Women Only |
| Wm |Most Women, Men Welcome |
| G/S |Gay & Straight Mixed |
| L/L |Levi/Leather |
| D |Dancing |
| DJ |Disk Jockey, Dancing |
| V |Video |
| F |Food |

APPLETON & FOX VALLEY (414)

BARS

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 6 Pivot Club (MW, DJ, V) | |
| 4815 W. Prospect (Hwy 88) | |
| Appleton 54915 |730-0440 |
| 7 Rascals Bar & Grill (MW, F) | |
| 702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton 54911 |954-9262 |

ORGANIZATIONS

| | |
|--|---------------|
| ECHO (East Central AIDS/HIV Organization) | |
| 725 Butler Ave., Winnebago 54985 |235-5100 |
| Men's HIV+ Support Group Appleton |733-2068 |
| Family HIV Support Group Appleton |733-2068 |
| PFLAG Fox Cities | |
| Box 75, Little Chute, 54140 |749-1629 |
| Fox Valley AIDS Project | |
| 120 N Morrison, #201, Appleton 54911 |733-2068 |
| Gay AA/Anon |494-9904 |
| G.L.E.E.D.A. (Gay & Lesbian Education & Economic Development Alliance) | |
| PO Box 8286, Oshkosh 54903 | |
| Silent Legacy G/L Student Group at UW-O | |
| 800 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, 54901 |424-1826 |
| Synergy (AIDS Support Network) | |
| PO Box 2137, Fond du Lac 54935 |235-6100 |
| Lawrence Univ./Gay, Lesbian, Bi Group (Lawrence University) | |
| Box 599, Appleton 54912 (Scott) |832-7503 |

GREEN BAY (414) & NORTHEAST WI

BARS

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 3 Brandy's II (MW, L/L) | |
| 1126 Main Street 54301 |1-800-311-3197 |
| 1 Naples Lounge (MW, DJ) | |
| 515 S. Broadway 54303 |432-9646 |
| 2 Java's (MW, V) | |
| 1105 Main 54301 |435-5476 |
| 2 Za's (MW, DJ, V) | |
| 1105 Main 54301 |435-5476 |
| 4 Sass (WM) | |
| 840 S. Broadway 54304 |437-7277 |

ORGANIZATIONS

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Angel of Hope (MCC Church) | |
| PO Box 672, Green Bay 54305 |432-0830 |
| Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club) | |
| PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305 | |
| Gay AA/Anon (Meeting Weekly) Green Bay |494-9904 |
| Bay City Chorus | |
| PO Box 1901, Green Bay 54305 |497-8882 |
| Center Project, Inc. (CPI) (HIV Test/Counsel) | |
| 824 S Broadway, | |
| Green Bay 54305 |437-7400 or (800) 675-9400 |
| Gay/Lesbian Support at UW-GB |465-2343 |
| G/L Guide to N.E. Wisconsin | |
| PO Box 595, Green Bay, 54305 | |
| Men's HIV+ Support | |
| Green Bay |437-7400 |
| Women's HIV+ Support | |
| Green Bay |437-7400 |
| Northern Womyn, Inc. (Lesbian Support/Social Group) | |
| Box 10102, Green Bay 54307-0102 | |
| Parents & Friends of G/L Green Bay |499-7080 |
| Positive Voice | |
| P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305 |499-5533 |
| Men's HIV Support Group | |
| Sturgeon Bay |(414)733-2068 |

ACCOMMODATIONS

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Chanticleer Guest House | |
| 4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234 |746-0334 |
| BlackSmith Inn (Bed & Breakfast) | |
| Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202 |839-9222 |

MADISON (608)

MEDICAL

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) | |
| HIV/AIDS Service Organization | |
| 600 Williamson St, 53701 |(608) 252-6540 |
| FAX |(608) 252-6559 |
| Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday) | |
| 1552 University Avenue 53705 |(608) 262-7330 |



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- Lesbian Parents Network
 PO Box 572, 53701 (608) 255-8582
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 Madison Wrestling Club
 PO Box 8234, 53708 (608) 244-8675
 MAGIC Picnic Committee
 636 W Washington 53703 (608) 256-3404 (EXT 220)
 Men's Alanon (608) 255-8582
 New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation)
 PO Box 1786, 53701 (608) 241-2500
 Nothing to Hide (Gay cable) (608) 241-2500
 Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
 PO Box 1722, 53701 (608) 262-7365
 10% Society (student organization)
 Box 614, UW Mem. Union,
 800 Langdon, 53706 (608) 262-7365
 Unicorns of Madison (L/L club)
 PO Box 536, 53701 (608) 265-8582
 The United (Education, Counseling, Advocacy)
 14 W. Mifflin St., Ste 103, 53703 (608) 255-8582
 UW LesBiGay Alumni Council (Ken) (608) 263-4086
 Womansong (Women's Choral Group) (608) 246-2681

RELIGIOUS

- Integrity/Dignity
 Box 730, 53701 (608) 836-8886
 Affirmation (L/G United Methodists)
 University Church, 1127 Univ. Ave, 53705 256-2353
 James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church
 2146 E Johnson, 53704 (608) 242-8887

MILWAUKEE (414)

ORGANIZATIONS

- ACT UP
 Milwaukee PO Box 1707, 53201 789-8708
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 (regular, Gay meetings) 771-9119
 Beer Town Badgers
 PO Box 840, 53201 Carol 961-0082 or
 BiDefinition Steve 483-5046
 PO Box 07541, 53207

BARS

- 1 Rod's (Mw, L/L, D)
 536 W. Washington (rear) 53703 255-0609
 The New Bar (MW, DJ, V)
 636 W. Washington (upstairs) 53703 255-8765
 2 Maneuvres (MW)
 150 S. Blair, 53703 258-9918
 3 Shamrock (GS, MW, F, D)
 117 W. Main St. 53703 255-5029
 5 Geraldine's (MW, DJ)
 3052 E Washington, 53704 241-9335
 6 Greenbush (G/S, M/W, F)
 914 Regent, 53715 257-BUSH

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Hotel Washington
 636 W Washington Avenue, 53703 (608) 256-3360
 Prairie Garden B&B
 W13372 Hwy 188, Lodi, 53555 800-380-8427

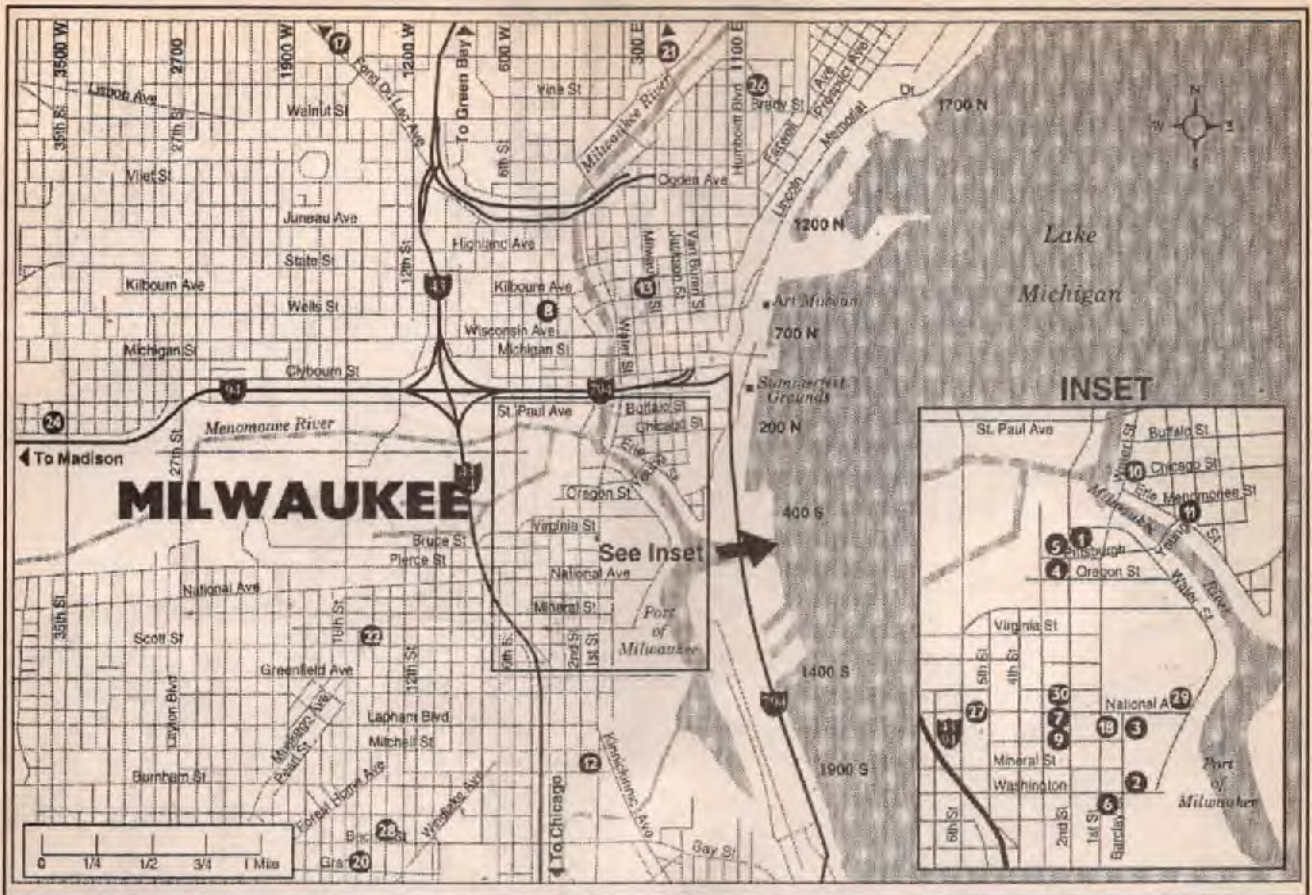
RESTAURANTS

- Cafe Palms
 636 W Washington, 53703 (608) 256-0166

ORGANIZATIONS

- AASPIN Foundation (Goal or Wish Assistance for PWAs)
 2828 Marshall Ct, Ste 210, 53705 (608) 273-4501
 Apple Island (Women's Cultural Center/Hall Rental)
 849 E Washington (608) 258-9777
 Bi? Shy? Why?
 (Bisexual Support Group) Susan (608) 242-0-00
 PO Box 321, 53701 Astrid (608) 231-2622
 Campus Women's Center
 710 University Ave. #202, 53715 (608) 262-8093
 Dairyland Rainbow Squares
 PO Box 1363, 53701-1363 (608) 246-9669
 Delta Lambda Phi (Gay Frat)
 Box 513, Mem. Union, 800 Langdon, Madison 53706
 Different Spokes G/L/B Bicycling Club (608) 241-8184
 18-21 Yr Old Social Group (608) 256-2687
 Frontiers (Gay/Bi Men's Activities Organ.)
 14 W Mifflin, Ste 103, 53703 (608) 274-5959
 Gay/Lesbian Phone Line (608) 255-4287
 Gay/Lesbian Information Recording
 (ask for tape #3333) (608) 263-3100
 Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
 PO Box 1722, 53701
 G/L Educational Employees
 c/o The United (608) 255-8582
 Gay Fathers c/o United (608) 255-8582
 Gay Men's Video Club
 PO Box 8234, 53708 (608) 244-8675
 GALVAnize (Madison LesBiGay Pride)
 PO Box 1403, 53701 (608) 256-4289
 Kissing Girls Productions (Lesbian Cultural Events)
 PO Box 6091, 53716

- Lavender (Lesbian Domestic Violence Support Group) (608) 255-7447
 LesBiGay Issues Committee (UW Advisory Comm.)
 Dean of Students Office, 75 Bascom Hall
 Madison 53706 (608) 263-5700
 LesBiGay Campus Center (Office, Lounge, Resource Center) UW Union (608) 265-3344
 LesBiGay Teen Support Group
 (Briarpatch & Picada) (608) 251-1126/246-7606
 Lesbian, Gay and Bi Law Student Union
 UW Law School, Bascom Mall, Madison 53706



BiNet USA (Milw. Contact) Steve 483-5046 or
 PO Box 93421, 53203 Carol 961-0082

Blacks Education Blacks About AIDS (BEBA) 272-3009

Black Gay Consciousness Raising 933-2136

Caring Bridges (Wholistic Health & Service for PWAs)
 10101 W Wisconsin, 53226 259-6334

Castaways M.C. (Levi/leather club)
 PO Box 1697, 53202-1697

Counseling Center (LesBiGay 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. #210, or
 Box 204, 53201 265-0880

Cream City Squares
 (G/L Square Dancing Club) 445-8080

Cream City Cummers (Safe Sex J/O Club)
 Box 93421, 53203

DAMES (Dykes Against Minority Erotic Suppression
 PO Box 1272, Milwaukee, 53201

Delta Lambda Phi (Gay Frat)
 PO Box 413, Union Box 51, 53201 229-4054

Different Drummer Theatre Alliance (G/L Theatre Co)
 PO Box 92756, 53202 347-0673

Fest City Singers (Gay choral group)
 PO Box 11428, 53211 253-SING

Firebirds (L/L group)
 1224 N. Prospect Ave, Box 89, 53202

Galano Club (chemical free recovery club)
 2408 N. Farwell 276-6936

Gaylaxians (G/L Sci-Fi group)
 c/o Emory Churness, 3815 N 49, 53210 444-3853

GAMMA (athletic/outdoors/social)
 PO Box 1900, 53201 425-2146

Gay/Lesbian/BI Community at UWM
 Box 251, 2200 E. Kenwood 53201 229-6555

Gay Lesbian Education Employees
 of Metro Milw. (GLEEMM), Larry
 & Lesbian Tavern Guild
 209 East National, 53204

Gay People's Union
 PO Box 208, 53201 562-7010

Gay Youth Milwaukee

(regular peer group meetings)
 PO Box 08441, 53209 265-8500

Gay Men's Discussion/Support Group (Bill) 271-2565

Gemini Gender Group (TV/TS/TG Support/Social)
 PO Box 44211, 53214 voice mail 297-9328

Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee
 P. O. Box #62, 53201-0862

Great Lakes Harley Riders
 PO Box 341611, 53234-1611

Human Rights League (HRL)
 PO Box 92674, 53202 228-1921

Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event)
 PO Box 899, 53201 (608) 831-4038

Insight (young women 17-21) support 271-2565

Imani (Support/Social Group for Black Lesbians)
 PO Box 92146, 53202 521-4566

Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support)
 PO Box 27041, West Allis, 53227 548-4344

LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee)
 PO Box 93323, 53203 264-2600

Lesbian, Gay and BI People in Medicine (LGBPM)
 c/o 4042 S. Pine #6, 53207 744-3393

LGC/Women of Color
 PO Box 93594, 53203 454-9300

MGALA (MU Graduates)
 PO Box 92722, 53202

Marquette LesBiGay Student Group
 Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233 288-6873

MATC's Gay & Lesbian Organization (GLD)
 700 W State, Rm 322, 53233 297-7053

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Scott) 982-6124

Narcotics Anonymous (request Gay mtgs.) 543-4850

Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group
 Oberons (Levi/leather club)
 Box 07423, 53207

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
 PO Box 21853, 53221 299-9198

Pathfinders (Youth counseling, shelter)
 1814 East Kane Place, 53202 271-1560

Positive Outcomes/Gay Males
 17-21 (support) 271-2565

PACT (People of All Colors Together)
 PO Box 12292, 53212
 Dave 871-3048 Veral 347-0580

PrideFest (Pride Committee)
 PO Box 93852, 53203 272-FEST

The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)

PO Box 93951, 53203 225-1500

SAGE Milwaukee (For older LesBiGays)
 PO Box 92482, 53202 after 4pm 271-0378

Saturday Softball Beer League (SSBL)
 PO Box 92605, 53202

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 276-8936

Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc.
 PO Box 76116, 53216 777-3986

Shoreline Country Dancers
 PO Box 92273, 53202-0273

Silver Space (Group for Older Lesbians)
 PO Box 371, Elm Grove 53122 271-2565

S.O.S. (Alcohol/Addiction Recovery) 442-1132

Ujima (African Am. Support/Social, Call Eric)
 PO Box 92183, Milwaukee 53202 272-3009

Wi. Leather Men's Assoc. Inc.
 PO Box 897, 53201-0897

RELIGIOUS

Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
 1821 N. 16th St. 344-1746

Dignity (G/L Catholic Church)
 PO Box 597, 53101 444-7177

Integrity Metro Milw (Open & Affirming)
 914 E Knaap, 53211 276-6277

Lutherans Concerned
 PO Box 11864, 53211 372-9663

MAP Spiritual Care
 PO Box 92505, 53202 273-1991

Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church
 UFMCC) PO Box 1421, 53201-1421 332-9985

Plymouth Church-UCC (Open & Affirming)
 2717 E. Hampshire 964-1513

The Sanctuary (Ecumenical, nondenominational)
 1636 W. National 647-9199

St. Camillus (Interfaith AIDS Ministry)
 3651 S KK, 53235 481-3696

St. James Episcopal Church
 833 W. Wisconsin Ave 271-1340

St. Mary the Virgin Catholic Church (Anglican Rite)
 1311 W Lincoln, 53215 643-9313

First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist Church)
 1342 N Astor 273-5257

Village Church (Reconciled in Christ)
 130 E. Juneau Ave 273-7617



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 Brady East STD Clinic (BESTD) (VD, HIV testing,
 hepatitis screening) 1240 E Brady 53202 272-2144
BESTD Women's Clinic
 1240 E Brady, 53202 272-2144
 Gay Men's HIV+ Support Group
 BESTD Clinic 272-2144
 Gay Men's Support Group for Partners of HIV+ Men
 BESTD Clinic 272-2144
 Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms)
 4311 W Vliet, 53208 342-4333
Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP)
 HIV/AIDS Service Organization
 820 N Plankinton, 53203 Office/Staff 273-1991
 AIDS Information 273-2437
Positive Health Clinic
 Dr. Kelly Balfiet (Internal/Infectious Diseases)
 Medical Center Specialties Clinic
 945 N 12, 53233 283-7908
STD Specialties Clinic
 3251 N Holton, 53212 264-8800
Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium
 (Experimental HIV/AIDS Drug Program)
 820 N Plankinton, 53203 273-1991

COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS

- Alternate Lifestyles BBS
 (Gay listings, messages) 933-7572
Back Door BBS, 23 lines, messages, chat,
 games, graphics, Women's area.
 Internet Mail 744-9336
Crossroads BBS (local BBS and Internet PPP Web service. E-
 mail, chatting, games, more) 443-1428
Dr. Pervitis DYM-BBS (e-mail, matching
 sub boards) 873-2938
Dr. Pervitis Wildcat BBS (e-mail, graphics,
 sub-boards) 873-1580
GLINN Multi-Board Super System (news, personals
 guides, files, on-line games, graphics) 289-0145
Starcom BBS (user descrp.,
 files, echo mail) 873-6969

BARS

- 1 Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F)
 196 S. 2nd 53204 273-7474
 3 Boot Camp (M, L/L)
 209 E. National 53204 643-6900
 4 C'est La Vie (Mw, D)
 231 S. 2nd 53204 291-9600
 5 Club 219 (Mw, Dj, V)
 219 S. 2nd 53204 271-3732
 7 Dance, Dance, Dance (Mw, Dj)
 801 S. 2nd 53204 383-8330
 6 1100 Club (Mw, L/L, Dj, F)

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 2 Fannie's (Wm, D, F)
 200 E. Washington 53204 643-9633
 29 Gargoyles
 354 E. National, 53204 225-9676
 7 Grubb's Pub (MW, F)
 807 S 2nd St 53204 384-8330
 30 In Between
 625 S. Second, 53204 273-2693
 27 Just Us (Mw, D, F)
 807 S. 5th St. 53204 383-2233
 22 Kathy's Nut Hut (Wm, G/S, F, D)
 1500 W. Scott 53201 647-2673
 7 La Cage (Mw, Dj, V)
 801 S. 2nd 53204 383-8330
 17 10% Club
 4322 W. Fond du Lac 447-0910
 25 Mama Roux (MW, F)
 1875 N Humboldt, 53202 347-0344
 10 M&M Club (MW, F)

- 124 N. Water 53202 347-1962
 24 Renez CoZ Corner II (DJ, W/M, G/S)
 3500 W Park Hill Ave (I 94& 35th) 933-RENE
 20 Station 2 (Wm, D)
 1534 W. Grant 53215 383-5755
 13 This Is It (M)
 418 E. Wells 53202 278-9192
 12 38's Bar (Mw, D)
 1579 S. 2nd, 53204 672-5580
 18 Triangle (M, V)
 135 E National 53204 383-9412
 11 Wreck Room (M, L/L)
 266 E Erie 53202 273-6900
 9 Zippers (Mw)
 819 S 2nd, 53204 645-8330

RESTAURANTS

- 8 Cafe Melange (MW, G/S, F)
 720 N. Old World 3rd St 53203 291-9889
 7 Grubb's Pub
 807 S 2nd St, 53204 384-8330
 10 M&M/Glass Menagerie
 (lunch, dinner, Sunday Brunch)
 124 N. Water 53202 347-1962
 25 Mama Roux (MW, F)
 1875 N Humboldt, 53202 347-0344
 The Wild Thyme Cafe (Lunch, Brunch)
 231 East Buffalo 276-3144
 Walker's Point Cafe (10am-afterhours)
 1106 S. 1st St, 53204 384-7999

HELP LINES

- Gay Information Svcs.
 (referrals) 444-7331
 Gay People's Union Hotline 562-7010
 Gay Bash Hotline (confidential) 444-7331
 Helpline (Crisis Counseling) 271-3123
 Pathfinders (24-hour Youth
 counseling/referrals) 271-1560
 Wisconsin AIDS Info Line 273-AIDS
 Milw. Mayor's Office LesBiGay Problem Resolution
 Marge Beil 286-2200

SERVICES

- Able Amazon
 (Home Repair, Remodeling) 447-0251
 Alternative Connections (matchmaking) 765-1233
 Rob Amelang, Photography Plus
 116 East Pleasant Street, 53212 263-9992
 American Family Insurance/Richard Robinson
 5401 N 76, 53218 538-7575
 Bulton & Badge Advantage 671-6711
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 Rich Dolan 423-1500
 Discovery & Recovery Clinic (Counseling)

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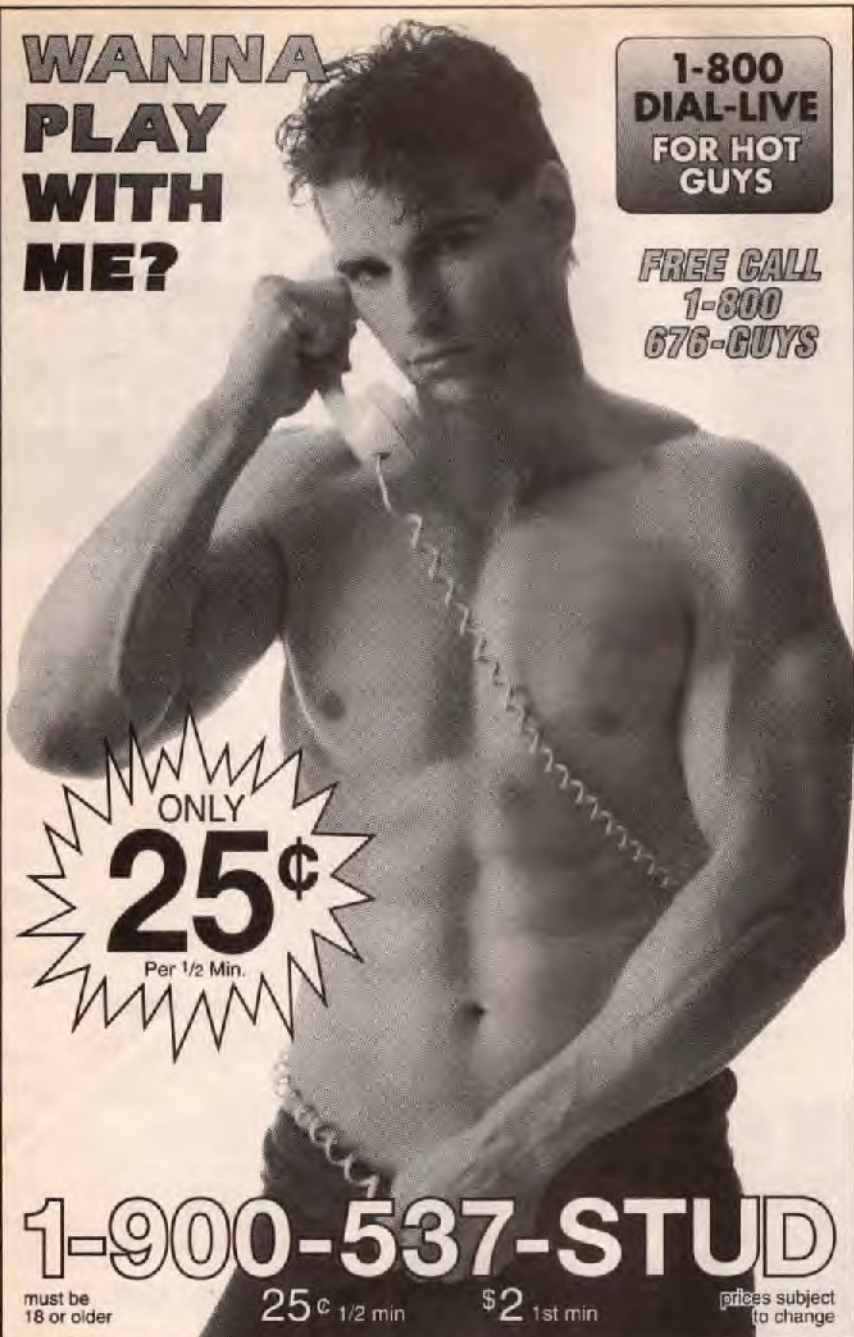
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Gay/Lesbian International News Network (GLINN)
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GLINN Voice Mail 289-8780
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 Joseph Koch, Director 845-1575
Horizon Travel (Member IGTA)
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Hume, Attorney Kathleen
 5665 S 108th, Hales Corners, 53130 529-2129

Hurricane Woman's Productions
 PO Box 71268, 53211
 Denis Jackson, PhD (Relational training,
 hypnosis, HIV & Vocational Counseling) 276-8669
 K-9 8 Ill 5 (Dog Grooming) 933-5995
 Klaus & Meyers (attorneys)
 5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners 53130 529-2800
 Thomas E. Martin (trial & general law)
 161 W Wisconsin, Suite 3189 53203 765-9413
 Jeffrey G. Miller, MS, RN (Psychotherapy)
 721 American Ave, Ste 50,
 Waukesha 53188 574-7771
Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP)
 PO Box 92487, 53202-0487 273-1991
Milwaukee Financial Planning Service
 (money management, retirement planning)
 175 N Corporate Dr #110
 Brookfield 53045 792-1690
 Mulry, Greg PhD, MSW
 (psychotherapy) 276-4664
 Prentice & Pierski Attorneys

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RETAIL

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CENTRAL WI (715)

**Central WI AIDS Network
 (CWAN) (HIV/AIDS Service
 Organization) 1200 Lake View Dr, Rm 200,
 Wausau, 54403 (715) 848-9060**
Chippewa Valley Bears
 PO Box 1943, Eau Claire, 54702-1943
Empowerment/PAWS (Newsletter for PWAs)
 1932 Strong's Ave
 Stevens Point, 54481 (715) 342-0576
G&L Society/Wausau (715) 848-0608
UWSP 10% Society
 Campus Activities Complex, Box 68
 UWSP, Stevens Point, 54481 (715) 346-4366
LDS Brotherhood (Gay Mormons)
 PO Box 152, Wausau, 54402 (715) 848-0343
Mad Hatter (MW, DJ, V)
 320 Washington, Wausau 54401 (715) 842-3225
HIV/AIDS Spiritual Support & Education
 2108 4th Ave, Stevens Point 54481 (715) 345-6500
Marshfield Gay Lesbian Organ. (MGLG)
 c/o 117 W Jefferson St, Marshfield, 54449
 Ask for Vic (715) 384-2613
Platwood Club (MW, D)
 701 Highway 10W, St. Pl., 54481 (715) 341-8862
Prince Edward B&B
 203 W 5th, Shawano 54166 (715) 529-2805
Wausau Narcotics Anonymous
 (ask for Gay meetings) (715) 536-LIFE
Women's Resource Center UWSP
 336 Nelson Hall, Stevens Pl. 54481 (715) 346-4851

NORTH CENTRAL WI (715)

Gay/Lesbian Support Group
 Box 247A, 1411 Ellis Ave, Ashland 54806
Northern AIDS Network (HIV/AIDS Service Organ.)
 June Peters, Courthouse
 Rhinelander, 54501 (715) 369-6228
Northern WI Lambda Society
 PO Box 802, Rhinelander 54501 (715) 362-4242
**SHEM (Support, Heal, Educate) for Parents,
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Out Up North (G/L Social/Info/Network)
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- Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
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- Carolyn 467-0422
- Sheboygan Antiques
- 336 Superior Avenue 53081 452-5757
- Wesley United Methodist Church (Reconciling Congregation)
- 823 Union Avenue, Sheboygan 458-4889

RACINE/KENOSHA (414) & SOUTHEASTERN WI

- Club 94 (MW, DJ) 9001 120th Ave (Hwy C& I-94) Kenosha 53140 857-9958
- JoDoe's (MW, DJ) 2139 Racine St (Hwy 32) Racine 53403 634-9804
- What About Me? (WM) 600 6th St. Racine 53403 632-0171
- Gay AA (Group 294 Meeting) 554-6511
- Gay At-Anon
- Meets Thursdays Kenosha 656-0544
- Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine 825 College, Racine 53403 634-0659
- Gay Lesbian Union of Kenosha c/o Unitarian Universalist PO Box 593, Kenosha 53141 654-9427
- Southeastern WI AIDS Project (HIV/AIDS Service Organization) 8927 39th Ave, Kenosha 53141 1-800-924-6601, 657-6544
- UW-Parkside G/L Organization 900 Wood Rd., Box 200, Kenosha 53141 595-2244
- UW-Whitewater G/L Student Union 309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190 472-5738
- Diamond Hill Inn B&B W1375 Hwy 11, Spring Prairie 763-4421
- Wychwolde (Jewelry & Gifts) 8321 Antioch Rd (Hwy 83), Salem 53168 843-4209

SOUTH CENTRAL

- MASN Satellite Office (AIDS Info) 317 Dodge St., Janesville 53545 (608) 796-2550
- Cotthen House (B&B) Mineral Point (608) 987-2612
- CrossRoads Bar (G/S/M/W) W6542 Hwy B, Lake Mills 53551 (414) 548-8457
- Friends (G/S, M/W) 10 E Sherman Ave., Ft. Atkinson 53538 (414) 563-2231

NORTHWEST WI

- Main Club (Mw) 1813 N 3, Superior, 54880 (715) 392-1756
- Trio (Wm) 920 Tower, Superior, 54880 (715) 392-5373
- Connect (G/L info line) PO Box 1304, Superior 54880 (715) 394-9467
- N.D.W.A.P. (Northwest WI AIDS Project) HIV/AIDS Service Organization 505 Dewey St., So., #107 Eau Claire 54702 (800) 750-AIDS
- Local Number (715) 836-7710
- Scruples (MW, DJ, F) 411 Galloway St., Eau Claire 54703 (715) 839-9606
- The Trading Company (MW, DJ) 304 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701 838-9494
- Northland Gay Men's Center 8 N. 2nd Ave. E., Ste. 309 Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 722-8585
- Backwoods Bears (For Bear Men) PO Box 264, Superior 54880
- UW Stout 10% Society c/o 153 C Harvey Hall, UW-S Menomonee, 54751
- UW Eau Claire GLOBE (Campus LesBiGay group) 105 Garfield Ave., Davies Center Eau Claire 54701
- Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) Greater Chippewa Valley PO Box 8091, Eau Claire, WI 54702-8091
- NW WI Pride Council (Social/Support) PO Box 8091, Eau Claire, 54702 (715) 835-0860
- Variations on Spring (Gifts, Collectibles) 22 West Spring Street Chippewa Falls 54729 (715) 723-8490

SO WEST/WEST CENTRAL

- The Alliance (LesBiGay Social Group) PO Box 131, Platteville 53818 (608) 348-5595
- e-mail: ALLIANCE@uwplatt.edu
- Cavalier Lounge (MW, D) 114 N. 5th St., LaCrosse 54601 (608) 782-9061
- Gay & Lesbian Alliance Box 131, Platteville, 53818
- La Crosse Health Dept. (AIDS/HIV Service Organ.) 300 N 4th, La Crosse 54601 (608) 785-9872
- LaCrosse L/G Support Group c/o Campus Ministry Center (608) 784-7600
- Leaping La Crosse News Box 932, LaCrosse 54602
- LaCrosse Parents & Friends of Gays (608) 782-6082
- Rainbow's End (G/S, WM) -417 Jay St., La Crosse 54601
- Rainbow Revolution (Alternative Books)

122 5th Ave S, LaCrosse 54601 (608) 796-0383
 The Pioneers (Rural G/L Support Group)
 PO Box 53, Richland Center, 53581 (608) 847-5384

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE

- American Congress for Human Rights) PO Box 342, Madison 53701 (608) 231-1099
- American Pride Associates (Fund-raising, Education for Non Profit groups) PO Box 93421, Milw., 53203 (414) 342-3834
- Bottom Line Travel (G/L Travel) Milw. (800) 933-8330
- Slammer Productions (414) 347-0261
- Horizon Travel (G/L Travel) (800) 562-0219
- Int'l. Assoc. of L/G Pride Coordinators-Midwest Rap PO Box 93421, 53203 (414) 342-3834
- In Step (bi-weekly G/L lifestyle magazine) 225 S. 2nd, Milwaukee 53204 (414) 278-7840
- FAX Only (414) 278-5868
- E-Mail InStepPub@aol.com
- Log Cabin Club (G/L Republicans) (414) 276-5428
- New Beginnings PENPALS (Mo. newsletter) Box 25, Westby 54667
- Great Lakes Harley Riders PO Box 341611, Milw, 53234-1611
- Prince Edward B&B 203 West 5th Street, Shawano 54166 (715) 526-2805
- Quest (bi-weekly G/L Entertainment Mag.) PO Box 1961, Green Bay, 54301 (414) 433-9821
- TAG Team Productions (WI-USofA Pageants) (414) 432-2517
- Top HAT Productions (Continental System) (414) 671-6711
- Wisconsin AIDS Line (outside Milw.) Mon.-Fri., 9 to 9 (800) 334-AIDS
- WI Conference of Churches (AIDS Caring Community) (608) 244-0894
- Wisconsin Light (bi-weekly G/L newspaper) 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee 53212
- Phone: (414) 372-2773
- Fax (414) 372-1840
- WI. Legislative Hotline 1-800-362-WISC

OUT OF STATE

- CDC National AIDS Hotline (800) 342-2437
- Gay & Lesbian Americans PO Box 77533, Wash., DC, 20013 (800) 889-5111
- Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) (202) 628-4160
- National G/L Task Force (NGLTF) (202) 332-6483
- Crossroads (LesBiGay Real Estate National Referral) (800) 442-9735
- Douglas Dunes Resort Blue Star Hwy, Douglas, MI 49406 (616) 857-1401
- Club Xpress (MW, DJ) 904 Ludington, Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 789-0140
- Helen's (Rural North IL Social Group) (815) 344-6495
- Little Jim's (M.V.) 3501 N Halsted, Chicago, IL 60657 (312) 871-6116
- Lambda Car Club Int'l PO Box 268534, Chicago, IL 60626 (312) 465-5307
- Lucky Horseshoe (Mw) Male Dancers 7-Nights-a-Week 3169 N Halsted, Chicago, IL 60657 (312) 404-3169
- Male Hide Leathers (Leather Shop) 2816 N Lincoln, Chicago, IL 60657 (312) 929-0069
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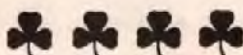
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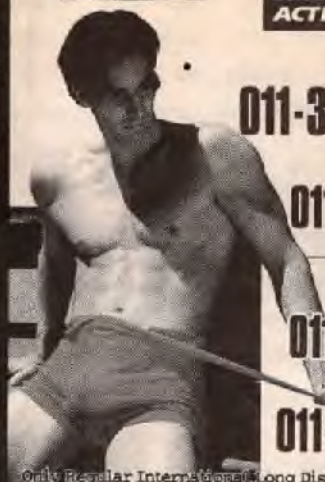
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GWM, new to area, good looking, 20, 5'10", 145, good shape, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. (Appleton) #33740

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GWM, 23, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Appleton) #25732

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GWM, 6'3", 195, brown hair, blue/green eyes, smoker, very masculine and straight appearing/acting, varied interests, seeks GWM, 30-40, for friendship, companionship and more. Please leave a message. (Appleton) #16286

FRIENDS AND MORE.

Bi WM, 33, 5'8", 168, brown hair, hazel eyes, 'stache, seeks other guys for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Cudahy) #24275

LET'S MEAT.

GWM, Italian, 24, 190, 5'11", brown hair and eyes, shaved head, goatee, seeks others, 21-30, crazy and attractive, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Eau Claire) #33747

GREAT IN GREEN BAY.

GWM, 24, 6'1", 205, average build, dark hair and eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 18-22, local area preferred, for fun and more. (Green Bay) #28413

LOOKING FOR LOVE.

GWM, HIV+, 5'10", 140, brown hair and eyes, versatile, 30, seeks others, HIV+ and between 25-35, local area preferred, for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #28456

LET'S GO FOR A WALK.

GWM, 33, enjoy music, tennis and movies, seeks others for fun and friendship. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #13163

JUST YOU AND ME.

GWM, 40's, seeks same, hairy, tall and straight acting preferred, and you must be able to handle honesty and monogamy. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #47893

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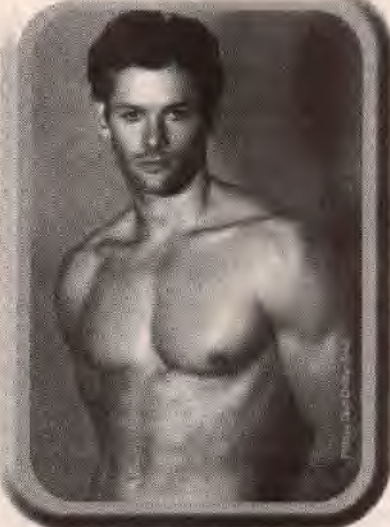
GWM, 24, 6', long brown hair, brown eyes, lots of interests, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #25766

BIG BROTHER SOUGHT.

Bi WM, 23, farm boy, 5'10", 165, curly blonde hair, innocent blue eyes, seeks other Bi males, 26-35, for wrestling fun and more. (Hicks) #25228

SAFE/SANE/FUN.

GWM, new to area, seeks others into safe and clean action. (Madison) #31168



LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT.

GWM, 22, 6'2", 190, black hair, brown eyes, clean shaven, interested in playing pool, darts and swimming, seeks others, 20-35, into fire place cuddling, friendship and more. Let's get together and see what happens (Johnson Creek) #43085

CHICAGO TRANSPLANT.

GWM, 6', average build, blonde hair, green eyes, seeks others for fun. I'm anxious to hear from you. (Kenosha) #47356

SEEKING FRIENDS.

GWM, reddish brown hair, 5'6", 140, blue eyes, seeks other guys for friendship and more. (Kenosha) #25276

OLD FASHIONED ROMANCE.

GWM, 29, 5'11", 150, non smoker/drinker, brown hair, blue eyes, medium

build, varied interests, seeks others for long term friendship and more with similar interests. (Kenosha) #16009

ME FUR YOU.

GWM, 35, hairy, teddy bear type, seeks dominant teddy bear for growling and hibernation. Let's have a few encounters then see what happens. Call me. (La Crosse) #47662

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FUN?.

GWM, 23, very attractive, 6'2", 170, blonde hair, blue eyes, variety of interests, seeks others for adventure. Get a hold of me soon. (Madison) #47666

CUB SANDWICH.

GWM, 26, 260, 6'1", red hair, blue eyes, seeks other bear men for hibernation, cuddling and more. Please leave a message. (Madison) #33656

LET'S HAVE FUN.

GWM, 5'11", 170, clean cut, varied interests, seeks others for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Madison) #27668

BOY LOOKING FOR A DADDY.

GWM, 29, smooth and attractive, seeks others guys, 50+ and who are versatile, for fun, friendship and much more. (Madison) #27325

DUDE WANTS THE LADY LOOK.

Bi WM, 21, CD/Transvestite, seeks other men into women's clothing and more. Please leave a message. Discretion a must as I live with my parents. (Madison) #14971

DISCREET BI DAY.

Bi WM, 25, varied interests, very discreet and honest, seeks other men for discreet encounters and more. (Madison) #12072

BORN TO PLEASE.

GWM, handsome and passionate, Italian, late 40's, well built, hairy chest, seeks others, 25-45, for hot fun and excitement. GWM/GHM/GBM a big plus! Leave a message and let's perspire! (Milwaukee) #8552

WORK OUT WITH ME.

GWM, 34, 180, 5'10", good body, into working out and more, not into bar life, seeks others to share my life with. Let me wrap my big arms and solid chest around you and make you feel comfortable. (Milwaukee) #10046

CASUAL FUN.

GWM, 5'8", 145, 28, brown hair, green eyes, seeks others, 'stached, medium build and well endw'd, who are top's and are experienced in satisfying bottom boys. You must be masculine and dominant and ready to be pleased. (Milwaukee) #33954

BLACK AND WHITE.

GBM, 20, 5'8", 130, seeks tall, attractive and slim GBM's/GHM's, masculine and 20-30, for fun, pleasure and more. Non Smoker's only! (Milwaukee) #13034

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LOOKING FOR LOVE. GWF, 19, seeks others, 18-25, interested in a serious relationship. Please call and respond. (Milwaukee) ☎**47394**

I'M HERE AND WAITING.

GWF, 29, no dependents, varied interests, seeks others for fun, pleasure and more. Race is not important! Kids are OK.

Travel is possible. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) ☎**4274**

PUMPKIN PIE AND YOU.

GBF, 29, seeks other attractive and sincere women, into children, smoke/



disease/drug free, for friendship and Holiday gatherings. (Milwaukee) ☎**3620**

LET'S ENJOY LIFE. GWF, 31, seeks others for friendship and more. (Northeastern) ☎**20429**

MOTIVATED ATTITUDES.

GBF, professional, variety of interests, jazz lover, seeks others, 26-40, intelligent and educated, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a

message. (Wisconsin) ☎**31728**

SOFT BUTCH.

GWF, 35, soft butch, varied interests, drug/disease free, seeks same in other females for

friendship and more. Honesty a must! Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) ☎**22586**



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LOOKING FOR YOUNG GUYS. Bi WM, 31, seeks others, 18-20, swimmer's build, for fun and pleasure. (Milwaukee) **283388**

TOP ME OFF. GWM, masculine, 6'1", 195, 28, bottom, seeks other top men for discreet, safe and clean fun and more. Discretion a must! Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) **263442**

SEEKING NEW MASTER. GWM, 5'9", 35, good looking, hairy, very submissive, seeks dominant and masculine master for ongoing relationship. Please leave me a message. Total service and worship is yours! (Milwaukee) **22206**

FRIENDS AND MORE. GBM, 19, HIV-, seeks GWM's, 19-26, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) **24478**

GO FOR THE GOLD. GWM, 29, 6'1", 200, seeks experienced and dominant GWM for first time experience. Please leave me a message! (Milwaukee) **18042**

DEEP NEED. GWM, 5'3", 160, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks GWM/GLM, 18-24, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) **18499**

WINTER'S COMING. GWM, 20, 5'9", 175, aburn hair, green eyes, submissive, varied interests, seeks local guys, 18-30, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) **19117**

BIG BOY. GWM, 22, 5'9", 240, brown hair, blue eyes, overweight, seeks others for friendship and more. (Milwaukee) **19143**

BI AND BI. Bi WM, 6'2", 195, married, new to this, seeks other Bi White married guys, 35-45, for discrete adventures. (Milwaukee) **19877**

FOUR OR MORE IN THE FLOOR. GWM, 26, black hair, brown eyes, 5'10", good shape, hairy and clean cut, seeks Bi or Bi Curious males, under 30 and dominant preferred, who are into group activities. (Milwaukee) **16665**

HARD WORKING PROFESSIONAL. GWM, 29, 6'2", brown hair, blue eyes, 200, very attractive, good shape, varied interests, seeks others, 25-40, with similar qualities. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) **46088**

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL. GWM, 39, 6'1", 220, seeks others for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Oshkosh) **18715**

FRIENDSHIP FIRST! GWM, 23, 5'11", blonde hair, hazel eyes, cute, 160, varied interests, good shape, seeks other Non smoking GWM's, 21-24, local preferred; for friendship and more. Please call me! (Oshkosh) **16127**

FRIEND SEEKER. GWM, attractive, 23, 6'2", 170, long brown hair, blue eyes, seeks others for friendship. (Wisconsin) **27772**

DISCREET FRIENDSHIP. GWM, 5'11", 140, blonde hair, blue eyes, very discreet and professional, seeks others who are very discreet for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Wausau) **16794**

LEVI/LEATHER LUST. GWM, 24, 6', 185, seeks bearded and 'stached guys, 25-40, daddies, bear's, biker's and Leather top men preferred, for long term relationship. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) **29464**

MILITARY ORIENTED. GWM, 27, 5'7, brown hair, blue eyes, ex-Marine, varied interests, seeks other straight acting GWM, 18-27, with similar interests. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) **16491**

FRIENDS OR MORE. GWM, 26, 6'2", 180, brown hair and blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and lots more. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) **16691**

LEATHER NOVICE. GWM, 5'8", 150, brown hair, hazel eyes, smooth, well built, very muscular, seeks very dominant men, smooth, slender and muscular preferred, for friendship and much more. (Wisconsin) **13692**

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED. GWM, 24, 5'4", blonde hair, blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 20-27, for friendship and long term relationship. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) **17624**

ALL AMERICAN CREAM. GWM, 30, 6'2" 200, brown hair, blue eyes, boy next door, seeks same, 25-45, for friendship and more. (Wisconsin) **46088**

Illinois

RELATIONSHIP BOUND. GWM, sensual and honest, 175, 5'10", dark brown hair, green eyes, over 40, seeks same, who is intelligent and discreet, for relationship only. (Chicago) **48177**

LOOKING FOR FUN. GBM, 5'7", 135, seeks top men only, for fun and more. I am not relationship oriented, but I am ready to have fun. (Chicago) **48193**

DEEP NEED. GBM, 6'1", very nice build and extremely handsome, seeks well endw'd GBM's only, for fun and more. (Chicago) **48263**

CAPRICORN CUISINE. GWM, 5'11", short dark hair, green eyes, clean cut, smooth, 32" waist, attractive, varied interests, seeks GBM or men of color only for pleasure. (Chicago) **48443**

BIG BOY SEEKS OLDER MEN. GWM, 23, brown hair, heavyset and good looking, seeks others, 35-60, for romps and more. The older

you are the better I perform. Leave me a message. (Chicago) **48083**

POSITIVE LIVING. GM, HIV+, 6', 190, healthy and versatile, seeks others, masculine and over 25, for fun and more. Leave a message and let's get together. (Chicago) **47966**

LATIN EXPLOSION. GWM couple, Puerto Rican and Italian, 29 and 32, seeks GLM's only, 18-25, for hot and sweaty group activities. Call us now! (Chicago) **47177**

EXTREMELY READY AND WILLING. GWM, 19, 5'9", 175, dark hair, smooth body, seeks others for anything and everything. I am a very willing student and have fast learning capabilities. (Chicago) **47444**



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HELP FULFILL A DREAM!

Create a Community Center for Milwaukee

All LesBiGay and Transgender people are invited to attend a town meeting to discuss the long-held dream of a community center for Milwaukee's Gay community. Discussion will focus on making that dream a reality.

Bring your ideas!

When: Monday, March 11, 7PM

Where: Common Room of 1st Unitarian
Society, 1342 North Astor Street

Come One, Come All, Come Out!

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