

WINTER



Volume 13, Issue 20
October 16 to October 30, 1996

WISCONSIN'S LESBIGAY NEWSMAGAZINE

Inside:

Exclusive Interview with Bound's Jennifer Tilly

Feature: How Safe is Oral Sex?

News: PrideFest Finances in the Black



In Step Magazine

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ISSN# 1045-2435

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**Next In Step Deadline:
Wednesday, October 23 at 5pm
For The Issue Appearing:
October 31, 1996**

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News

Thousands Visit AIDS Quilt Displayed in Washington

Washington, DC — When it was first displayed in the nation's capital in 1988, the AIDS quilt was about a city block long.

With eight more years of deaths from the epidemic, the colorful patchwork remembering the victims now stretches nearly a mile from the Washington Monument to the foot of the Capitol.

Even so, the full quilt — on display last weekend for the first time in four years — commemorates only about 11 percent of Americans who have died from AIDS.

The quilt, bearing the names of more than 70,000 people on 38,000 panels, is the centerpiece of dozens of weekend events sponsored by several groups, designed to again focus attention on the epidemic.

Friendly crowds greeted President Clinton and his wife Hillary Rodham Clinton when they strolled, sometimes hand in hand, through sections of the sun-dappled quilt in late afternoon.

"This means a lot to us," someone shouted. "We love you," cried another.

Another volunteer thanked Clinton for being the first president to visit the quilt. When it was here in 1988, President Reagan was in office; in 1992, it was President Bush.

The Clintons, both with somber expressions, stopped for a minute or more to inspect several individual quilt panels. Returning briefly to campaign mode, Clinton waved to the crowd as he walked back to his car.

Earlier Friday, with throngs already crowding the black fabric walks-between quilt panels, Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, joined poet Maya Angelou and others to read aloud some of the names displayed on the quilts.

AIDS activists protested Friday that the combinations of AIDS drugs they must take cost tens of thousands of dollars. On Saturday, actress Elizabeth Taylor led a candlelight march from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial.

Singer-actress Cher highlighted a rally Friday evening for "National Coming Out Day," encouraging gay men and lesbians to be honest about their identities — and participate in

the coming election.

Cher told more than 1,000 people how she struggled when her daughter, Chastity Bono, said she was a lesbian.

"It's the most difficult thing to achieve — to love people who are different than you, who believe differently, who look differently," she said.

In opposition to "National Coming Out Day," a group called Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays held a news conference to announce its message that homosexuals could become heterosexual.

Quilt organizers said they brought the full quilt here to remind Congress that the disease still has no cure, although new drugs for the first time give hope of better controlling it.

Cleve Jones, who came up with the idea for the quilt in 1985, said the United States "possessed the knowledge, the resources, the institutions and the people to find a cure for AIDS and there can be a cure if the president and Congress lead the way. They should get with the program."

Also on many people's minds was Congress' recent bill, signed into law by Clinton, that denies federal recognition to homosexual marriages.

The AIDS quilt panels, made by family and friends and given to the NAMES Project, are decorated with car keys, condoms, flags, merit badges, motorcycle jackets and photographs.

There are panels made for people known only to a few others and panels remembering such famous people as tennis star Arthur Ashe, actor Rock Hudson and MTV star Pedro Zamora.

Usually, the quilt is divided and travels the country, where organizers say it is seen by 1 million people each year.

Organizers said this may be the last time it is displayed in its entirety. Some 4,000 new panels were presented to the project in the last few days.

For the Washington display, more than 12,000 volunteers helped assemble the 3-by-6 foot quilt panels and black landscape fabric walkways. Altogether, it weighs 42 tons.

According to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, AIDS is the leading cause of death

among American men aged 25 to 44 and the third-leading killer among women the same age. Between 40,000 and 80,000 Americans become infected with the AIDS virus each year. As of June, 343,000 Americans have died of AIDS.

PrideFest Financial Report Indicates Festival in Black

by William Attewell
of the In Step Staff

Milwaukee — Financial records obtained by *In Step* Newsmagazine indicate that Pridefest, Wisconsin's gay and lesbian pride celebration, remains on sound financial footing despite reduced attendance in 1996.

PrideFest recently completed its review of the 1996 festival and reported a net gain of \$28,278.15. Adjustments for administrative expenses brings that number down to \$20,737.88.

A widely speculated shortfall in funds did not take place despite the inclement weather which hampered attendance in 1996, dropping the attendance total an estimated 2,500 persons from the 1995 mark. PrideFest attendance in 1995 was estimated at approximately 12,000. In 1996 those numbers fell to 9,628.

"Our finances have been very above board and we have nothing to hide," stated PrideFest Treasurer, Christine Klein. "Pridefest has maintained proper management of its funds throughout the year."

PrideFest is moving forward with plans for next year's festival. Board members indicate they are developing a budget, searching for sponsors and meeting with other festival coordinators from around the country.

Klein indicated that PrideFest hopes to remain at the Summerfest grounds for the 1997 festival, but that final dates and confirmation from Milwaukee World Festivals, Inc. which governs the Summerfest grounds has

yet to be received.

The PrideFest Executive Board include: Co-directors Mike Hall and Susan Cook, Vice-Chair Mike Lisowski, Treasurer Christine Klein, Secretary David Todd and Legal Advisor John Prentice. PrideFest retains no paid employees and is operated solely by an all volunteer executive board.

Hotel Washington Owners Seek Liquor License Transfer

Madison — In the latest development in the ongoing saga of the Hotel Washington, owners Greg Scheel and his sister Sherry have applied to the city for a transfer of their liquor license from the former Hotel Washington site

"It's really great that everyone's showing such an interest in this, but it's very preliminary. We don't even have a lease signed yet, so nothing's set in stone."

—GREG SCHEEL

to a building at 111 W. Main Street.

The mainstream press in Madison reported the story and made it sound as though the Scheels were about to open another club or restaurant on Main Street. But Greg Scheel told *In Step* the news has been blown out of proportion.

"It's really great that everyone's showing such an interest in this, but it's very preliminary. We don't even have a lease signed yet, so nothing's set in stone."

The liquor license transfer request was filed, according to Scheel, so he could meet with the Alcohol License Review Committee "to see if they would even entertain the idea of allowing another liquor license in that area. There are already a number of bars there."

Speculation about the Scheels' plans has been intense since they announced a few weeks ago that a financial shortfall would prevent the rebuilding of the Hotel Washington complex, which burned to the ground last February. The hotel housed several gay clubs, Rod's and the New Bar, and the Cafe Palms restaurant. It served as a social hub for Madison's gay and lesbian community.



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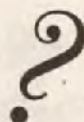


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Scheel confirmed that he and his sister are looking into alternative plans for a restaurant and clubs. The license transfer request they submitted was very specific, saying plans called for opening a first floor restaurant, a second floor dance club and a basement bar at the Main Street address. But Scheel cautioned people from getting their hopes up too soon.

Referring to the Main Street location, he said: "The place is a real mess. It will take a lot of time and money to make it work. If everything falls into place with no problems, it could happen as soon as the end of the year. But we think it's better to wait and not make a big deal about this before it really happens."

Hawaiian Judge to Rule on Gay Marriage by End of the Year

By Jamakaya
of the In Step Staff

Honolulu, HI — The First Circuit Court of Hawaii heard arguments in September on the pro's and con's of gay marriage in the landmark case Baehr v. Miike, which could result in the legalization of same gender marriage.

The case is the result of a suit filed in 1991 by three couples — two lesbian, one gay — who were denied marriage licenses by the Hawaii Health Department. A state court threw out the case, but in 1993, responding to the plaintiffs' appeal, the Hawaiian Supreme Court ruled that denial of the licenses appeared to violate the equal protection clause of the state constitution as it applies to gender.

(Although Hawaii is one of nine states which prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment and housing, that statute is not germane to the marriage case.)

The Hawaiian Supreme Court sent the case back to the trial court, ordering the state to prove a "compelling" reason for the ban on same sex marriage. In the absence of such proof, the state would be required to permit same gender couples to exercise their constitutional right to marry. This was the focus of the historic trial which ran from September 10-20.

THE STATE'S CASE

In its arguments to the court, the state cited five "compelling" reasons for the ban on same sex marriages: 1) protecting children; 2) fostering procreation; 3) guarding the public's finances; 4) preserving the integrity of state government; and 5) protecting the freedom of religions, some of which disapprove of homosexuality.

Although the state listed these five reasons, the focus of the two-week trial was almost exclusively on the issue of protecting children. Deputy Attorney General Rick Eichor handled arguments for the state, while the plaintiffs were represented by Hawaiian civil rights attorney Dan Foley and Evan Wolfson of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. The presiding judge in the state court was Judge Kevin Chang.

The first witnesses brought by the state were Dr. Kyle Pruett, a child psychiatrist and professor at Yale, and Professor David Eggebeen, a family demographics expert with Penn State University. Pruett testified that children experienced "optimal" development in a home environment with both a father and a mother, while Eggebeen cited statistics about the increase in unwed motherhood, divorce and wel-



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—Evan Wolfson, Lambda Legal Defense Fund

fare, apparently to support the state's contention that it has an interest in bolstering the traditional family.

But on cross-examination, Evan Wolfson got Dr. Pruett to concede that many other problems beside single parenthood or single-sex parents potentially burden children — poverty for instance. And Dr. Pruett agreed that poor people should not be prevented from marrying. He also acknowledged that same sex couples can make good parents. For his part, Eggebeen admitted he had no data to indicate that same

gender couples were unfit parents and conceded that same sex couples and their children could benefit from the legal protections conferred by marriage.

Richard Williams, a social psychologist from Brigham Young University, was also called by the state. He testified that studies of children raised by lesbian mothers which showed little negative impact on the kids exhibited poor research methods: small samples, the lack of control groups, etc.

Wolfson was able to attack Williams' credibility, getting him to admit he believed homosexuality and all sex outside heterosexual marriage to be sinful. Williams also admitted that he himself had no evidence that gays and lesbians were unfit parents.

Honolulu psychologist Tom Merrill testified that the state should do whatever possible to minimize the burdens on children to ensure their healthy development. But he agreed that the fitness of parents could not be assumed merely from their sexual orientation and that some gay and lesbian couples with kids have long and successful relationships.

THE REBUTTAL

Attorneys Wolfson and Foley sought to discredit the state's case by presenting witnesses who refuted the idea that only heterosexual married couples can provide the 'optimal' conditions for child development. They also argued that children being raised by same gender couples deserve as much support from the state as children raised by heterosexual married couples and, further, if marriage is seen as advantageous to the development of children of straight parents, it should be just as advantageous for the kids raised by gay or lesbian parents.

Pepper Schwartz, a sociologist at the University of Washington and co-author of a major study called "American Couples," emphasized those last points: "If marriage is a good thing, it's a good thing for gay and lesbian couples too. The institution of marriage provides a buffer against instability. It keeps people together through rough times."

Schwartz also said that the biological mother in a lesbian couple tended to take primary responsibility for the child's care, but that the non-biological female partner often became "more involved" with the child than the male partner of heterosexual married mothers.

On cross-examination, however, Eichor got Schwartz to concede that the data in her book on lesbian couples suggests that while they are more likely than gay men to have children, they are the "least stable" (of gay couples, lesbian couples, unmarried straight couples and married straight cou-

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News

ples) in terms of longterm relationships.

Charlotte Patterson, a child psychologist at the University of Virginia, then testified that the only two ways in which the children of lesbian mothers seem to differ from the children of straight parents is that they are more likely to experience symptoms of "stress" and they are more likely to express "an overall sense of well-being."

She said these seemingly contradictory findings could mean that the children of lesbian moms simply felt "more secure" expressing both feelings of stress and well-being. Patterson also reported that the "structure" of the family — who or how many parents there are — is less important to the child's well-being than the "process" by which the parents interact with each other and the child.

Eichor got Patterson to concede that the structure of the family was significant, however, in determining such things as poverty. And he got her to admit that some of her findings about the well-being of kids raised by lesbian mothers may have been skewed by the sample, which included lesbian couples who were better educated and more financially well-off than average families.

Eichor also grilled Patterson about another study that suggests that children raised by homosexuals are more likely to be gay or lesbian themselves. When she corrected some of his figures, Eichor accused her of trying to "downplay" the significance of the findings because it was "damaging" to her side of the case. Patterson asked him why it would be "damaging." Eichor began to answer and then, suddenly flustered, went on to more questions.

Another witness, David Brodzinsky, a psychologist from Rutgers, said there was no evidence to prove that children raised by gay or lesbian couples suffered "adverse effects." "I don't believe a child needs both sexes in the home to do well. It's not moms and dads per se. It's what

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they bring to that partnership." The state's argument, Brodzinsky said, "suggests there is only one way of being a parent, and it excludes step parents, foster parents, gay parents."

Wolfson asked Brodzinsky if the state should "punish" children of gay and lesbian couples by denying them the benefits of married parents. Before Brodzinsky could answer, Eichor erupted with an objection: "They are being punished by their parents, being put in this position!"

Eichor demanded to know of Brodzinsky that, "All things being equal" in which household, one with two opposite sex biological parents or one with a same gender couple with just one biological parent, would a child be most likely to achieve "optimal development."

Brodzinsky replied that he could not answer the question. Eichor again insisted on an answer. Brodzinsky said that no data existed on which he could base an answer. Eichor then appealed to Judge Chang to compel Brodzinsky to answer. Judge Chang sided with Brodzinsky, reiterating his contention that there was no data on which to base an informed response.

NOW WHAT HAPPENS?

Both sides then delivered their closing arguments, and Judge Chang ordered that all groups that had an interest in the case should submit briefs by October 11. Both sides, the state and the plaintiffs, have until October 25 to submit their final briefs. The state will argue its other four points against same sex marriage in these briefs. The plaintiffs will challenge these points. Judge Chang is expected to rule by the end of this year.

Lisa Keen of the *Washington Blade* attended the Hawaii trial. She expressed this assessment of Judge Chang. Chang is relatively young, in his 40's, and has reportedly shown no bias or discomfort in social settings with gays and lesbians. This leads some to believe his decision will be enlightened and pro-gay. But court observers say Chang is hoping for a federal court appointment and that his chances might be dimmed if he is seen as the judge who legalized gay marriage.

Whatever Judge Chang rules, the decision will be appealed again to the Hawaii Supreme Court. If same gender marriage is given the green light, the first licenses could be issued sometime in 1998. However, alarmed by that possibility, a move is afoot in the Hawaiian legislature to amend the state constitution to forbid gay marriage. The legal and legislative battles are apt to go on for years.

Studies Confirm Drug Combinations Better than AZT Alone

by Keith Clark
of the In Step Staff

Boston, MA — Studies published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* confirm that AZT alone, the first and most widely used drug to fight AIDS, has limited value in prolonging the lives of patients stricken with the disease.

Once the first-line defense against AIDS, AZT is increasingly seen as ineffective when compared with more recent drugs — especially the new class of drugs known as protease inhibitors in combination.

The studies increasingly show that compared with AZT alone, the newer drugs can prolong patient lives by as much as 40 to 50 percent, researchers say.

The study examined combinations of AZT with either the drug DDI or DDC in about 2,500 HIV patients in the intermediate stage of the infection. They had not reached the later stage clinically defined as AIDS, and had none of the infections or disorders that commonly appear in people with weakened immune systems characteristic of the disease.

Dr. Scott Hammer of the Harvard Medical School, the

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co-author of two of the just-published reports, says virtually all statistical measures show that using DDI or DDC in combination with AZT is superior to AZT alone in early stages of the disease.

"The big message of the [study] is that patients clearly benefit from treatment with a slower rate of disease progression and a significantly decreased mortality," Hammer said.

"One of the major questions that we are trying to deal with right now is when is the optimal time to use protease inhibitors,"

—Dr. Martin Hirsch

"This is the first controlled trial that has shown that treatment at this stage really provides a major clinical benefit in terms of survival."

A second study in the same issue showed that combination therapy also benefits those in the later stages of HIV infection - mainly those who had never been treated with AZT before.

But the just-published findings, the researchers agree, may well be superseded by other studies already underway that are testing AZT in yet more powerful combinations.

Research is already using AZT with a new class of drugs known as protease inhibitors. While AZT and similar drugs prevent HIV replications in the early stages of infection, protease inhibitors block it at later stages - attacking remnants of the virus that may have slipped through the first line of defense.

Early results of these ongoing tests have shown that this latest three-drug cocktail can reduce the amount of HIV in the blood to undetectable levels in many patients.

And while many researchers and AIDS experts clearly believe the "age of AZT" in treating the disease is coming to an end, they also caution that clinical studies indicate AZT continues to be a major standard for HIV treatment.

"One of the major questions that we are trying to deal with right now is when is the optimal time to use protease inhibitors," said Dr. Martin Hirsch, one of the co-authors in the just-published AZT study. "And I don't think we know the answer to that yet. The three in this study that were shown to be effective - AZT, DDI, DDC - are still recommended as acceptable options for beginning therapy."

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National & World News

by Keith Clark, Jamakaya and William Attewell

Indiana's Only Gay Rights Ordinance Headed for Another Battle

Sex Charges, Amendment 2 Ruling Play a Role

by Keith Clark
of the In Step Staff

Lafayette, IN — The first town in Indiana with an anti-bias ordinance protecting gays and lesbians will have it repealed if a local politician has his way, and highly publicized charges of sexual abuse of two teenage boys at an adolescent care center are doubtless linked to the repeal move, many say.

City Councilman Jack Rhoda has filed a measure that would amend the Lafayette city code to delete any references to sexual orientation, effectively removing all protections

"As we looked at the present ordinance we realized it's really not needed in light of state and federal laws."

—City Councilman Jack Rhoda

against employment, housing or accommodations bias in the community of some 60,000 people.

Rhoda said, "As we looked at the present ordinance we realized it's really not needed in light of state and federal laws."

Rhoda acknowledged that in fact there are no Indiana or U.S. statutes outlawing discrimination based on sexual orientation, but insisted that the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling that overturned Colorado's Amendment 2 "makes it clear that homosexuals are protected by the Constitution, like anyone else in this country."

Others, however, disagree with Rhoda's interpretation of the Amendment 2 ruling, and insist the repeal move was triggered by felony "child seduction" charges filed against Gregory Ledbetter earlier this year along with a broader movement throughout the country disassemble affirmative action and other civil rights programs.

Ledbetter, 29, has been charged with 43 counts of having sex with two boys, 16 and 17 years old at the time, who had been placed in an adolescent care home for juvenile offenders in Lafayette where Ledbetter worked at the time as a case worker.

In 1993, Jerry Ledbetter, the accused man's father, was a member of the Lafayette city council and pushed for the anti-bias ordinance that ultimately passed by a narrow 5-4 vote. In arguing for the inclusion of sexual orientation under the anti-discrimination measure, the Councilman Ledbetter cited bias his own son had faced because of his homosexuality, immediately making the younger Ledbetter the "best-known homosexual in Indiana."


Anti-gay fundamentalists later unsuccessfully tried to impeach all five members of the council who voted in favor of the measure in a deeply divisive campaign. When news of the charges against Gregory Ledbetter broke earlier this year, many of the same anti-gay activists promptly called for repeal of the 1993 ordinance and the filing of unspecified criminal charges against the council members who voted for it.

Gregory Ledbetter categorically denies the charges against him and said the accusations were "politically motivated" because of the high-profile role he played in the passage of the gay right ordinance three years ago. And in fact one of the two youths has since recanted his charges, although it is unclear if prosecutors will accept the boy's subsequent denial of his original charges against Ledbetter.

But regardless of Ledbetter's case, the anti-gay activists

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have now found their champion in Councilman Rhoda who has the open support of three other council members, with only three council members saying they will oppose any repeal of the ordinance.

At best, many fear the council will end up tied 4-4, in which case the council President Phyllis Boehning would cast the tie-breaking vote. Boehning has already said she support the repeal move as well.

In the event the repeal is passed by a 5-4 vote, it could still be vetoed by David Heath, Lafayette's new mayor. But Heath's attitude is unknown and he is refusing to say anything about the issue except that he hopes it "doesn't create the problems it did in the past."

That, of course, is perhaps the least likely thing to happen in this renewed debate on gay rights in the American Heartland.

Appeals Court Upholds Federal Court Ruling in Cammermeyer Case

Los Angeles, CA — The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Monday rejected the government's effort to wipe off the books a lower court decision that stopped the military from discharging Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, the highly decorated Army and National Guard nurse, for acknowledging she is a lesbian.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Cammermeyer's co-counsel, said the ruling preserves an important federal court opinion that ruled the military's anti-gay policy to be unconstitutional. Although the government earlier agreed to not discharge Col. Cammermeyer, Lambda continues to wage legal challenges to the military's on-going anti-gay rules which treat lesbian and gay personnel differently than non-gay personnel.

Col. Cammermeyer is now on inactive duty awaiting resolution of her case. She drew widespread public support and inspired a 1995 made-for-television movie, "Serving in Silence," starring Glenn Close.

"Grethe Cammermeyer's courage and perseverance in this case are vivid examples of how wrong the military's anti-gay policies are," said Jon W. Davidson, Supervising Attorney in Lambda's Western Regional Office in Los Angeles.

Today's ruling by the Ninth Circuit sends the case, Cammermeyer v. United States, to U.S. District Court Judge Thomas S. Zilly in Seattle. Judge Zilly ruled in 1994, that Col. Cammermeyer's discharge was a violation of her Constitutional rights to equal protection and due process. The judge also said it was unconstitutional to discharge Col. Cammermeyer solely on the basis of her sexual orientation. Although the appeals court refused the government's request to vacate the earlier decision, it left the option to Judge Zilly to consider.

From her home in Whilbey Island, Washington, Col. Cammermeyer said, "This is not just a matter of principle or pride. We believe it has important ramifications for today, because of the constitutional issues Judge Zilly has addressed."

A 28-year veteran of the Army and National Guard, and Chief Nurse of the Washington State National Guard, Cammermeyer is the highest-ranking service member to be discharged for being lesbian or gay. Among many other honors, she received a Bronze Star for her service in Vietnam.

Genetic Resistance to HIV Infection Confirmed

Washington, DC — AIDS researchers reviewing data for nearly 2,000 people in long-term epidemiological studies say they have confirmed earlier, small-scale studies that a genetic mutation inherited from both parents does in fact appear to

Also on the Newswire...

Republican County Recorder Candidate in Illinois Comes Out

Chicago, IL — Pat Dwyer, the Republican candidate who is challenging incumbent Jesse White for the post as Cook County's recorder of deeds, has announced that during the remainder of the race he will run as an openly gay candidate.

Navy Nixes Clemency for Murderer of Allen Schindler

Washington, DC — The U.S. Navy has rejected the automatic clemency appeal of former sailor Terry Helvey, who is serving a life sentence for the savage murder of fellow sailor Allen Schindler in Japan in 1992. The Naval Clemency and Parole Board said in a letter that the vote to reject the Helvey's demency appeal, which is automatic for former military personnel serving sentence for serious crimes, was rejected unanimously.

Univ. of Maine OKs Partner Benefits

Fort Kent, ME — Trustees with the University of Maine have approved union contracts that extend insurance and tuition benefits to the partners of campus employees. The contract package includes the school's health insurance coverage as well as tuition waivers that same-sex and unmarried opposite-sex domestic partners of workers at the university system.

Togo Man with HIV Given Asylum in U.S.

New York, NY — A 30-year-old African computer engineer who is HIV-positive has been given asylum in the U.S. after claiming that he would become a social outcast if he returned

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give those who receive the double gene variant protection against HIV infection.

Reporting in the journal *Science*, National Cancer Institute scientists say the finding of the paired genes, known as *CCR5* or *CCR5*, may provide an important key in developing anti-HIV treatments or vaccines.

Earlier this year two research teams reported they had located individuals who had the mutated pair of genes who appeared to be virtually immune to HIV.

Using existing studies of genetic material from some 1,955 people, the NCI scientists found just 17 people who had inherited the *CCR5/CCR5* gene pair.

Most importantly, the researchers reported that none of the 17 double-gene individuals were infected with HIV. The scientists also found that among the approximately 11 percent of whites and 2 percent of blacks who inherited only one copy of the mutated gene from one or the other parent, HIV infection wasn't prevented, but it was significantly slowed down.

Parks Bill to Help Fund National AIDS Memorial

San Francisco, CA — A historic milestone was reached today with the passage of The AIDS Memorial Grove Act, part of the National Parks Bill, for the millions of Americans whose lives have been touched by the scourge of AIDS.

This legislation, introduced into Congress by Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), designates the AIDS Memorial Grove (AMG), a 15-acre wooded dell in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, a national memorial to the tragedy of AIDS.

Explained Kerry Enright, executive director (AMG): "Thousands of visitors from around the United States and from around the world have journeyed here to grieve openly without being stigmatized and to experience the feelings of renewal and hope inspired by nature. This is not just a place for mourning; it is a living and breathing space where people can experience the pathos of AIDS."

Added Enright: "The designation of the AMG as a national landmark will not only help to raise awareness of the enormous national toll which the AIDS crisis has exacted, but it will also inform people that there is a dedicated place in the public landscape that answers a legitimate, desperate need."

The AIDS Memorial Grove was conceived in 1989 by a group of San Franciscans who were bereft over the loss of a colleague to AIDS. With little more than a sheer sense of purpose, the group began the task of building their dream. Through word of mouth, the Grove initiative spread, and so did the ranks of volunteers who pooled their talents to move the project forward.

Hundreds of volunteers donate their time to assist at monthly Grove "Workdays" clearing the land, planting new growth and participating in the landscape design process. Today the Grove is nearly two-thirds completed, thanks to over \$1 million in individual and corporate donations and ongoing volunteer support.

Along the way visitors can enjoy a quiet moment of remembrance at the Circle of Friends, a flagstone circle inscribed with names of people whose lives have been touched by AIDS. When completed, the Circle of Friends will feature 2,200 names and will have raised \$2 million for the perpetual care of the Grove. Space is still available for a tax-deductible donation of \$1,000 per individual name.

The Grove is scheduled for completion in December 1997.

home to Togo. The move reflects a recently adopted approach to immigration authorities in the Administration to treat people who apply for asylum because they have HIV or other infectious diseases with greater sympathy. The unidentified engineer had first applied for asylum in 1991 after U.S. officials started deportation proceedings against him.

Bomb Hoax Disrupts Florida AIDS Fundraisers

Tampa, FL — Authorities are investigating a bomb hoax that forced the evacuation of thousands of people attending two AIDS charity fundraisers from the Tampa Convention Center in late September. Tampa police and firefighters were called and an evacuation was ordered while the center was searched. No bomb was found, and guests and employees were eventually allowed to return to the center.

Merck & Roche AIDS Drugs OK'd in Europe

Brussels — The European Commission has approved plans by Merck & Company and Roche Holding to market two new AIDS medicines in the 15 countries that comprise the European Union. The commission approved Merck's Crixivan and Roche's Invirase, both in the new class of protease inhibitors that have already been approved in the U.S., which will sell at a single price throughout the EU rather than at varying prices from country to country.

Study Confirms Gay Youth Suicide Risk

Alberta, Canada — Gay and bisexual men aged 18 to 27 are 13.9 times more at risk for a suicide attempt than straight men of the same age, according to a random survey of 750 men by the University of Calgary in Alberta. And they are three times more likely to actually have tried to kill themselves. Gay and bisexual men who are celibate were found to be in even greater danger.

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Boosts in Federal AIDS Spending as Congress Rushes to Adjourn

Washington, DC — The federal budget measures that Congress rushed to approve before adjourning in October included major spending increases in dealing with the AIDS epidemic.

Among the increases are a \$239 million boost in Ryan White CARE Act funds, raising it to a total of \$996 million for the 1997 fiscal year. Some \$115 million of the new appropriations are earmarked for state-run programs to pay for anti-AIDS medications.

The budget also includes a \$93.9 million increase in National Institutes of Health funding to a total NIH annual budget now of \$1.5 billion, although NIH itself will determine how it will divide up the new money for specific health programs.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development also got a \$25 million jump in funding for its Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS program, which is administered through city and state housing programs.

The last-minute congressional rush to enact legislation also included dropping immigration restrictions that Republicans had backed which would have barred illegal immigrants from receiving medical care for HIV/AIDS and other AIDS health and prevention programs paid for by the federal government.

Albuquerque Mayor Proposes Hate Crimes Measure

Albuquerque, NM — Albuquerque Mayor Martin Chavez says he is proposing a hate-crimes measure to the the city council that would cover bias-based crimes based on race, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

Hate crimes, which are often legally difficult to prove in court, would under Mayor Chavez's proposal impose added penalties for anyone convicted of committing such a bias crime.

"These crimes not only target individuals, but are designed to intimidate the group to which the individual belongs," Chavez said in a statement about the proposed measure. "Yet in a very real sense, all of us are the victims of such outrages. I am hopeful this ordinance will send a clear message that we will not tolerate such acts in the City of Albuquerque."

Mensa Publication Article Draws Heat

San Francisco, CA — Mensa, the national organization for the high-IQ set, is embroiled in a turmoil because the current issue of a Mensa Chapter includes an article by R. Robin Ryherd of Vidor, Texas, denounces homosexuality as "an abomination" and that the country "should get off its butt and tell these purveyors of perversities to get out of our faces and go away. Permanently."

Ryherd says in the article that "freedom of speech stops when we are offended and accosted by those who are shouting."

The organization claims that by-lined articles do not reflect the opinions of the super-brain group, but reportedly scores of Mensans in the local organization have called for a retraction of the piece or face a massive resignation of members.

Czechs Have New Mag, Guide and Bars

Prague — The Czech Republic has a new lesbian magazine, *Alia*, targeted at women who live in small towns and have no contact with other dykes. The address is Alia, Delnicka 31, 170 00 Praha 7, Czech Republic. There is also a new Czech gay guide called *Amigo*. To receive a copy write Amigo International, P.O. Box 60, 180 00 Praha 8, Czech Republic. In other news, Prague has two new gay bars, The Rainbow Club, located downtown, and the A-Club, which goes lesbian on Friday nights. For more information, visit the World Wide Web site of the Czech gay magazine SOHO Revue at <http://www.infima.cz.soho>.

Galindo Gets Work Furlough Sentence in DUI Charge

San Jose, CA — U.S. figure skating champion Rudy Galindo has been sentenced to a weekend work furlough on a misdemeanor drunken driving charge. Police pulled Galindo over on Aug. 20 after he drove out of a Las Gatos bar parking lot and bounced his 1996 BMW over a curb. The misdemeanor drunken driving conviction is Galindo's first. No one was injured in the incident. Galindo also has publicly apologized for the incident.

S&M Gays March in London

London — Two thousand sadomasochistic gays, lesbians and bisexuals turned out for London's Dungeon in the Sky '96 festival in mid-September, reported *The Pink Paper*. And 300 of the participants staged an "SM Pride March" through central London. One of the more popular events at the festival, which was held at the University of London Union, was the Showdog Trials. Eight human dogs and their handlers were judged on the dogs' appearance, handling, behavior, and how well they completed an obstacle course.

Miami Radio Program Aimed at Haitians Says AIDS Doesn't Exist

Miami, FL — South Florida health officials are outraged that some Haitian patients with AIDS reportedly have stopped taking medications and halted visits to their doctors in the wake of a radio broadcast aired on WLQY-AM, which has a large Haitian listenership, claimed that AIDS doesn't exist and is only a plot by American drug companies to make money.

The radio show, hosted by Claud Aubry, featured psychologist Henri-Claude Saint-Fleur and Francelot Moise, a Haitian doctor who is not licensed to practice medicine in Florida.

Aubry and his two guests called AIDS a "myth" and urged their listeners to stop taking their medications, particularly AZT, which the men said "kills people."

Calif. Attorney General Not Amused by 'Doonesbury'

Sacramento, CA — California's top prosecutor says a drug raid is no laughing matter, lashing out at the popular newspaper comic strip "Doonesbury" for poking fun at his raid on a San Francisco club that sold marijuana to patients with AIDS, cancer and other severe illnesses.

State officials charge that marijuana was being sold to people with no doctor's statement of their illnesses and no indication they are ill at all.

Attorney General Dan Lungren, who is widely considered the most likely Republican candidate in the state gubernatorial race, said such ridicule encourages a "wink-and-nod" attitude toward drugs that's responsible for destroying children's lives.

Lungren has demanded that the cartoon strip's distributor withdraw this week's series or run a disclaimer next to the facts about the Cannabis Buyers' Club and has urged news-

papers to discontinue the strip for the week.

But Universal Press Syndicate says a comic strip isn't the place to discuss the whole issue, that they won't try, and that the strip won't be withdrawn.

Another Lesbian Mom Facing Custody Fight

Ottawa, IL — An Illinois state appeals court is considering a lower court ruling that a man, Stuart Schroeder, who has religious objections to homosexuality should be given custody of two children because their mother and his former wife, Rebecca Schroeder, is a lesbian living with another woman and their relationship would subject the children to "social condemnation."

The lower court ruling in January that upheld Stuart Schroeder's claims to custody cited the Sharron Bottoms custody battle in Virginia as an indication of the "social condemnation" his children would face because of their mother's open lesbian relationship.

CompuServe Launching "Virtual Universe" for Lesbians & Gays

Columbus, OH — Things just got a little gayer in cyberspace with the announcement that CompuServe, Fujitsu Software and Pride Media Ltd. are launching what they describe as the "first online graphical virtual interface" for lesbians and gay men.

The CompuServe site, known as "Pride! Universe," will let those connected to it through the Ohio-based online giant assume various animated characters that they can customize and control inside a "virtual space station."

The purpose, the three firms say, will be to create a "virtual community."

Fla. Officials Obtain Subpoenas in AIDS List Scandal

St. Petersburg, FL — In the continuing scandal over who and how a computer disk containing the names of some 4,000 people who have tested positive for HIV got into the hands of local newspapers, investigators with the Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement have obtained subpoenas for at least two people who may have been involved in leaking the confidential information or may know who was.

Officials say they have been frustrated since the scandal first broke in late September by the lack of cooperation of people who repeatedly canceled appointments or didn't show up to talk with investigators

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The subpoenas will force witnesses to meet with investigators, who plan to take sworn depositions from them. If investigators determine witnesses are lying, officials said, perjury charges are possible.

Officials are also trying to determine exactly what law may have been broken in the lists, which were mailed to two South Florida newspapers.

Violating confidentiality of HIV test results in only a second-degree misdemeanor in the state, but officials said felony charges relating to computer theft may also be involved. The disclosure of the testing results is considered the most serious breach of AIDS confidentiality to date in the U.S.

Court Rules Male-Male Sexual Harassment Not Barred Under Federal Law

Chicago, IL — Federal District Court Judge Charles Norgle has dismissed a sexual harassment lawsuit by Robert Schoiber against his former boss, a man, at a gas station, ruling that while federal law protects women from sexual harassment by men, it extends no similar protections to men being sexually harassed by men.

Schoiber's suit claimed his former supervisor at the gas station had grabbed him, kissed him, and exposed

his genitals over a period of time, causing Schoiber to become "anxious and nervous all day, [have] nightmares" and become unable to think clearly. He quit his job in 1994.

The suit had charged that Emro Marketing Company, which owns the chain of Speedway stations, had violated the 1964 Civil Rights Act by failing to stop the sexual harassment.

2 Teens Charged in Hate Attack on Boy

Winham, NE — The Maine attorney general has filed civil rights suits against two teenage boys who, the suit says, were part of a gang that in August brutally attacked a 15-year-old boy they believed was gay.

According to the court papers in the case, one of the defendants yelled "Let's go beat up the fag" when he and the other boys he was with spotted the assault victim.

The gang then, the suit charges, chased the 15-year-old, knocked him down, and began kicking and hitting him repeatedly.

According to officials, the other boy charged in the lawsuit, a 16-year-old, used a metal padlock wrapped in a handkerchief to hit the victim with, and broke the victim's elbow with the weapon.

The gang only stopped their attack when several adults came to the victim's

assistance. State officials said the other members of the gang may also be charged with hate-crimes charges at a later date in connection with the assault.

Detroit Gears Up for Proposed Partners Measures

Detroit, MI — Getting on a growing national bandwagon, Detroit's city council is preparing to consider which of two domestic partner measure it may adopt - if not both.

One measure would establish a city-wide partnership registration that would simply give registered partners visitation rights, but few other benefits.

The second proposed measure would extend to non-union municipal workers bereavement and sick leave if a same-sex partner becomes ill or dies, the same as married couples working for the city have.

Better Immune System Test Developed

Palo Alto, CA — Stanford University scientists have developed a method for measuring the body's immune response that is faster than current methods and also gives more information about the immune system's T-cell response.

The method, known as a physical assay, can be completed in minutes instead of days, as the currently used testing procedures often require.

According to Dr. John D. Altman in the journal *Science*, the new method lets doctors determine the concentration of active T-cells in a blood sample and look for specific types of T-cells that respond to specific diseases. It can also reveal the health of a person's T-cells - all increasingly important information in fighting AIDS and other immune disorders.



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Grad Charges Anti-Gay Bias at Ohio State

Columbus, OH — Marc Conte, a former Ohio State University student and staffer with the school's Office of Student Life, has charged that there have been several people either fired or asked to resign their posts at the university because of their sexual orientation and has called for an investigation into the school's anti-bias policies.

Conte said at a press conference that he is formally calling for the investigation to expose discrimination in the university based on sexual orientation.

"There have been 15 or 20 individuals who've been forced to resign from their positions at OSU because of homophobia," Conte said.

He said most of the anti-gay discrimination took place in the school's student affairs division.

The city's community relations commission has already agreed to launch an investigation into Conte's charges. University officials have denied any anti-gay discrimination has taken place at the school.

Cincinnati May Extend Partners Benefits

Cincinnati, OH — Cincinnati would become the first city in Ohio to offer health benefits to the partners of its gay and lesbian city workers if a resolution introduced in city council Wednesday is approved.

"This is something Cincinnati's public sector and private sector really needs to do and not be behind," Acting Mayor Tyrone Yates, a Democrat, who introduced the measure, said.

Councilman Charles Winburn, a Republican, who was not present at the council meeting, previously said he is opposed to using tax dollars for such a purpose and called Yates' program a "liberal shack-up insurance program."

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Group Notes

Milwaukee to Host BiNet Midwest Fall Meeting

Milwaukee — Bi-Definition has been chosen as the sponsor for the Fall BiNet Midwest Meeting and social on Saturday October 26th and Sunday October 27th, at the BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady Street. People of all orientations are invited to attend, with participants expected from throughout the Midwest.

This educational, informational and social event will begin at 1:00 pm on Saturday with news about BiNet's activities, a presentation on the importance of regional organizing and an address from bisexual activist Lou Hoffman. Following a general business meeting, there will be a pizza/sub sandwich social, and dancing and partying at a local club will close out Saturday's activities.

Brunch on Sunday will start at 11:30 am, and a televised Packer football game will round out Milwaukee's "Bi-event of this year."

BiNet Midwest is a regional division of BiNet USA, the national bisexuality advocacy umbrella organization. For further information, contact Steve Butler at 414-483-5046.

"Evening with the Stars" Benefit Raises \$542 for BESTD Clinic

Milwaukee — A big and hearty "thank you" to everyone that made possible the Wisconsin Light Spotlight Party on Friday, September 26th to benefit the BESTD Clinic. \$542 was raised and turned over to BESTD President Ross Walker by La Cage owner George Prentice. This generous gift will be used to help provide laboratory tests, including CD4s and viral loads, for newly diagnosed HIV infected clients who enter the United EIP Services Program cosponsored by BESTD. The Early Intervention Program provides physical, emotional and social support for persons who have just learned about their HIV status and are not or choose not to be connected with primary medical care at that time.

The biggest hand of applause goes to all of the performers who gave their energy, their energy, their special talents and above all their donated time to truly provide "An Evening with the Stars." Sharing the spotlight on stage were: Lena Chavez (Club 219), Lu Shanti and Jasmine (Mama Roux), Brittany Morgan (B's Bar), Karen Valentine and Singational

(M&M), Curt Peck and Lana St. James (In-Between), Jackie Roberts (La Cage), Sasha Mitchell and Robert Nugent Jones (Madison). BESTD is deeply grateful to each of you and to the crew at La Cage for making this a star studded night.

New HIV Positive Support Group at BESTD Clinic

Milwaukee — BESTD Clinic is beginning a new weekly support group for gay men who have recently learned about their HIV positive status or who are HIV infected, but a symptomatic. "Positive and Aware" will meet at 7 pm each Monday in the South Room on the Second Floor of BESTD Clinic at 1240 East Brady Street.

The group will be peer facilitated and the parameters and guidelines for the group will be established by those attending the first few sessions. Registration is not needed and there is no fee. More specific information about the group is available from Ross Walker or Erv Uecker at 414-353-3798.

Ross Walker, President of BESTD Clinic, noted in announcing this new group that "there is a significant increase in new HIV infections being seen at the Clinic during 1996. Almost all of these have been gay men between 16 and 50 years of age. Since there are special issues at the time of diagnosis and awareness of the infection, it is important to have this kind of support available on an ongoing basis."

"Positive and Aware" is the third HIV related support group at BESTD. The other two are Gay HIV+ Men's Group and Male Partners/Spouses/Lovers of Gay HIV+ Men, both meeting in separate rooms on the second floor of BESTD on Wednesdays at 7 pm.

PrideFest to Benefit from Screening of "Beautiful Thing"

Milwaukee — A special screening of Beautiful Thing, an uplifting story of sexual awakening will be held on Tuesday, October 29th at 7:30pm at the Oriental Theatre. Proceeds from the screening will benefit PrideFest.

Beautiful Thing depicts what it is like to be gay, sixteen and in the throes of a first love affair. Jamie and Ste live in a housing project in Southeast London. Jamie is a bright, introverted youth who lives with his mother and her laid-back, neo-hippy lover. Ste lives next door. He is a popular

and good-looking boy, obsessed with sports and lives with a drug-dealing brother and violent drunken father. Their mutual love is flourishes amidst the unlikely working-class setting of the project's concrete blocks.

Co-sponsors of this benefit are AfterWords Bookstore, In Step Newsmagazine, The Wisconsin Light, The Oriental Theatre and Sony Pictures Classics.

Tickets will be \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Advance tickets will be available from AfterWords, In Step, The Wisconsin Light, The M&M Club, Video Adventures and The Oriental Theatre.

Youth and Sexual Orientation Conference in Milwaukee

Milwaukee — On Saturday, November 2, 1996, the first meeting of the Midwest Region (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin) of the National Advocacy on Youth and Sexual Orientation (NACYSO) will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The meeting, which is free, will address NACYSO and the regional and regional structure, the needs and concerns of our region, goals and objectives, and the planning of future regional development, including a potential region conference in 1997.

Youth are encouraged to attend and participate at this regional meeting, along with youth advocated. For NACYSO to truly represent groups across the nation, it needs and wants your help to make sure that the many different voices youth, communities of color, adults working with youth, both rural and urban - become a force in this movement.

NACYSO began as a project of the Hetrick Martin Institute in New York with the purpose of bringing youth ser-

WISCONSIN AIDS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

HIV THERAPY TRIALS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium (WARC) is currently enrolling individuals with HIV/AIDS for participation in three trials of research drug therapies. These trials may advance scientific knowledge and future treatment of other individuals with HIV/AIDS.

TRIAL NO. 1 - REMUNE™

REMUNE™ is an experimental treatment intended to boost the body's natural immune response against HIV. In Phase I and II studies, REMUNE has so far been found safe and well-tolerated. The study compares the responses of individuals having equal chances of receiving REMUNE or placebo by injection every 12 weeks for up to 3 years:

ELIGIBILITY - If you are over 18 years of age, HIV positive, have a CD4+ count of 300-549, have had no prior investigational vaccine or immune-based therapy treatment and no changes in antiretroviral drugs or doses within the past 30 days, and have no history of or current AIDS-defining conditions except for Kaposi's Sarcoma, you may be eligible for this study.

TRIAL NO. 2 - DELAVIRDINE

This is a double-blind, randomized study. The study compares the responses of individuals taking varied doses of Delavirdine (DLV) and AZT. AZT and 3TC or a combination of DLV, AZT & 3TC.

ELIGIBILITY - If you are 14 years of age or older, HIV positive, have a CD4 count greater than 200 but less than 500, and haven't been on AZT more than 6 months, you may qualify for this study.

TRIAL NO. 3 - STAVUDINE PLUS DIDANOSINE

This is an open-label study of the safety and biological effects of Stavudine (d4T) taken in combination with Didanosine (ddI) in HIV positive patients who have had prior therapy with AZT.

ELIGIBILITY - If you are over 18 years of age, HIV positive, have a CD4 count between 100 and 500 and have taken AZT as single drug therapy for more than 3 months, you may qualify for this study.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ENROLLING IN THESE TRIALS, PLEASE CALL ARCW AT 414-225-1578.

ARCW

WISCONSIN AIDS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM IS A SERVICE OF THE AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN, INC. (ARCW)

Group Notes

vice agencies and providers together to build a unified voice that could advocate with and on behalf of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning (LGBTQ) youth at both the local and national level. As the only national advocacy organization that directly addresses the issues of these young people, the Coalition currently is comprised of more than 100 different agencies, groups and associations. Gay Youth Milwaukee is a participating Organization.

In addition, the Bridges Project, established by the American Friends Service Committee, has recently become a program of NACYSO. The Bridges Project serves as a clearinghouse of local and national resources and materials for LGBTQ service providers. This consolidation will enhance the advocacy and development work of the Coalition, and lays the foundation for its continued success.

Hotel accommodations can be made at the Hotel Wisconsin, 720 North Old World Third St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Rooms can be reserved for \$39.00 sgl/dbl. under the National Advocacy Coalition block for Nov. 1st & 2nd by calling 414-271-4900. The hotel is one block away from the meeting site.

For registration information please contact Bradley B. Koogler, Midwest Region Point Person at 614-421-1143 in Columbus OH.

"Out, Open and Affirming" to Debut on MATA

Milwaukee — The Anglican Rite Catholic Diocese of St. John the Beloved of the Holy Catholic Church has announced production of a new television show. "Catholics - Out, Open, and Affirming" will be telecast will be on MATA Channel 47 at 4:30 pm, Wednesday, October 16, 1996. and is primarily, aimed at the Gay and Lesbian Community in Milwaukee. The plan is that this program will be telecast, each Wednesday at 4:30 pm.

The program will feature the Right Reverend Robert Nicholas Hoeft, Bishop of the Anglican Rite Catholic Diocese of St. John the Beloved. Bishop Robert Nicholas is "Gay" and has been active, in the past, in our community and has continued to fight for our acceptance and legal rights.

Madison Veterans Group Formed

Madison — A group for gay, lesbian, and bisexual veterans has just started at the Madison Vet Center. The goal of this group is to provide a safe space for glb vets to socialize, share past and current experiences, and discuss issues of common concern. It is open to all veterans, regardless of age, gender, branch of service, or other factors: diversity is encour-

aged. To find out more contact one of the group facilitators: Susan Knoedel, M.S. at the Vet Center 608-264-5342 or Michael Sweet, Ph.D. at the Madison VA Mental Health Clinic 608-262-7084. All information will be held confidential.

LesBiGay Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Organize in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois

Madison — A few years ago, the idea of organizing lesbian, gay and bisexual Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) for socializing and supporting political causes was little more than a dream for several RPCVs in Washington, D.C. Now there is a mailing list of over 600 LGB RPCVs in all major metropolitan areas, including Peace Corps staff and volunteers currently in the field.

The LGB RPCV National Steering Committee has developed a simple and direct mission statement for the group: We exist to promote Peace Corps ideals and acceptance of gays, lesbians and bisexuals throughout the world. To support this goal, the Steering Committee is working to enlist the assistance of LGB RPCVs nationwide in developing local affiliate chapters. These local chapters will provide an opportunity for LGB RPCVs to meet and socialize. They will also provide solidarity and strength in increasing numbers when attempting to influence Peace Corps or U.S. government policy on issues related to the mission statement. There are chapters in Washington, San Francisco and Seattle- now there's a chance for a chapter to form in Wisconsin.

There will be a picnic potluck in Madison, Wisconsin, at Tenney Park on Sunday, October 20, beginning at 1 pm. All lesbian, gay and bisexual Returned Peace Corps Volunteers in Wisconsin and northern Illinois (except Chicago, which has sufficient numbers to eventually form a separate affiliate chapter) are invited to attend. Anyone from northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota are certainly welcome, as well. Call Earl Bricker at (608) 244-0289 to RSVP or for more information.

La Crosse Fundraiser Set

La Crosse — The Cavalier Lounge at 114 5th Avenue North, LaCrosse, WI 54601, will present a special benefit show on Saturday, October 19th, 1996, from 9pm. to Midnight. This event, co-hosted by Leandra and Buck, is for Vanessa from Minneapolis who performed in many AIDS benefit shows. The benefit is to help cover medical expenses for transplant surgery. Cover charge is \$3. For more information, call The Cavalier Lounge, (608) 782.9061.

Group Notes

The Pageant 1996-1997 Seeks Contestants

Milwaukee — The Pageant 1996-1997 is looking for a few good man to compete for the title of Mr. Gay Wisconsin. Entrants must be age 21 or over, have intelligence, poise and talent.

"It doesn't take a body by God. It does take commitment and a desire to win." stated Contestant applications are readily available in all of the Gay publications. Applications for contestants must be in by October 27.

All Local and Statewide Past and Present "Miss" title holders attending The Pageant are asked to bring their Crown or Tiara with them (not wear them). All Past and Present "Mr." title holders are asked to bring their Sash or Crown. The Crowning this year will be majestic and regal. The Pageant wants these title holder to be a special part of the event. Any questions call 414-486-6233.

The 1996-1997 Pageant will be held on Sunday, November 3, 1996 at the Milwaukee Hilton (Formerly the Marc Plaza Hotel) After cocktails and a dinner of Prime Rib, the Grand Mother of all Wisconsin Pageants will begin at 8 pm with the most spectacular opening number since Jolson sang on the silver screen.

This year's contest has been streamlined by the elimination of the fantasy walk category. There is an increase from four to five minutes allowed for talent, and contestants will be free to wear the evening attire of their choice for the opening number. Contestants and advertisers should call 414-486-6226 or 414-486-6233 for more information. Tickets for the evening can be purchased by calling 414-264-1155 or contact your favorite bar to see if a table or seat are available.

"We Are Family" to Open in Madison

Madison — Manoeuvres & The MAD Bar have announced the opening of "We Are Family," in the Wilson Hotel at the end of October. An exact date for the opening has yet to be set. "We Are Family" will be a gay gift/clothing store and coffee shop in the greater Madison area designed for the Gay community. With a selection of merchandise designed to appeal to both men and women.

Manoeuvres DJ, Tony Ritschard will manage the shop. "We Are Family" is now looking for gay artisans to sell their merchandise in the store. The store will also serve premium coffees, cappuccinos & espresso along with window seating, so before or after your shopping, you can sit with a cup of coffee and people watch or read a book or paper. For more information please write to: "We Are Family", 524 East Wilson Street, Madison, WI 53703, Attention Ed & Tony, or call Manoeuvres at (608)258-9918. The store is located in the Wilson Hotel were Manoeuvres and The MAD Bar are located now, and will be owned by the same.

Madison Gay Veterans Group Forms

Madison — A group for gay, lesbian, and bisexual veterans has just started at the Madison Vet Center. The goal of this group is to provide a safe space for glb vets to socialize, share past and current experiences, and discuss issues of common concern. It is open to all veterans, regardless of age, gender, branch of service, or other factors: diversity is encouraged. To find out more contact one of the group facilitators: Susan Knoedel, M.S. at the Vet Center 608-264-5342 or Michael Sweet, Ph.D. at the Madison VA Mental Health Clinic 608-262-7084. All information will be held confidential.

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LEGALLY SPEAKING

by Arlene Zarembka

Destroying the Safety Net

The greatest sin of President Clinton over the past 4 years has not been his Great Waffle on Gays in the military (he was forced into it by Congress), nor his pronouncement that he will sign DOMA in order to strengthen the family (Congress

While this bill is not targeted at Gay men and Lesbians, the community ought to be outraged by it.

would have overridden his veto). It has been signing the Welfare Destruction Act (known officially as the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996").

As awful as the "don't ask, don't tell" policy is, as awful as DOMA is, these policies don't directly kill people. The new welfare law amounts to capital

punishment for a large number of people. People will die because of this bill. They will die because they cannot get the basics they need for existence — food and shelter — or they will die working at unsafe jobs that they cannot leave because there's no net to catch them if they fall off the payroll.

The only "reconciliation" in the bill is reconciling poor people to put up and shut up at work. No matter how dehumanizing the working conditions, no matter if the boss is violating wage laws, no matter if the boss is discriminating against employees because of their race, sex, age, or sexual orientation, no matter if sexual harassment is rampant, poor people will need to work without complaint, simply to be able to survive.

While this bill is not targeted at Gay men and Lesbians, the community ought to be outraged by it. The bill is simply inhumane.

First, it denies food stamps and Supplemental Security Income (assistance to those poor people who are elderly or disabled) to virtually all legal immigrants, even to those immigrants who have not been here long enough to become citizens. These are people who have every right to be in this country. It also denies Medicaid to most new legal immigrants for at least 5 years (with states having the option to ban Medicaid for even longer). These provisions apply, no matter how much an immigrant has contributed in income and Social Security taxes to the IRS, no matter how destitute or disabled she is, and no matter why an she is unable to support herself.

Second, the new law prevents non-disabled citizens between age 18 and 50 who are not employed and who do not have children from receiving food stamps for more than 3 months out of 36 months. (In some situations, a person could get an additional 3 months of food stamps if she were rehired and then laid off again.)

Thus, for example, if a Gay man with AIDS is unable to work, but has not yet been approved for disability benefits, he is out of luck for food stamps unless and until approved for disability benefits. (The application process can take well over a year.)

Getting disability benefits is not easy, however, even for a person with AIDS. To qualify as disabled, it is not enough to have a progressive disease, even a terminal one. It is not enough to show that he can't do his former job. He must be unable to work at *any* job for which he has the skills.

It's irrelevant in determining disability whether or not there are any jobs

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available in the area where he lives. If, for example, Social Security decides that he can sit in a gas station booth

...if a Gay man with AIDS is unable to work, but has not yet been approved for disability benefits, he is out of luck for food stamps...

collecting money from customers, that's enough to disqualify him for disability benefits, even if there are no such jobs available in his community.

Third, even for those who are citizens and have children, the welfare bill is devastating. The bill abolishes the federal guarantee that poor families with children will receive aid. States now can decide for themselves what categories of families will be entitled to assistance. Moreover, a state can, if it wishes, cut off aid after a person has received aid for 2 years, even if there are no jobs available. Even those states that want to be more generous are prohibited from giving federal aid funds for a total of more than 5 years in a person's lifetime, regardless of the person's circumstances or reasons for being destitute.

Because a state can simply refuse to give assistance to any category of families it chooses, a number of states are likely to deny benefits those who don't fit their concept of "family values," such as unmarried teen-age mothers. Some might also decide to deny benefits to *any* unmarried woman.

Thus, even though the Lavender community was not the target of the welfare bill, the bill will affect members of the community. Poor Lesbians and Gay Men with children will be barred from any assistance in states that decide to deny assistance to families with unmarried parents. Those under 50 who don't have children and who lose their jobs for any reason other than government-approved disability, will not be able to get food stamps for more

than a few months. Those who are immigrants will be denied any sort of assistance, except emergency medical treatment.

The changes in welfare can be rescinded, although it will not be to accomplish, particularly since the President, large numbers of Democrats, and virtually all Republicans are on the anti-welfare bandwagon. The community needs to join forces with welfare

rights advocates to insist that poor people are not expendable. If politicians want to know the cause of our economic decline, they need to look at our militarized government, which exploded the deficit in the '80s by paying for ever more murderous weapons, while reducing taxes on corporations and wealthy people. Cutting women and children off welfare will do nothing to solve our economic morass.

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Health News

The Great Fellatio Debate: How Safe Is Oral Sex?

by Mark Schoofs

Excerpted from *The Village Voice*

What are the chances of getting HIV through fellatio? This is probably the sexual question gay men ask most frequently. But people cannot get a consistent answer.

"One day you hear it's not a risk," says AIDS activist Spencer Cox, "and the next day you hear, Don't even think about putting your tongue on a cock."

Cox is exaggerating only slightly. At the International Conference on AIDS this summer, Gay Men's Health Crisis sponsored a standing-room-only forum on the subject. Three

"The oral sex panic ... arises from a deeply rooted anxiety about what we do with our bodies with other males ... and from society's dismissal of the authentic need that many men have to exchange semen."

—*Activist and author Eric Rofes*

scientists explained that although some people have been infected through oral sex such cases appear to be rare. Despite the widely reported discovery that monkeys can easily be infected by swabbing the back of their tongues with SIV, the simian cousin of HIV, humans usually catch the AIDS virus sexually through anal or vaginal intercourse.

The panel's last speaker was gay activist and author Eric Rofes. "The oral sex panic," he declared, arises from "a deeply rooted anxiety about what we do with our bodies with other males" and from society's dismissal of "the authentic need that many men have to exchange semen."

The very next day, researcher Timothy Schacker presented data on people newly infected with HIV. In 12 cases, Schacker had been able to identify the specific sexual episode that most likely transmitted the virus; in four cases, the riskiest activity was fellatio. In two, the men's partners confirmed their stories. Schacker concluded that "oral transmission of HIV may occur more often than previously recognized."

To Schacker, a key finding was that the men in his study

were having oral sex without a condom about 20 times more frequently than they were having unprotected receptive anal sex. So, although the risk for a single act of fellatio is much less than for anal sex, Schacker says, "if you perform oral sex enough times, your cumulative risk could be substantial."

Schacker's study is too small to be conclusive. But it documents, something many clinicians and researchers have noticed: a persistent trickle of infections among people who say fellatio is their primary risk factor. Four out of 102 newly infected gay men in Amsterdam cited oral sex as their riskiest behavior, one out of 50 in Boston, three out of 49 in San Francisco, one out of 41 in a second S.F. study, and six out of 28 in Stockholm.

Case reports are also inconclusive. One man who contracted HIV through oral sex had performed fellatio on hundreds of partners a year, often to ejaculation, in San Francisco, the epicenter of the epidemic. Yet this man repeatedly tested HIV-negative until 1989, a bullet-dodging feat that would be virtually inconceivable had he been having that much anal sex.

This suggests oral sex is "low risk," says Paul O'Malley, an official with the San Francisco Department of Health who helped document this case. But he points to another man infected through oral sex, who had fellatio with his HIV-positive boyfriend for only a few months.

These numbers may seem small, but "do you know how hard it is to become a case report?" asks O'Malley. Not even

"...oral transmission of HIV may occur more often than previously recognized."

—*Timothy Schacker*

the Centers for Disease Control, which collects AIDS statistics, asks what sex act transmitted the virus.

The Village Voice faxed a survey to AIDS doctors across the country. Of the 40 who responded, 17 had patients who said they were infected through performing fellatio. The doctors "strongly believe" 61 of these patients. This represents only a sliver of the thousands of people with AIDS they have treated, but the total number is too substantial to dismiss.

To resolve the contradictions that inevitably arise from

small studies and anecdotal reports, people look to large epidemiological studies.

One calculation comes from a study involving almost 3000 men. Those who reported having no anal sex in the six months before their HIV test were about 32 times less likely to test positive than those who did.

Lead researcher Roger Detels says this figure can serve as a rough gauge of fellatio's risk. Very rough indeed, because the margin of error is extremely wide: Men who avoided anal sex could have been anywhere from nine to 263 times safer.

Part of the difficulty is that infectiousness varies. People with AIDS can transmit the virus more easily in late-stage illness, and probably also in the first few months after they are infected. But during the intervening years, any STD or genital tract inflammation can dramatically increase the amount of HIV in semen. Similarly, uninfected people are probably more vulnerable to catching HIV when they are sick, and maybe even when they are just feeling run-down.

Risk estimates are for populations. But a person about to suck a particular penis needs to know the chances of infection then and there.

"That has not been measured," says Richard Elovich, an AIDS educator at GMHC, "and really can't be."

One Man's Story

How people have oral sex varies tremendously, and that can make all the difference. "I drew the line at taking cum in my mouth," says Joey, who asked that his real name not be used.

Joey's policy is common, and many gay men believe that by keeping semen out of their mouths they will keep HIV out of their bodies. Scientists agree that this reduces the chance of infection-if

only because precum is a smaller amount of fluid than ejaculate-and in most documented cases where researchers asked, infected men had taken semen into their mouths. (On such occasions, many experts suggest spitting it out because swallowing can bring the virus into contact with cells along the esophageal tract. Rinsing with mouthwash, peroxide, or hard liquor "would probably help," says a CDC

spokesperson.) But other factors are also important.

At an all-weekend party, Joey took several drugs: Ecstasy, K, and cocaine. While high, he had sex with a guy he knows to be HIV-positive.

During their two-hour liaison, they blew each other repeatedly and vigorously. "Between men," says Joey, "cock-sucking is almost a competitive thing: Can you take the whole dick down your



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throat?" In doing that, Joey created "a shitload of friction" against the back of his throat.

Researchers believe deep-throating raises the risk of infection, even without ejaculation. In most people, the lining of the mouth probably has to tear for HIV infection to occur, according to London University researcher Thomas Lehner, and that is more likely to happen with rough oral sex.

If friction during fellatio exposed any vulnerable cells, ejaculation may not be necessary for infection. Precum contains "quite a bit of virus," says Harvard's Deborah Anderson, an expert on HIV in genital fluids. Saliva can inhibit HIV, but recent research shows this varies greatly from person to person.

About three weeks after his episode of hot and heavy oral sex, Joey came down with flu-like symptoms, and blood tests verified that he was undergoing "conversion illness," the sign that a person is becoming HIV-positive.

Joey had two other sexual episodes in the month before his conversion illness. Both times, he was the one being sucked. (There are at least four case reports of men being infected by having their penises sucked. But that is not considered a high-risk activity because saliva contains much less HIV than semen.) From one of the men who sucked him off, Joey got gonorrhea, and it's possible that HIV piggybacked on that infection.

Finally, Joey might have had an oral infection during that fateful weekend. A study of more than 1100 HIV-negative gay men found that more than a quarter had gingivitis, or inflammation of the gums, which can facilitate infection. Dentists say that many people don't notice gingivitis. And all researchers suggest using condoms if people have just flossed or have any cuts or sores in the mouth.

Risk Perceptions of Oral Sex

For people who won't use condoms, there are ways to make fellatio safer. One way is to avoid having oral sex with strangers. This is a common strategy, according to AIDS educator Elovich, and if one's only partner is HIV-negative, it doesn't merely reduce the risk, it eliminates it.

Many gay men have already adopted this arrangement for anal sex: They'll fellate tricks but save intercourse for their lover. In part, this is because blowjobs are ideal for quick or casual encounters. So for people who like anonymous sex and for those whose lovers are HIV-positive—the discussion often turns to technique.

Many people avoid the head of the penis, licking only the shaft and testicles. This is the safest method, but people have developed less certain ones. In order to avoid preseminal fluid, some men suck the penis until it becomes fully erect, or for only a short time afterward. Others pull away as soon as they taste precum. Still others won't have oral sex if they have burned their mouth by, say, eating hot pizza.

By lowering the risk, these strategies can also lower one's angst. But they rarely eliminate it. The anxiety about oral sex

intense among gay men.

"Gay community forums on oral sex are jammed," notes AIDS prevention researcher Ron Stall. The Great Oral Sex Debate, as more than one activist calls it, has sparked acrimonious disputes among gay leaders, with accusations of "internalized homophobia" flying every which way.

The main reason for this intensity is obvious: AIDS has been raging among gay men for 15 years. But fellatio is also "a more central part of sex" for them than for heterosexuals, says Schwartz. She found that "gay men do it for more time, and more often to orgasm."

Several surveys affirm that fellatio is cherished by gay men. "A lot of gay men don't like anal sex," says Schwartz, so what do they have left? That is even more true in the age of AIDS. Because condoms can break or leak, many gay men go without anal intercourse for long periods. For them, fellatio isn't just the biggest risk they take, it's the only risk.

"Because the risk is hard to define," says Elovich, "oral sex has become the site of our enormous anxiety about having sex when we're living through the AIDS epidemic."

Finally, there's homophobia, which has left many gay men deeply suspicious of any limitations imposed on their sexuality. In his book "Reviving the Tribe," Rofes writes, "Many gay men hear a subtle but familiar message from safe sex campaigns: The meanings gay men find in their sexual congresses are spurious, trivial, or expendable." In such a climate, says Rofes, "I want to let people know that oral sex and all sex can be good."

Martin Delaney, one of the epidemic's leading activists, worries that gay leaders such as Rofes have launched "a political response to a medical problem. I think they've got it backwards." But the fact that many gay men believe homophobia lurks in the heart of AIDS education has made a scientific discussion of fellatio vastly more difficult.

Political Factors

In the midst of this psycho-political storm, pulled by anxiety and desire, gay organizations are redefining the risk of fellatio.

"Oral Sex Is Safer Sex," proclaims a poster recently wheat-pasted around New York by the grassroots AIDS Prevention Action League. The poster, which lists ways to make fellatio "even safer," reflects an ongoing shift in AIDS prevention policy. The dominant message used to be, "If there's any risk at all, don't do it," says Ilan Meyer, a member of APAL and an assistant professor of public health at Columbia University.

The poster, he says, defines a "gradation of risk." And, he adds, it "counters the sexphobic advice that says, 'Just say no,' "by emphasizing that "not all homosexual sex is risky."

But activist David Gold is worried about applying terms such as safer and low risk to oral sex because he believes they are dangerously vague. "They fit with what everyone wants to hear," Gold says.

"Negatives will hear that it's safe to suck, and positives will hear that they don't need to worry about infecting their partners, or about disclosing their status before they let someone suck them."

GMHC has all but erased the gap. A recently published research summary-which Meyer coauthored-concludes: "oral sex offers a possible, but very low, risk of HIV infection. Unprotected oral sex is classifiable as safer sex or as safe compared to safest. (Safest can refer to completely non-insertive forms of sex, such as masturbation and frottage.)" The report then adds, "Avoiding ejaculation in the mouth ... can lower risk of HIV transmission-and risk for other sexually transmitted diseases-even further."

The clear implication is that, even with ejaculate in the mouth, oral sex is "very low risk" and "safe as opposed to safest."

"As a positive person," says Tom Coates, a leading prevention expert, who objects to the GMHC report, "I can't imagine doing anything to infect other people."

GMHC associate executive director Mike Isbell defends the report. "For years we gave a red light on oral sex, and gay men ignored it," he explains. Trying to learn from that experience, GMHC is trying to treat gay men "as adults" by providing "more-nuanced information."

Some AIDS experts insist that overstating the danger of oral sex, or "erring on the side of caution," might actually cost lives. Ostrow argues that "glorifying" fellatio can help men redirect their desire for "unprotected, uninhibited, mucous-membrane contact" away from anal sex. AIDS has left many gay men feeling fatalistic. They wonder when, not if, they will get infected. Asserting that oral sex is very low risk might throw them a lifeline of hope. Ostrow acknowledges that this educational philosophy would result in some infections, but he believes it would prevent a greater number.

Stall bristles at the "paternalism" of this approach. "We just have to give the best answers science can yield," he says, "and let people choose for themselves." Delaney worries about something more sinister: "You wonder if future evidence showed a clearer picture of increased risk of oral sex, would they be willing to change their views or have they dug in? Have people made this such a political issue that they won't change?"

AIDS activism has pushed for better research into every aspect of the epidemic, and "this question should not be allowed to fester in uncertainty for another decade," says Delaney. Adds Gold, "Someone should put together a blue-ribbon panel of scientists and community people, and have them design a study. This is so important to so many people's lives. They deserve answers."

*Additional reporting: David Gallagher
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NEWSMAKER INTERVIEW

by Jamakaya

Melinda Paras: Outgoing NGLTF Director

Melinda Paras, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, will be in Milwaukee Thursday, October 17 for a Town Meeting from 6-8pm at the International Building, 611 W. National Avenue. She will also conduct a workshop on "Organizing a Multi-Cultural LGBT Community" at UW-Milwaukee's Student Union from 9am to Noon on Saturday, October 19. Both events are sponsored by the Human Rights League as part of its National Coming Out Day activities. For Paras, the Milwaukee event is also another stop on her 16-city "Get Out the Vote" campaign.

In this interview, the 43-year-old Paras, who will leave NGLTF when her

"There is still nothing more important for our movement than people coming out."

contract expires in December, talks to In Step about her accomplishments as Director, current issues facing gays and lesbians, and the importance of coming out.

IN STEP: What are you most proud of in your two-year tenure at NGLTF?

PARAS: The thing I'm most proud of is that the Task Force is a really stable and productive organization now. That wasn't the case when I came here. Some people thought the Task Force might not survive, that it was pretty much at the end of its phase. Since that time, I think that anyone's who's been in contact with us knows that it's a really vibrant organization, that it's active and productive, and I'm very proud to have

contributed to that.

What are NGLTF's priorities?

PARAS: Under my tenure — the current Deputy Director, Kerry Lobel, who will be taking over my position, is likely to articulate her own priorities — but under my administration, my priorities have been questions of youth and education, issues of marriage and organizing around that, and the defense of Medicaid. The fourth would be continued work around hate crimes.

Where do you think the marriage debate is going to go?

PARAS: I think we're just in the opening rounds of the discussion on marriage. Considering that, I think we're doing incredibly well. I mean, this issue wasn't even on the agenda a couple of years ago. The amount of support we've gathered with very little work and the discussion already occurring, I think, is really very impressive. I would call this just the opening shots in the battle.

Do you think marriage should be a priority issue for the community? A few years back, before the marriage issue became central, there was more of a debate in the gay community about whether it was preferable to push for domestic partnerships or full marriage rights.

PARAS: I don't think there's any way we should be opposed to full marriage rights. I mean, we clearly have our community being discriminated against and people saying these are not equal relationships. I don't think there's any conditions under which that would be an acceptable concept. In terms of priorities, I wouldn't have placed it as such a



high priority this year as it became. But it became that because of the court case in Hawaii, and I have really welcomed the opportunity to do the education work around it. Even though we've known from the beginning we weren't going to win [full marriage rights] in the immediate sense, we are going to win in Hawaii within the next year and a half and I think that will be an extraordinary victory. So while I never could have predicted we would do so well so quickly, I think it's been a good thing, and I think our community has done really well with it.

When the court case was first filed in Hawaii, the national groups did not immediately support it, saying that the timing was not right. There was a tension between what the national groups saw as priorities and this grass roots effort by several couples in Hawaii who just went ahead and filed suit.

PARAS: I think that's always been somewhat the case. The national groups set our national agenda based on what

we think is most win-able and the grounds and terrain that we think are our strongest points. But the point is, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, when they see discrimination individually, one-by-one, will say, whatever the best guess or estimates of national leaders, "I don't want to be discriminated against," and they'll go file a suit somewhere. Even if we might not agree with the timing or choice of issues, it's still a very important initiative that has to be

"We have an important role to play in making sure our community does get out to vote...and that we hold all the candidates accountable to our issues and concerns."

respected. Once it was clear that it was a very viable case and going to have major potential, then all the national groups moved in to support it.

You mentioned youth issues as one of your priorities. Some progress is being made in terms of support services in the schools for gay teens, but isn't that also one of the main targets of right wing politicians?

PARAS: Yes, it is. I'd say it's now the number one target. Even though that's also an issue we may not do well on ini-

tially — I expect we'll lose a lot of battles on that ground — we have to start the dialogue and move forward. There's no question it is the choice of the extreme right wing in terms of their attacks on us, so we really have to be in a position to respond.

A Wisconsin youth, Jamie Nabozny, just won an appeals court decision allowing him to sue his school district for failing to protect him from very vicious anti-gay harassment.

PARAS: That's a very important case. I think it's part of a whole movement. I connect it very much with the developments around sexual harassment. School administrators are being put on notice that they have the responsibility to create an environment in which students can learn and go to school in safety. Administrators who are unwilling to do that and are unresponsive to these concerns are going to be sued.

A priority for many gay groups this year is the re-election of Bill Clinton and electing more pro-gay members of Congress. Is the NGLTF working for that?

PARAS: The Task Force works as a 501(c)3, as an educational and charitable organization, and we don't make political endorsements. But I do think that we have an important role to play in making sure our community does get out to vote and make sure that we remain active in the political process



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and that we hold all of the candidates accountable to our issues and concerns. We're very much a part of that. I also think that framing our issues and helping the community think through what our priorities are is an important role we have. Part of the reason I'm traveling around the country is to talk to people about that and help articulate what I think are the priorities we should look for in candidates and in their impact on

our issues.

What are your future plans?

PARAS: Well actually, I don't really have any now. My partner was offered her old job back. She works with homeless veterans in San Francisco — she did that before she came to Washington with me. So, I'm just going to rest for a little bit and take stock of things. It's been a pretty exhausting job. I promised Barbara [Englis] that after two years if she wanted to go back to San Francisco we would. We're getting ready to have a baby. She could be pregnant even as we speak!

Congratulations.

PARAS: Thank you. So those are my own priorities right now — my family.

When you were appointed Executive Director of NGLTF, there was some hostility leveled at you because of your background in leftist politics. Do you feel you've overcome people's reservations about you?

PARAS: I've always believed that if you do a good job people will recognize it. So whatever anyone's issues or concerns might have been when I came into the job, I had a lot of confidence. I was hired after serving in an interim capacity for three months, so in a lot of ways, NGLTF had an opportunity to experience what my management and leadership was like and was really pleased with it. So, I had a lot of confidence I would do a good job here and always believed the community would recognize that. So, it's never been a huge concern for me, truthfully. There hasn't really been a single controversy about NGLTF that I'm aware of since I've been here the last two years. I may go down in history as the most uncontroversial NGLTF Executive Director ever! [laughter]

Well, you've lasted two years, which I believe is longer than your predecessor, Torie Osborn.

PARAS: Yeah, longer than several of them. I have the second longest tenure of any Executive Director and the least amount of controversy. And I pretty much expected that would be the case.

Tell us a little about your background in Madison. When we interviewed David Clarenbach a while back when he became the Director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund he mentioned you two had attended school together.

PARAS: Well, David and I were best friends for years — ten years, I think. We attended Madison West. We used to play football together. He broke my thumb once. I think I was throwing a pass and he was trying to block it. It's just kind of funny that we were best friends. I think everyone assumed we were going to be boyfriend/girlfriend, but it just never came up! [laughter]

Were you born in Madison?

PARAS: No, but my family moved there when I was about four, so I pretty much perceive it as my home. I lived there until I was 17.

You made some eloquent remarks at this summer's Pride march in Madison, saying you wished that when you were growing up there had been such an organized and welcoming gay community.

PARAS: Yes, it would have made quite a difference in my childhood and my adolescence, especially. Because I didn't have that kind of support, I just didn't know there was a gay community at that time. It was very emotional for me coming back to Madison for Gay Pride this year. I think it was one of my best moments at the Task Force. There's really nothing like coming home in that way to a place where I hadn't been out. That was just a great moment. It made me really happy. I'm really grateful to the community in Madison especially for being so supportive of me. I had a great time, and I'm really excited about coming to Milwaukee.

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When did you come out?

PARAS: I was 19 when I first fell in love with another woman. I think it was still a number of years after that before I declared myself or started going out to bars. I think at the time I was in love with this woman I just kind of summarized it in a general sense, "Well, I'm in love with a woman and that's fine," but I didn't say I was a lesbian right away. I think I only felt almost the necessity to do that when the AIDS epidemic emerged, like 11 years ago. It felt like it wasn't really a personal question anymore. For anyone who was gay, that was a very political question, and anyone who was involved in political work really needed to be more public and vocal about being gay. That was what prompted me to get into a public position of relating to my sexual orientation.

At what point did you come out to your family?

PARAS: I was about 24, 25. It wasn't particularly spectacular. My mother was very good about it. Everyone else just kind of ignored it [laughter]. The things I was doing with my life were actually far more controversial than being a lesbian. It paled in comparison.

What were you doing at that time?

PARAS: I had been involved in the movement against the Marcos government in the Philippines. I was arrested and imprisoned there. That tended to eclipse everything else. Martial law was declared and I was hunted by the police. I was in hiding for a couple of months. I was arrested and I was in prison for six weeks, almost two months. And then I was deported back to the United States.

Why is it important to come out?

PARAS: Look at the accomplishments our movement has made this year, particularly the Supreme Court decision on the Colorado Amendment-2 case. [The ruling struck down a statewide anti-gay initiative.] What makes the difference

between that decision and the Hardwick decision [affirming Georgia's sodomy law] ten years ago is, fundamentally, the large numbers of gay and lesbian people who have come out and the degree to which society has become more accepting and understanding. That's the foundation of any of our political victories. So to me, coming out has been and always will be the most fundamental part of the gay rights

movement and, as much as it may sound like an old and oft-repeated message, there is still nothing more important for our movement than people coming out.

Melinda Paras will speak in Milwaukee at a Town Hall Meeting sponsored by the Human Rights League (HRL) on October 17 at 6pm at the Esperanza Unida Building, 611 W. National Ave.

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Jennifer Tilly: UN-BOUND



*Exclusive Interview by Timothy Nasson
of the In Step Staff*

Jennifer Tilly has the honor of being known as an actress with one of the most annoying and ear piercing of voices. She is in good company though. Rosie Perez, Melanie Griffith, Demi Moore and Winona Ryder all compete for top spots. Their voices, a unique commodity, give them an upper hand at certain roles and keep them in the forefront of moviegoer's minds. Without that voice, Tilly would have never stood out in her role in "Bullets Over Broadway" that earned her an Academy Award nomination. And if one wonders if it is an act or her real voice, the answer is the latter.

I too, was skeptical of that voice, even when interviewing her for the role of Violet, the lipstick lesbian in the film "Bound." But, I was convinced it was more than an

...when word got out that I was cast in the film, People Magazine does this little story that asks the question if I'm a lesbian because I'm playing one?

act when at dinner, I sat at the table next to hers at the Four Seasons' Gardens Restaurant and heard her high pitched squeals for over two hours.

Even with her role in "Bullets Over Broadway," as the ditzy and dumb prostitute Olive, Tilly did not feel as if she had made it in Hollywood.

"I had reservations about playing Violet in "Bound," but felt that my career was in a place that I needed to do something desperate," she says about her decision in finally deciding on the movie.

"No A-level actresses wanted to do "Bound," namely because of its low budget. I however, consider myself a B-level actress who's climbing, and felt that it would help my career" she says.

Tilly had the same qualms at first about being in "Bound" as Gina Gershon. "If a film is successful and a women's film, say like "Thelma and Louise," it is thought of as a heist film or an element is added to it where something dreadful happens to the characters at the end. Without giving the ending of "Bound" away, it should suffice to say that the two women do not have to drive off a cliff being chased by cops. But more importantly than that element, I wanted to make sure that the directors were not going to be exploitive."

Previously playing a prostitute paled in comparison to playing a woman in love with another, for Tilly. And when one is in love, love is usually made. "Sure we could have done the sex scenes with the sheets pulled up to our chins. But these two women have such an honesty between them, that showing their sexually attraction fully, on the screen helps to convey that message to the audience."

Tilly, who has gone blonde, for no other reason than just wanting to, seemed comfortable talking about the roles that will undoubtedly launch her and her co-star into a greater spotlight than can be imagined. "Bound" was made for about \$4 million. As a group, everyone working on the film cut their prices to make it happen. Even though we were all the cheapest actors working in Hollywood."

Most romantic films today or films that include two characters in love, generally go for the opposites attract kind of look. "In this film both Gina and I have the same kind of look. We are both brunettes, both around the same height

"Bound is not really just about two girls in love. It is a love triangle ... this aspect of the story makes it even more interesting."

and of course are both women. I think we were cast as two halves to make a whole. In fact, "Bound" is not really just about two girls in love. It is a love triangle. Caesar [Joe Pantoliano] is madly in love with Violet, and he is a big part of the film and Violet and Corky's lives. This aspect of the story makes it even more interesting."

"What I think is funny is I wanted - and so did Gina - to accurately represent the lesbian community. Doing whatever it takes to learn what it is lesbians do and feel in their lives that differs from straight women. And then all of a sudden when word got out that I was cast in the film, *People*

Magazine does this little story that asks the question if I'm a lesbian because I'm playing one?" she says with a confused and surprised tone, but not commenting with an answer until later when she enlightens with a personal philosophy.

"My boyfriend says I cry a lot. Even at weddings. And he thinks that I cry at weddings because I'm happy. But I cry at them because I feel that it's the last time the bride and groom

"I think the reason that "Bound" was originally given an NC-17 rating was due to the fact that the sex scenes looked so realistic."

are going to be happy."

Having just worked with one of the most respected directors in the world, Woody Allen, comparisons would obviously be made to fledgling directors Andy and Larry Wachowski. "Those guys had so much control directing "Bound," she says. "There is nothing worse than a bad director giving orders. These guys set out to get "Bound" made the way they wanted to and certainly did. They got the actresses they thought would be right for the parts, after interviewing dozens. They also got the producer, Dino DeLaurentis who has literally produced hundreds of films including some of Fellini's."

When comparing them to Woody Allen though, Tilly has a few laughs. "Woody would let me improvise a lot. There were some scenes in "Bullets Over Broadway" where Woody would turn my mike down and let me talk just as background noise. On "Bound" though, sometimes me and Gina and Joey would piss Larry off because we would start to ad lib. He would get so mad and say something like 'those aren't the lines' and we would say 'but you let Joey ad lib some of his lines.' He would then get all defensive and answer by saying, 'Joey has an excuse, he can't remember his lines and needs to say something.' Everything that Violet says is important."

The first time the two stars had any physical contact was not without a little hesitancy. "The first scene that involves any intimacy at all is when we are in my truck, and we are kissing. Before we shot that scene I was drinking Tequila in my trailer and I think Gina was drinking something as well, just to relax us. Once they started shooting the scene, we both felt kind of nervous. But, there was a camera glitch or something in the first take so we had to do it over. And after that it was easy and we didn't feel the least bit uncomfortable."

When the sex scenes were over and done with and the rating's board got their hands on the film, they of course slapped the dreaded NC-17 rating on it right away. "I think the rea-

son that "Bound" was originally given an NC-17 rating was due to the fact that the sex scenes looked so realistic. When I saw it on the screen for the first time, I must admit that it looked like it was really happening. But little does anybody know that there were walls coming up and walls going down and people shouting to 'move this leg, move that arm' all around us. It was the least intimate moment of my entire life. But, it did look so erotic."

"Bound," unlike other films which usually wait until the climax, starts off with violence and sex. "I think that "Bound" starts off the way it does, [with a bang], to make the audience wonder just where it is going. It shows people things that they are not used to seeing quite as early in a film."

"Bound" began production on May 15, 1995 and finished less than two months later on July 8. It has played in festivals - gay and not- since wrapping post production in late 1995 and generally to enthusiastic reviews. It is also the type of film that will do well with word of mouth.

"The word I have heard from people who have seen it has been really positive. With critics and audiences alike. That doesn't happen all too often. Invariably, one or the other disagree at least somewhat," says Tilly.

"Bound" has pleased both audiences and critics but may come to a grinding halt when it comes to Academy Award voters. The acting is without blemish and the direction is

meticulous, down to the very choices of color selected for interior shots. However, will Academy voters be willing to cast a ballot in the direction of what seems to be the first mainstream Hollywood film about two women in love? "I don't know," says Tilly, "It would be great if they did choose this film for any award. It certainly deserves many."

When asked about her nomination for "Bullets Over Broadway" she proudly proclaims, "Getting nominated was a tremendous validation to my career. I got calls from producers and casting directors the day after the nomination, who probably would have never called otherwise."

Tilly's other acting credits have included "The Getaway" with Alec Baldwin, "The Fabulous Baker Boys," and work on stage including "One Shoe Off."

"Someone like Julia Roberts is typecast as beautiful. I'm typecast as odd," she says with a look, a questioning one, of both sadness and doubt on her face.

"With both Bullets Over Broadway" and "Bound" under her belt, Tilly will probably not have to wonder about being typecast as the odd character anymore, unless she wants to be. Next on Tilly's calendar? Working on Jim Carrey's next film "Liar, Liar," as a gorgeous Beverly Hills divorcee. One can probably hardly wait to hear both of them speak in a movie together.

Some decisions are easier than others.



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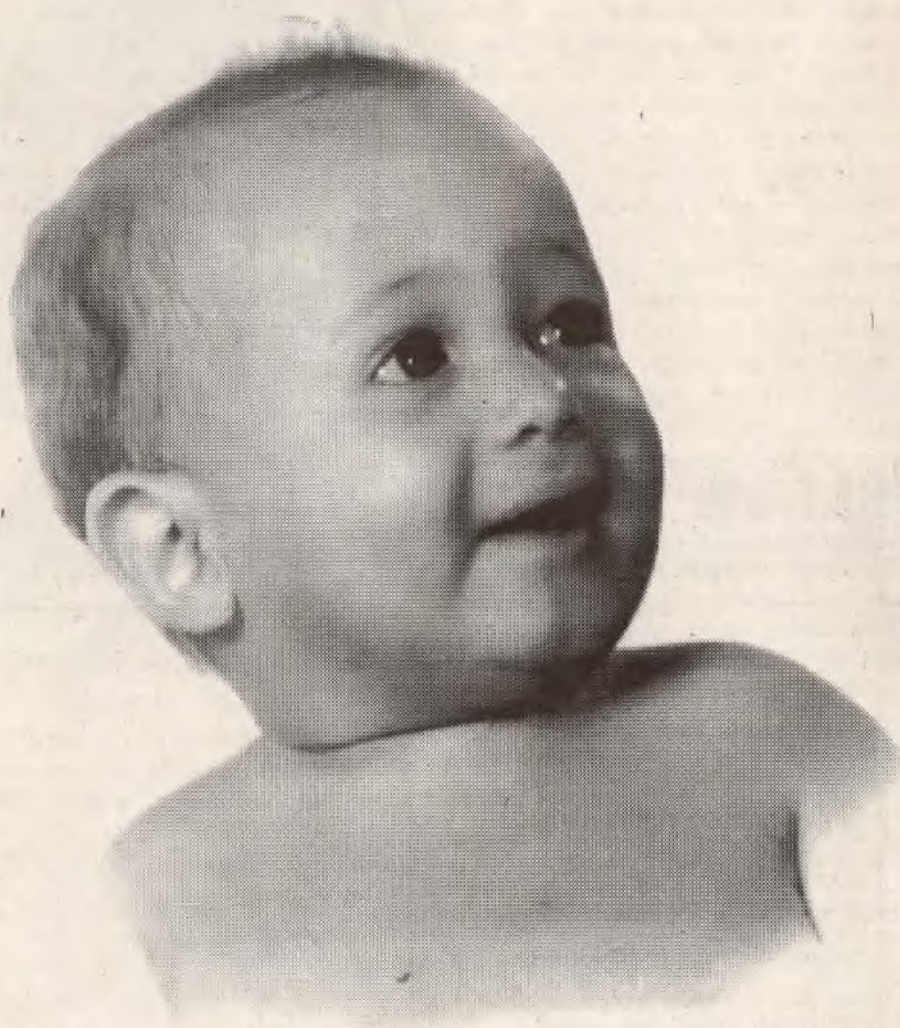
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FILM REVIEW

by Jamakaya

"Bound" is a Great Thriller with a Lesbian Twist

"Bound" arrives in theatres after a huge pre-release publicity blitz. Newspaper and TV ads and talk show appearances by lead actresses Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly have titillated us with promises of sex, violence, thrills, chills, and more sex — the lesbian variety! I didn't need too much coaxing to go see it on opening night and file a review. (Hey, it's a tough job but somebody's got to do it!)

I'm pleased to report that "Bound" delivers on all the hype. It's one of the best thrillers I've seen in years. It keeps you on the edge of your seat in anxious anticipation and causes you to sometimes cover your eyes in horror. Don't be surprised if you need to loosen your collar or some buttons during the steamy sex scenes. Mostly, I recommend you hang on for dear life, because once this movie gets going it sweeps you up in its relentless pace.

"Corky, Corky, what are ya doin'?"

These are the words the dyke protagonist (Gershon) asks herself reproachfully as she's about to get in way over her



—Joe Pantoliano, as Caesar in "Bound." Photo: Randy Tepper

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head in "Bound." It's the classic dilemma of the would-be chump who risks it all for the femme fatale (Tilly, playing Violet) who leads him (in this case, her) astray in film noir thrillers.

In "Bound," the butch Corky, just released from a five-year prison sentence, finds work re-habbing a condo in Chicago. She meets the provocative Violet, a gangster's moll, in the building's elevator and is fairly swiftly seduced. Violet convinces Corky she wants out of her relationship with Caesar, a loud-mouthed, abusive money launderer for the mob, and the women soon devise a scheme to steal the mob's money, frame the hapless Caesar with the rap, and drive into the sunset together.

As you might guess, the careful plot goes awry. The tension mounts, bodies pile up and numerous plot twists will keep you guessing until the very end. "Bound" is as nerve-racking as it is exhilarating.

Writers/directors Larry and Andy Wachowski have taken

a fairly stock story line and infused it with new energy. The girl-meets-girl angle is especially refreshing, and the Wachowskis treat the lesbianism matter-of-factly, not in a negative or condescending manner. When the furious Caesar (Joe Pantoliano) discovers Violet and Corky are lovers and he blows up at Corky calling her a "fucking queer" and other epithets, he's clearly the jerk and the audience sympathizes with Corky. (Lesbian sex writer Susie Bright is listed as a "Technical Consultant" in the credits.)

With the possible exception of "The Silence of the Lambs," I don't recall seeing such a skilled build-up of suspense since Hitchcock's classics decades ago. The pacing is intense and the cinematography startling and inventive. Certain visual images are likely to stay in your mind for some time. The script is also very smart, with some humorous, almost campy touches providing respite from the tension and bloodletting. Don't be afraid to laugh; there are definitely some funny lines and situations in "Bound."

Also outstanding are the performances. Tilly, who comes off as a motor-mouthed ditz in her TV appearances, exhibits greater control here, though she still plays it a bit over-the-top. Her deep voice, ripe body and languid manner make her the perfect femme fatale. Gershon is compelling as Corky, a woman who's obviously been around the block a few times, knows she's probably getting in over her head but can't break away. Pantoliano is also dynamite as the hot-tempered, menacing Caesar, who spends half of the movie in a frenzied panic over the loss of the mob's money.

"Bound" is a definite must-see. It's currently at the Downer Theatre in Milwaukee. In other areas, check your local listings. Don't miss it!

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The Arts

by Jorge L. Cabal

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel at the Pabst

Milwaukee — The 1996-97 season of "Keyboard Conversations," with Jeffrey Siegel, continues with "Chopin: Listen to the Dance" on Wednesday, October 23, at 7:30 pm in historic Pabst Theater.

In a telephone interview with *In Step*, Siegel, stated the concept "Keyboard Conversations," is a concept of primarily concert music with a "speak to the audience" session that depicts a little historical background about the music. The whole objective is to "enjoy, enlighten and entertain" both

classical music lovers and non-classical music lovers. Siegel added that humor is part of the menu.

"A greater appreciation of the music and hopefully an empty void in their lives has been filled with that music," Siegel stated.

Siegel has recently appeared at the Kennedy Center's 25th Anniversary performance, is an international concert artist who has been a guest pianist with many of the world's greatest orchestras.

Siegel is also a conductor who has appeared at Lincoln Center, Ravinia, and the Hollywood Bowl, among other music festivals.

Siegel stated that the Milwaukee audience is a favorite of his along with performing in the Pabst Theater, "The Milwaukee audience listen to their music so attentively!"

Single tickets for the October 23rd concert concert "Chopin: Listen to the Dance" are \$21 and may be purchased at the Pabst Theater Box Office, 144 E. Wells St.

Box office hours are Mondays through Fridays from 12 noon to 5:30 pm and from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturdays. Call the Pabst Box Office at (414) 286-2663 for ticket information.

Latina Lesbian Author Achy Obejas at AfterWords Bookstore

Milwaukee — Latina lesbian writer Achy Obejas who will read from her new novel, *Memory Mambo* (Cleis Press Pb \$12.95) on Saturday, October 19th at 7pm at AfterWords Bookstore in Milwaukee.

Ms. Obejas is a widely published fiction writer, journalist and poet. Her first collection of short stories, "We Came All the Way From Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?" was published by Cleis Press in 1994 and the book has been a Lambda Rising best-seller.

"Memory Mambo" features heroine Juani Casas, a woman obsessed with memory. Having escaped from Cuba with her irresistibly imperfect family, Juani is determined to extracting the truth of her life and her family history from the nostalgic mythology of their exile. Juani is a twenty-four-year-old lesbian faced with and struggling against the violence, desire and meaning of love.

Obejas's characters are uprooted people, and the characters of "Memory Mambo" are past exile; this is not a hymn to



—Pianist, Jeffrey Siegel



—Achy Obejas

freedom or a romantic family narrative. Achy Obejas insists on the truth, which can also be dark, witty and haunting in its complexity and generously mines her own memories of exile and alienation and her own understanding of the realities facing marginalized people.

Achy Obejas was born in Havana Cuba and has ended up in Chicago, a familiar figure in the city's gay and lesbian community. Currently, Ms. Obejas is the cultural affairs writer for the Chicago Tribune. Her work appears regularly in the Chicago Reader, Windy City Times, The Nation, and The Advocate among others.

Ms. Obejas' appearance is free and open to the public. For further information, please call 963-9089, or visit the AfterWords webpage at <http://www.afterwords.com>.

Boulevard to Hold Auditions

Milwaukee — Auditions for 3 men and 3 women (ages 20 to 50) will be held from 1 pm to 4 pm on October 26 and 27th for the Boulevard Ensemble's (December 19 to January 12) production of playwright Lynn Siefert's dark romantic comedy "Little Egypt." All roles are open at this time. The production will be directed by Mark Bucher. Those auditioning are asked to prepare one modern comic monologue. Reading from script may be featured. For more specific information concerning the requirements of the audition or to schedule an audition appointment, please call 414-672-6019.

Auditions are by appointment only and will be held at the Boulevard Theatre, 2252 South Kinnickinnic, one half block north of Lincoln Avenue and Kinnickinnic.

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The Arts

Christine Olejniczak's Art Exhibit at Woodland Pattern

Milwaukee — Christine Olejniczak's exhibition of art work is currently on display until November 3, 1996 at Woodland Pattern located at 720 East Locust.

Ms. Olejniczak states that "for the past ten years I have been interested in how one medium informs another. In the case of the sound pieces the recording of the drawings eliminates the preliminary sketch. Every mark, erasure and crumpled paper counts in the recordings to produce the finished static piece."

"Using drawings from art history as musical scores I record the rendering on a multi-track system where I can then listen to the 'song'. First I record the drawing paying attention to the image

and not the sound. After the drawing is completed I back up the tape to record the second track while listening through a pair of headphones. I do the second drawing with the emphasis on the sonic quality rather than the visual quality of the first drawing, in effect, I'm drawing along to establish a rhythm. The result is two separate drawings and a stereo recording with the sound of the first drawing coming through the left speaker and the second drawing coming through the right speaker. These pieces allow me to make collaborative pieces with famous artists. Perhaps we can't all draw like Paul Klee but at least we can sound like him."

Woodland Pattern is supported by funds from the Lannon Foundation, Milwaukee Arts Board, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Wisconsin Arts Board, Milwaukee County Artistic & Musical Programming Advisory Council, and private donations. Woodland Pattern is also a member of ACHOICE.

For additional information on Christine Olejniczak's art exhibition, call Woodland Pattern Book Center at (414) 263-5001.

Author Sherman Alexie Reads From His New Novel "Indian Killer"

Shorewood — Native American author Sherman Alexie will read from his daring and terrifying new novel at Schwartz Bookshop in Shorewood on Tuesday, October 15 at 7 pm. His new novel, "Indian Killer," is the tale of an Indian without a tribe and a study of both disguised and overt racism. For additional information call (414) 963-3111.

In a powerful departure from his earlier work, Sherman Alexie uses a mystery/thriller form to drive home some uncomfortable observations about Indian-white relations in contemporary



—Sherman Alexie, Photo: Marion Ettinger

society. "Indian Killer," Alexie's second novel, features a cast of characters who have all taken their particular social political causes to the extreme.

They all swarm around a tribe less Indian, ironically named John Smith, who slowly descends into madness as he searches desperately for an identity. Meanwhile, Alexie's haunting plot has a serial killer stalking and scalping white men in Seattle. The result is a gripping story told by one of America's most spelling binding story tellers.

Sherman Alexie is a Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian from Wellpinit, Washington. In 1996 he was picked as one of "Granta" magazine's Best Young American Novelists. His first book of poetry, "The Business of Fancyscancing," was selected as a 1992 Notable Book of the Year by the "New York Times Book Review." His first selection of short stories, "The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven," earned him a 1994 PEN/Hemingway Citation for Best First Fiction. His first novel, "Reservation Blues," received a 1995 Library Journal Best Fiction Before Columbus Foundation. He is a recipient of a Washington State Arts Commission Poetry Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Fellowship, and a Lila Wallace/Reader's Digest Writer's

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The Arts

Award. And, his musical collaboration with Colville Indian musician Jim Boyd the "Reservation Blues" soundtrack was recently released. Sherman Alexie lives in Seattle.

Lipatti Quartet Wins Honors at International Competition

Milwaukee — The Lipatti String Quartet placed second in the prestigious Shostakovich String Quartet Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia. The quartet is now part of the Leonard Sorkin International Chamber Music Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Fine Arts. Also representing UWM at the competition was Professor of



—The Lipatti Quartet

Music Efim Boico, who was a judge.

The quartet is in the second year of a two-year program of intensive study and performance at UWM. Students completing the course of study receive a master's degree in chamber music.

The Lipatti Quartet was formed in 1992 by graduates of the Music Conservatory of Bucharest. They received third prize in the Romanian National Competition for String Quartets as well as a special award for their performance of a work by a Romanian composer. They were recruited for the UWM program as a result of a rigorous international search and audition process. Before forming the quartet, the members had received awards in national string competitions in Romania and string quartet competitions as members of undergraduate quartets.

Prior to beginning their studies at the institute, quartet members Calin Lupanu, violin; Monica Boboc, violin; and Valentin Ragusitu, viola were assistant professors at the Bucharest Conservatory. Radu Nagy, cello, was principal cello with the National Radio Orchestra. The Leonard Sorkin International Chamber Music Institute (formerly the Institute of Chamber Music) was recently renamed to honor

its founder (and founding violinist of the world-renowned Fine Arts Quartet), distinguished Professor Leonard Sorkin.

The institute is devoted to training exceptionally promising music students in the arts of chamber music performance. The institute also attracts leading ensembles from around the world as a result of this emphasis on group excellence and preparation for careers in performance. Ensembles from the U.S., Hungary, Canada, Russia, Poland and Romania have studied with a stellar faculty that includes the Fine Arts Quartet (Ralph Evans, Efim Boico, Wolfgang Laufer and Jerry Horner), UWM music faculty members Judit Jaimes and John Downey, and many guest artists.

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Halloween
Thursday, October 31

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT!
Singsationals • October 19th
The Patterson Trio • October 26th



M&M CLUB

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The Calendar

Wednesday, October 16

OUTreach: Mama Roux (Milwaukee): HIV testing from 9 pm until 12 am at Mama Roux. Sponsored by BESTD and MAP. For more information call (414) 272-2144 or (414) 225-1502.

Harry W. Schwartz Book Shop (Brookfield): 7:00 pm. Reading group will discuss "Mr. Vertigo" by Paul Auster. For details call (414) 797-6140.

Shake It Up (Madison): 9 pm until 11 pm Cable 4, Public Access TV, WYOU: NOTHING TO HIDE. For more information call (608) 241-2500.

Shake It Up (Madison): 7:30 pm Woody C. will be hosting a Frontiers video event. The movie is "Boys in the Band." Call Woody for more information, (608) 244-0894. Location: 4613 Hayes Road.

AfterWords: Jax Peters Lovell (Milwaukee): 7:30 pm. Book: Mothers by Jax Peters Lovell.

AM Jazz (Milwaukee): 7 pm until 10 pm. Presents: Jerry Grillo, vocalist at City Grille (16,23,30). Location: Brady and Van Buren. No Cover. For more information call (414) 332-7575.

Thursday, October 17

Town Hall Meeting: Melinda Paras (Milwaukee): Starting at 6pm to 8pm at the Esperanza Unida International Building, 611 W. National Avenue. Reception at Just Us to follow. Sponsored by the Human Rights League.

BESTD Clinic Live (Milwaukee): 7 pm. Cable Channel 47, Guest: Jim Schlieff "LGBT Community Center Project - an update!"

Audubon Court Books (Milwaukee): 8 pm. The Reading Chair. Live performance by Gayen, as heard on public radio. A program for booklovers of all sorts, Gayen's dramatic reading presents new reading ideas for everyone.

Flu Shots: M&M Club (Milwaukee): Flu Shots from 6pm until 8pm at M&M Club. For more information call (414) 272-2144.

Shake It Up: Museum of Art (Madison): 4:30 pm. Perry Link, Professor of Chinese, Princeton University,

will give an address entitled, "Idealistic and Didactic Writing of the Cultural Revolution."

A Room of One's Own (Madison): 6:30 pm. Authors Bonnie Watkins and Nina Rothchild will read from their book *In the Company of Women: Voices from the Women's Movement*.

Friday, October 18

Shake It Up: Sage (Madison): 3:30 pm. SAGE meets at Monty's Blue Plate Diner. For more information call (608) 241-2500.

Shake It Up: Gay History (Madison): 5 pm. Professor Emeritus George Mosse, UW- History, will give a lecture at the State Historical Society Auditorium, entitled, "The Importance of Gay History."

Shake It Up: Chinese Film Festival (Madison): 7:30 pm. The Chinese movie festival (Light From The East) ends with tonight's showing of HIBISCUS TOWN @ 4070 Parliamentary Room, Vilas Hall located @ the corner of Park Street & University Ave. Only one showing. Free Admission.

Grava Gallery (Milwaukee): 6 pm until 9 pm. Steel Crayolas; If you liked the movie you'll love the art. Metal sculptor, Mark Winter, Hot pop creator Doug Hauffman (18-25) Artist Reception starts at 6 pm. Grava Gallery, 1209 East Brady Street. For more information call (414) 277-8228.

Madison Art Center (Madison): John N. Colt, on his paintings. Colt depicts small realms in nature, and the interaction of little creatures, rocks, plants, and sea forms, an environmental interplay he believes is "metaphorically related to enclosure of the painted surface."

Audubon Court Books (Milwaukee): 7:30 pm until 11:30 pm. Live Music: Sam Steffke plays jazz piano. For more information call (414) 351-2563.

Broom Street Theater (Madison): 8 pm. Friday - Sunday (Oct. 4 - Nov. 3): Irish Lesbian Vampire, an original play written and directed by Joel Gersmann. Broom Street Theater is located at 1119 Williamson Street. Tickets \$6 at door only. Call for more information (608) 244-8338.

Saturday, October 19

NOWAP AIDS Benefit (Milwaukee): Harvest of Hope dinner and auction. Tickets are \$50. FMI call 800/750-2437.

Workshop by Melinda Paras (Milwaukee): Organizing in Multicultural LGBT Community. At the UW-M Student Union, Wisconsin Room starting at 9am until Noon. Donuts and coffee will be served. \$4 fee, free to UWM students.

Audubon Court Books (Milwaukee): 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm. Live Music: Jon Pierre Gee and Touch. Jazz, rhythm and blues. This dynamic and charismatic duo has a hot new CD, *The Time is Now*.

Shake It Up (Madison): 10 am. Solar Energy: it's a trip to Amherst, Wisconsin, to see the latest solar technology. For more information call (608) 241-2500.

Cafe Melange: Jerry Grillo (Milwaukee): 9 pm. "Jerry Grillo and Jack Grassel" standards with crooner Jerry and the guitar master Jack. Admission: \$4. For more information call (414) 291-9889.

M&M Club: Singsational (Milwaukee): Live entertainment starting at 9pm. For more information call (414) 347-1962.

AfterWords: Achy Obejas (Milwaukee): 7 pm. Achy Obejas will read from her new novel *Memory Mamba*. It's the story of Juani Casas, a young lesbian struggling with violence, desire, and the meaning of love. Obejas will read and sign copies of her book.

Frontiers: Bridge Club (Madison): 7 pm. Bridge Club: cards and camaraderie! It's never too late to join in on the fun, even if you've never tried your hand at bridge before. For more information call Randy at (608) 278-9708.

Harry W. Schwartz Book Shop (Shorewood): 8 pm. Music in the Cafe presents Festival European. Located: 4093 N. Oakland Ave.

GAMMA Fun Run and Walk (Milwaukee): 9 am. a 30-40 minute jog through the fashionable east side, followed by a stop for eating. Starts at the base to the Water Tower. For more information call (414) 425-2146.

GAMMA Hayride (Milwaukee): An evening for a hayride, ending with a campfire and food to suite the season. For more information call (414)425-2146.

Sunday, October 20

Shake It Up (Madison): Noon. Splash, will be doing its last gasp thing now. If interested call (608) 241-2500.

Aububon Court Books (Milwaukee): 2 pm. Phillip Chard, author of *The Healing Earth*: 3 pm until 4:30 pm Junior Chess: 7 pm until 10 pm Scrabble.

Monday, October 21

Harry W. Schwartz: The Political Salon (Shorewood): 7 pm. The Political Salon. For more information call (414)963-3111.

In Step Deadline (Milwaukee): at 5pm. Get us your news releases, calendar listings, classified ads and ad reservations. For more information call (414)278-7840.

Tuesday, October 22

Shake It Up: It's Elementary (Madison): 7 pm. IT'S Elementary- a film about discrimination in the public schools. Location: Barrymore Theatre on Atwood Ave. General Admission: \$10; students \$5. For more information call (608)241-2500.

BESTD Anonymous HIV Testing: Reformation Lutheran Church Health Fair (Milwaukee): 9 am until Noon. 8 pm until 10 pm: M&M Club - Flu Shots. For more information call (414) 272-2144.

Cafe Melage (Milwaukee): 8 pm. Sheila Sparger & David Carroll old show tunes. Admission: \$2.

Flu Shots: M&M Club (Milwaukee): Flu Shots from 8pm until 10pm at M&M Club. For more information call (414) 272-2144.

Wednesday, October 23

GAMMA Volleyball (Milwaukee): 8 pm. Open Volleyball tonight at UWM Engelman Gym. For more information call (414) 425-2146.

Shake It Up: Nothing to Hide (Madison): 9 pm until 11 pm. Cable 4, Public Access TV, WYOU: NOTHING TO HIDE. For more information call (608) 241-2500.

Shake It Up: UW Film Festival (Madison): 4 pm. UWM Film Festival: "A place of Rage." For more information call (608) 241-2500

Harry W. Schwartz Book Shop (Shorewood): at 7 pm. Public Policy Debate Series- Organized Labor on the Rise. FMI call 414-963-3111.

Thursday, October 24

Shake It Up: Lecture (Madison): 4:30 pm Lili Ji, Associate Professor of Kinesiology, UW-Madison; will give an address entitled, "The Morning Sun: The Generation of the Cultural Revolution." For more information call (608) 241-2500.

Aububon Court Books: Chess (Milwaukee): 7 pm until 10 pm. Chess: Come play Russian master Leonid Aranovich. For more information call (414) 351-9140.

Harry W. Schwartz Book Shop (Brookfield): 7 pm. Financial Independence for Women Workshop. For more information call (414) 797-6140.

BESTD Clinic Live (Milwaukee): 7 pm. Cable Channel 47, Guest: Holly Holman, MSW "Can toxic relationships be neutralized?"

Friday, October 25

Shadestock at the Ballgame (Milwaukee): Starting at 7pm. Decorate and wear your favorite lampshade and win fabulous prizes! For more information call (414)273-7474.

Shake It Up: Dining Out (Madison): 3:30 pm. SAGE: Pigs-out and chats at Monty's Blue Plate Diner on Atwood Ave. For more information call (608) 241-2500.

Aububon Court Books (Milwaukee): 8:30 am until 11:30 am. Live Music. Author Stephen E. Ambrose. For more information call (414) 351-9140

Saturday, October 26

South Water Street Docks: Halloween Party! (Milwaukee): Starting at 10pm until 1am. Prizes at Shot Specials at South Water Street Docks (formerly Gargoyles) at 354 E. National Ave. For more information call (414) 225-9676.

Manoeuvres Halloween Party (Madison): Cash Prizes for best and most original costume. \$2 Bottles of Rolling Rock. Judging at Midnite, FMI call: (608)258-9918.

Mama Roux Halloween Party (Milwaukee): Starting at 9pm until ??? featuring prizes, drink specials and a buffet. Costume contest a midnite. FMI call (414) 347-0344.

M&M Club: Patterson Trio (Milwaukee): Live

entertainment starting at 9pm. For more information call (414) 347-1962.

Shake It Up: Farmer's Market (Madison): 8:30 am. Farmer's Market. For more information call (608)241-2500.

Sunday, October 27th

Shake It Up (Madison): Noon. Would anyone be interested in doing a glider air plane fly thing in the Baraboo area? FMI call (608)241-2500.

Monday, October 28th

Harry W. Schwartz Book Shop (Shorewood): 7 pm. The Mystery Group will discuss Margret at the Coroner's Georges Simenon.

Tuesday, October 29th

Shake It Up (Madison): Bob D. is in charge of the Frontiers Rap Group (no, not Rap music). For location or more information call (414)244-3351.

GAMMA Volleyball (Milwaukee): Open Volleyball tonight at UWM Engelman Gym, 8 pm. For more information call (414) 425-2146.

Life's a Drag

© by Bob Arnold



"It's against the law to commit adultery ... unless, of course, you are in the mood."



INSIDE OUT

by Yvonne Zipter

The Gay Capital of Something

Autumn means a lot of different things to people: the excitement of baseball playoffs or a football game, a bounty of color in the landscape, the pageantry of Halloween, an abundance of crisp, juicy apples, the promise of relief from allergies, an excuse to stop shaving your legs.

of Fame.

When most people think of the Hall of Fame, they think baseball or, maybe, rock and roll, while I, of course, am referring to the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

I say "of course," but chances you haven't even heard of it. We're not try-

more sensational? Personally, I think it's because the Hall of Fame doesn't have a permanent space yet, a space where there would be bronze busts of the Hall of Famers, like they have in Cooperstown, or wax figures like they have in Cleveland.

Though when I utter the words "bronze bust," a sadness comes over me when I remember that Dennis Rodman did not reply to my request for the information I would need to nominate him in the "friends of the community" category. This phrase also brings to mind RuPaul, making me wish this were a national Hall of Fame. Even so, I know any number of women who would grow swooney at the thought of a life-size wax figurine of Chicago's own Nancy Lanoue, karate black belt and one of the founders of the Lesbian Community Cancer Project.

The Hall of Fame Committee is constantly working to raise money for such a space. Can't you just picture the exhibits? Here's a glass display case with a pair of choreographer/dancer Joel Hall's spandex and his scuffed dance slippers. Queer Nation Chicago, one of the honored organizations in the Hall of Fame, would have a smart montage of leather jackets and stickers. There could be a display with the pen Scott McPherson used to write the soon-to-be-released-to-the-big-screen *Marvin's Room*, the desk at which political cartoonist Daniel Sotomayer drew, the pool cue Dawn Clark Netsch, a friend of the gay and lesbian community indeed, used in her ads when she was running for Governor of Illinois, and the favorite spatula of restaurateur and humanitarian Tom Tunney; the display

Queer Nation Chicago, one of the honored organizations in the Hall of Fame, would have a smart montage of leather jackets and stickers.

Around these parts—these parts being the greater Chicago area—it also means a new crop of inductees into the Hall

ing to keep it a secret or anything; word just hasn't gotten out about it as well as it should. You would think that a city-sponsored Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame—which honors queers who have made a contribution to the Chicago community and for which the mayor not only attends the induction ceremony every year but hands out the awards to the inductees as well—would be the talk of the nation. I can't quite believe that it isn't a major media because we as a country have become so blasé about queers in the spotlight that such a previously unheard of thing as *venerating* homos instead of jailing or harassing them is not national news—look at the hubbub Ellen DeGeneres caused when word leaked out that she was thinking of having her TV character come out on the show. That sort of response doesn't say "blasé?" to me!

So if that's not the reason, why hasn't coverage of this annual event been



Do you have a gay brother or a gay / straight twin?

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could be called "Tools of the Trade"—which makes me wistful about Dennis Rodman again.

His make-up kit would be a natural for that display. The walls of the place could be covered with plaques engraved with statistics of what years someone served on which queer committee or board and who spearheaded what organization when.

Myself, I am looking forward to Hall of Fame trading cards, with pictures of the Hall of Famers on one side, their stats on the other—I'll trade you my Jim Flint, founder of the national Miss Gay Continental Pageant, for your Valerie Taylor, lesbian novelist. T-shirts would make great souvenirs, too: "I Came Out of the Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame" and "My Lover Went to the Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame and All I Got Was This Lousy T-Shirt" and kid-sized t-shirts reading, "Future Gay and Lesbian Hall of Famer." And then someone could start making movies, like all those baseball movies: "Pride of the Homos," "Lesbos in the Outfield," and "Eight Out Men"—which would really promote interest in the Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

Of course, the value of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame does not rest in some hypothetical building it might reside in some day or in a plethora of kitsch accompanying it. The real value of this institution, established in 1991 under the auspices of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations and the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues, is that it recognizes and commemorates the achievements of and contributions made by queers and their friends toward improving the quality of life for gays and lesbians throughout the city and often nationally. So even though, when I go to the ceremony this year on November 11 at the Chicago Cultural Center, I will only be able to see photographs of the Hall of Famers mounted temporarily on the wall and there won't be a wax figurine in sight (discounting my burgeoning pasty winter complexion), I will get a thrill that the mayor of one of the largest cities in the US will be publicly shaking hands with and giving engraved awards to out and outspoken lesbians and gay men of all stripes. While a permanent home for the Hall of Fame would be great, what it really needs is supporters, people to talk and write about it and flock to its induction ceremonies. Because if we don't honor our heroes, who will?

Sure, it's only a Chicago thing right now. But if we can do it here in a town that no one calls the gay capital of anything, why can't they do it in New York or San Francisco or L.A. or D.C.? It's not like there's a shortage of outstanding queers to go around.

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KEEPIN' IN STEP

by Jamie

Hey Sis

For this column I'm going to thank my sister, Anita. After a six and a half year relationship went down the tubes, I needed a place to stay. So I called my sister and asked her if she could make room for me for a couple of months. Without hesitation she said "no problem"

A day later I showed up with a trunk full of some of my belongings. I walked in and Anita showed me my "room". It was a bed surrounded by old drapes at one end of her basement. There were polka dots all over the walls from the old couple that had previously owned the house, an old bar at the other end of the basement and a potty in the middle. Hey, for the moment, it worked for me.

So I moved in. Well a month turned into a couple of months, a couple months turned into a few months and a few months turned into... well... a few years. During those few years we have done lot's of things to make the basement into an apartment. The polka dots are long gone, I built a bedroom, put in a shower and you might remember the kitchen remodel job complete with a stove, refrigerator and



—Celebrating Fannies Anniversary. Photo: Jamie

yes, my dishwasher. It's almost like a real apartment.

Over the past few years Anita and I have made up for the years we lived in the same city but didn't see a lot of each other. She threw me a "black balloon" party when I turned 30, complete with big black "over the hill" signs all over the outside of the house. For her, I made my first complete Thanksgiving dinner last year. It was great!

Within the next few weeks I will be moving into a house of my own. To Anita I say thanks. Thanks for putting up with my sometimes bitchy moods. Thanks for making sure I always felt wanted and welcome. Thanks for being the excited little kid every time something cool happened. I will always appreciate your hospitality and generosity.

OK, let's go back in time just a bit. Last issue I mentioned my trip to Green Bay so here it is.

I had to go to my parents house a few weeks ago so I decided to see what was up in Green Bay. My first stop was **ZA'S**. I stayed there for a couple of hours and talked to **MARK**. Before I knew it, it was almost closing and I had to check out the new place to party in Green Bay, **CLUB CHEEKS**.

CLUB CHEEKS has a variety of things goin' on. There are 2 bars, a dance floor and a not yer open restaurant. (I called **BECKY** to fond out when the restaurant would open and she said she was not sure.) The crowd was a 50/50 mix of men and women. Looks like it's going to be a fun place to hang out.

LA CAGE sponsored a benefit show for **BESTD CLINIC** September 17th. Most of Milwaukee's best talent was there to

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—The crew from Zippos poses for a photo. Photo: Jamie



—Having a gay old time at Club Cheeks in Green Bay. Photo: Jamie



—More posing from Street Beat. Photo: Jamie



—Josie Lynn, Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A 1996. Photo: Patty Casady



—Doing that runway thing at SURVIVAL Revival's Street Beat. Photo: Jamie



—Enjoying the BESTD Benefit at La Coge. Photo: Jamie





—Barbara and the Carousels at M&M Club. Photo: Jamie



—Winners from Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A 1996. Photo: Patty Casady



—Mayor Box speaks before the Rockford AIDS Carewalk. Photo: courtesy of The Office

help raise money for the Clinic and the many HIV prevention services they provide.

IN STEP has a new out-of-town correspondent. Her name is **PATTY CASADY** from Appleton and her first assignment was the **MISS GAY WISCONSIN US OF A PAGEANT** held at the **PIVOT CLUB**. I'm told that it was standing room only. Ten contestants worked their little hearts out to take over as **MISS GAY WISCONSIN US OF A** for 1997. It was neck and neck between **JOSIE LYNN** and **NEELY O' HARA**. The competition was fierce but in the end it will be **JOSIE LYNN** wearing the tiara for the next year. First runner up was **NEELY O' HARA**.

Congratulations to both **NEELY** and **JOSIE!!**

September 28th the **STREET BEAT FASHION EXTRAVAGANZA** hit the **SURVIVAL REVIVAL** resale shop again. This is one of the best runway style fashion shows I have ever seen. **SISTER CASH BOX** (commentator) and **B.J. DANIELS** (emcee) were both hilarious. This event too was standing room only. Make it a point to get over to **SURVIVAL REVIVAL** to see what would look fabulous on you, your nick knock shelf or the floor of your apartment.

FANNIES celebrated their 14th anniversary October 4th. **SHARON** set up a weekend long celebration which included live music, raffles and a ribbon hunt with winnings of cash and prizes. Here's to another 14 years of great times at **FANNIES!!!**

POLKA TIL YOU PUKE! Yup, that was the story at **M&M**, October 6th. **BARBARA AND THE CAROUSELS** were brought in to see who in the Milwaukee Gay community can polka the best. It sure as hell wasn't me!

Well that's gonna do it for me. Next column I will tell you about my "big move". I am entering the world of property taxes and a mortgage. Until next issue let's hope for an extended Indian Summer and as usual, slower traffic keep right.



—Crowd gathers for Rockford's AIDS Carewalk. Photo: courtesy of The Office

The Classies

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EMPLOYMENT

Reporters/Writers Wanted

In Step Newsmagazine, Wisconsin's oldest and most respected LesBiGay publication seeks reporters and writers to cover local and regional news. Persons in Madison, Green Bay, Appleton, Northwestern and Western Wisconsin encouraged to inquire. Writers are paid for their work. Send samples or inquiries in confidence to:

William Attewell, editor-in-chief

In Step News Magazine,

1661 N. Water Street, Suite 411

Milwaukee, WI 53202

\$\$\$Reward male and female models needed for local and national gay and lesbian advertising. No experience required. Healthy appearance, positive attitude needed. Call Wells Ink at (414) 272-2116 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays to schedule an interview.

Executive Secretary: The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Inc. (ARCW), a comprehensive provider of HIV/AIDS services throughout Wisconsin, is seeking an experienced executive secretary to be the assistant to the executive director. The successful candidate will have at least three years experience as assistant to senior management, superior secretarial and communication skills, highly developed organiza-

tional capabilities and the ability to handle multiple tasks effectively. Please send your resume and cover letter detailing your salary requirements to: Operations Manager (ARCW) P.O. Box 92487, Milwaukee, WI 53202-0487.

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Miller Crest Home Works: Interior/exterior painting. Plaster repair & castings. Carpentry/finish carpentry. Minor plumbing, electric & restoration. Landscaping, lawn care. Ceramic tiling & wallpaper. All work guaranteed, senior discount, Eugene Cook (414) 344-0262.

HOUSING

Virginia B. Pierce Properties: Offers one and two family homes for rent through out the Walker's Point area. Call (414) 271-7282.

28 Barbary Lane: You could live there! This mona needs a mouse to share a 2 bedroom apartment starting November 1st. Roomy, bright, great east side location, and cool neighbors in a gay/gay-friendly building. \$325.00 monthly + 1/2 utilities (heat included). Call (414) 278-8114.

Neenah, Large & New: Studio, basement apartment, appliances, washer/dryer, no pets, non smoker, includes power/utilities. 41 & Breezewood, \$375.00 monthly. Best to call weekends (414) 729-9240.

Marquette University Northwest Area: 2 bedroom, large upper, garage. Small pet ok. Available Oct/Nov \$500.00. Call (414) 358-8544.

Appleton Area: Two bedroom upper with large bedrooms and living room. Standard size bath and kitchen. Newly remodeled with wall to wall carpeting. Nice friendly area close to ave mall. A straight

but narrow land owner very gay friendly. Call for showing \$400.00 monthly water included. In door parking, ready Oct. 1st. Fay (414) 446-2281.

Cudahy Flat: 2 bedroom upper, large sunny living room, refrigerator & stove furnished. Parking & on bus. Pets okay. Quiet neighborhood, available immediately \$475 plus utilities & security. (414) 489-9124.

Oshkosh Area: Responsible roommate, female, non smoker to share 2 bedroom. On golf course on the south side of Oshkosh. \$270.00 plus 1/2 utilities. Call (414) 233-6406. Sorry no pets.

November 1: Live in friendly, diverse and historic Cold Spring Park. Sunny 2-3 bedroom upper, 3202 West McKinley Boulevard. Fully renovated, hardwood floors, mini-blinds, new appliances, 2 parlors, dining room, kitchen, built-in china cabinets, 2 porches, washer/dryer, off-street parking. Bus to MU/downtown. \$500/month includes security system. (414) 933-3555: CJ or Kryz.

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Historic Walker Point Brick and Sandstone: Over 3000 square feet. Beautifully restored including stained glass, hardwood floors and pocket doors. Available as a single family for \$1500/month or a duplex (\$750/month). Exclusively offered through Virginia B. Pierce L.L.C. Call Robert today at (414) 283-2680.

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ATTORNEY

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53208

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- ▼ Discrimination
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Need a J/O Buddy? "Best Buddies," the nationwide J/O Club, has lots of Milwaukee and area members for you to meet. Write B.B., Box 194, L.A., CA 90078, for information.

Well Hung Hispanic Men: Wanted by gwm 35, 5' 10". Prefer older husky hombres but will consider all. Write with photo to P. O. Box 64555, Milwaukee, WI 53204.

Gay Couple: 37 & 38 looking for other gay couples to build friendship. Not into the bars and would prefer to spend time playing cards, dining out, traveling, watching movies or just chatting. We love to ride motorcycles and meet new people. Prefer to meet couples but all new friends are welcome. Steve & Brian P.O. Box 141 Jefferson. Will travel or meet half way. Madison or Milwaukee a plus.

Wisconsin Northwoods: Gay couple living in Eagle River, WI is looking to meet other single gay men or gay couples between the ages of 18-30 for friendship and maybe more. We are 28 & 29 years old, self-employed. Our hobbies include hiking, swimming, computers, dining, dancing and more. If interested in meeting & your from around the area or willing to travel, call (715) 479-7894 or e-mail to north-boy@edgeinn.com.

36 Years Old, 195lbs GWM: Looking for a relationship. I'm handicapped with speech impediment, but mobile. I would like to settle down with someone. Willing to relocate. Smoker and social drinker ok. Call Mark (414) 253-0921

GM, State Prisoner: Looking to make new friends and pen pals. You are a bad boy type, hard core individual, maybe an ex-con. If not, don't respond to my ad. Write: Scott Konitzer, P.O. Box 351, Waupun, WI 53963-0351.

PEOPLE Bi

Submissive: Bi/wm 49 yrs old. Looking for bi/f. Race open, 40-55 your fantasy is my pleasure, your titillation is my delight. Bi/couples also welcome. Call 6-9 p.m. (414) 769-6670.

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Please place my ad in the following In Step Classies Section:

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- Counseling
- Daterlines
- Employment
- Health Services
- Home Repair/Remodeling
- Housing
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- Insurance
- Legal Services
- Mail Order
- Massage
- Model/Entertainer
- Moving/Storage
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Mail or Deliver to: In Step Newsmagazine
1661 N. Water Street, Suite 411, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Very Submissive: Good looking male, 35, medium build, looking for dominant guys to please. Days at your place. Send description of what you'd like, along with phone number to: P.O. Box 11264, Milwaukee, WI 53211. I will answer all.

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Sherman Park (49th/Center): Need space? Sunny 11x11 with 2 closets, \$220 plus deposit/phone, or same room plus another for only \$40 more; includes cleaning, utilities. Professional

gwm, 35, seeks roommate to share spacious 2nd floor with myself, roommate, 2 cats and "Claire." (I'm in attic) large living/dining rooms, dishwasher, laundry, balcony, security, cable. Call (414) 442-3088.

Roommate Wanted: GWM 26, Professional, Smoker, Straight Acting/Looking: Seeking a gwm roommate to share 2 bedroom apartment near 27th & Howard. Rent includes all utilities except phone & electric. \$250 monthly. Call Donald at (414) 325-1791.

Mature GWM: Seeks 20 to 40 year old, white only male for monogamous LTR. For roommate & companion & more. No drinks, drugs, disease. \$200 monthly + security deposit. Includes all utilities, except phone. Please no games or phone sex. Call we'll talk (414) 672-1827. Shared apartment has carpet and cable T.V.

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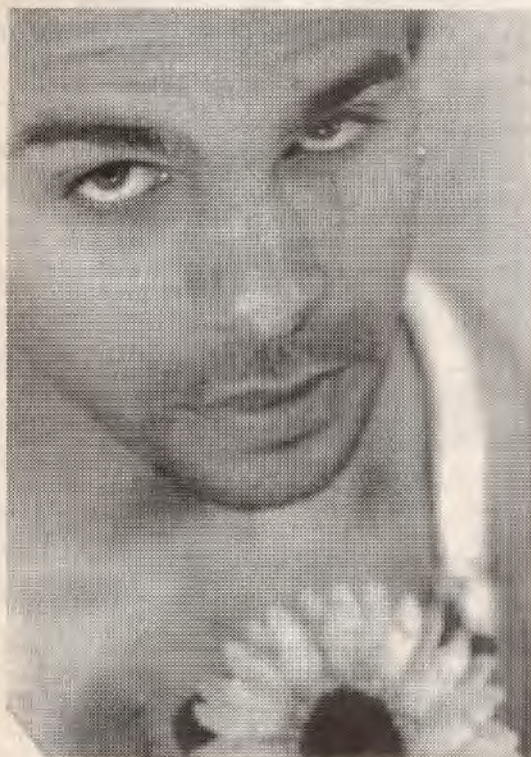
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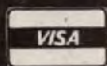
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The Guide

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Mw Mostly Men, Women Welcome
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L/L Levi/Leather
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V Video Bar
F Food

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To be listed in THE GUIDE or to make changes to a current listing send information to:

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 1661 N. Water Street, Suite 411
 Milwaukee, WI 53202
 or e-mail to instepwi@aol.com

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Action Wisconsin (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
Slammer Productions (414) 347-0261
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 1661 N. Water St., Milwaukee, 53202 (414) 278-7840
 FAX Only (414) 278-5868. E-Mail instepwi@aol.com
Log Cabin Club (G/L Republicans) (414) 276-5428
Jingle Productions
 - P.O. box 474, Appleton, 54912 (800) 401-2748
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 Bar/Entertainment publication)
 PO Box 1961, Green Bay, 54301 (414) 433-9821
Q-Voice (monthly G/L Feature/Lifestyle Magazine)
 PO Box 92385, Milwaukee, 53202 (414) 278-7524
<http://www.qvoice.com>
TAG Team Productions
 (W/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 newsletter)
 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee 53212 (414) 372-2773
WI. Legislative Hotline (800) 362-WISC

APPLETON & FOX VALLEY (414)

BARS

6 Pivot Club (MW, DJ, V)
 4815 W. Prospect (Hwy 88)
 Appleton 54915 730-0440
7 Rascols 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
Fond Du Lac Friends United (Bi/Gay/Lesbian Support-Social)
 Bill 924-9106
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

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LOOKING FOR FRIENDS IN MADISON

I'm a young African American female looking for all types of friends. I'm an open Lesbian. If you are out there and you are looking for a friend to hang out with call me. (Madison) ☎9123

YOUNG LESBIAN I'm an 18 year old Gay White female looking for another girl around my age for friendship and a possible relationship. Please respond to my mailbox. (Appleton) ☎1373

LOOK WHO'S COOKING I'm 39 years old. I like outdoor camping, swimming, cooking, romance, poetry, drawing, etc. I'm looking for ladies to spend time with. ☎31885

DON'T BE AFRIAD I'm a college student looking to meet new people. Please don't be afraid to leave me a message. (Madison) ☎6178

NUBIAN OR LATIN QUEEN WANTED If you like to give your-self and you have a lovely personality please call me. ☎12077

BASICALLY I'm just a curious girl. I'm looking for someone who might want to make a new friend. (Milwaukee) ☎12282

DOWN TO EARTH WOMYN I'm a 42 year old single Black female, 5'4, 229lbs, Black hair, Hazel eyes. I like movies, darts, alternative music, romantic dinners for two, etc. I'm searching for a very special down to earth womyn for a possible relationship. ☎2887

NOTHING LIKE THE REAL THING I'm looking for a feminine female who is not about playing games. I'm looking for a romantic womyn. Kids are OK. I do not do drugs or drink. If you are 25 to 35, well educated and you want something that's real call me. ☎4085

DISCREET WOMYN WANTED I'm a 40 plus single Gay Hispanic female, 5'5, 140lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for a feminine womyn. No drugs no games. (Milwaukee) ☎9816

INDEPENDENT WOMYN I'm a 21 year old womyn, very attractive, intelligent and independent. I'm 5'4, 110lbs. I'm looking for a Gay studish female 21 to 30 for fun and more. ☎101



CUTE AND CHARMING I'm a 30 year old Gay Black female seeking womyn only. Let me satisfy your curiosity. Call me. ☎3620

SUMMER'S HERE I'm 31 years old, 5'5, Blonde hair, Blue eyes, medium build. I'm fit and healthy. I'm looking for someone fit, intelligent, attractive, and fun loving. (Milwaukee) ☎15764

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2 Javas (MW, V)
1106 Main 54301435-5476
2 Zas (MW, DJ, V)
1106 Main 54301435-5476
4 Sass (WM)
840 S. Broadway 54304437-7277

ORGANIZATIONS

- Angel of Hope (MCC Church)
PO Box 672, Green Bay 54305432-0830
Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club)
PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305
Gay AA/Anon (Meeting Weekly) Green Bay494-9904
Bay City Chorus
PO Box 1901, Green Bay 54305497-8882
Center Project, Inc. (CPI) (HIV Test/Counsel)
824 S Broadway
Green Bay 54305437-7400 or
(800) 675-9400
Fond Du Lac Bi/Gay/Lesbian Support & Social
Bill924-9106
Stacey923-3403
Gay/Lesbian Support at UW-GB465-2343
G/L Guide to N.E. Wisconsin
PO Box 595, Green Bay, 54305
Men's HIV+ Support
Green Bay437-7400
Women's HIV+ Support
Green Bay437-7400
Northern Womyn, Inc. (Lesbian Support/Social Group)
Box 10102, Green Bay 54307-0102
Parents & Friends of G/L Green Bay499-7080
Positive Voice
P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305499-5533

- Mens HIV Support Group
Sturgeon Bay733-2068

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Chanticleer Guest House
4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234746-0334
BlockSmith Inn (Bed & Breakfast)
Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202839-9222

MADISON (608)

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Hotel Washington
Temporary Number (608) 257-3795 - Ext 134
c/o Hausman Insurance, 700 Regent St., Madison 53703
Prairie Garden B&B
W13172 Hwy 188, Lodi, 53555800/380-8427

MEDICAL

- Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN)
HIV/AIDS Service Organization
600 Williamson St, 53701252-6540
FAX252-6559
Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday)
1552 University Avenue 53705262-7330

BARs

- Hotel Washington - Rod's & The New Bar
Temporary Number (608) 257-3795 - Ext 134
c/o Hausman Insurance, 700 Regent St., Madison 53703
Manoeuvres (MW)
150 S. Blair, 53703258-9918
Shamrock (GS, MW, F, D)
117 W. Main St. 53703255-5029
Geraldines (MW, DJ)
3052 E Washington, 53704241-9335
Greenbush (G/S, M/W, F)
914 Regent, 53715257-BUSH
R Place (MW)
121 West Main St., 53703257-5455

RESTAURANTS

- Hotel Washington - Cafe Palms

- Temporary Number (608) 257-3795 - Ext 134,
c/o Hausman Insurance, 700 Regent St., Madison 53703

BULLETIN BOARDS

- The Party BBS
(msgs, files, echo mail)258-9555

ORGANIZATIONS

- AASPIN Foundation (Goal or Wish Assistance for PWA's)
2828 Marshall Ct, Ste 210, 53705273-4501
Apple Island (Womens Cultural Center/Hall Rental)
849 E Washington258-9777
Bi? Shy? Why?
(Bisexual Support Group) Susan242-9099
PO Box 321, 53701 Astrid231-2622
Campus Womens Center
710 University Ave, #202, 53715262-8093
Dairyland Rainbow Squares
PO Box 1363, 53701-1363246-9669
Delta Lambda Phi (Gay Frat)
Box 513, Mem. Union, 800 Langdon
Madison 53706
Different Spokes G/L/B Bicycling Club241-8184
18-21 Yr Old Social Group256-2667
Frontiers (Gay/Bi Mens Activities Organ.)
14 W Mifflin, Ste 103, 53703274-5959
Gay/Lesbian Phone Line255-4297
Gay/Lesbian Information Recording
(ask for tape #3333)263-3100
Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
PO Box 1722, 53701
G/L Educational Employees
c/o The United255-8582
Gay Fathers c/o United255-8582
Gay Mens Video Club
PO Box 8234, 53708244-8675
GALVANize (Madison LesBiGay Pride)
PO Box 1403, 53701256-4289
Kissing Girls Productions (Lesbian Cultural Events)
PO Box 6091, 53716
Lavender (Lesbian Domestic Violence
Support Group)255-7447
LesBiGay Issues Committee (UW Advisory Comm.)
Dean of Students Office,
75 Bascom Hall, Madison 53706263-5700
LesBiGay Campus Center (Office, Lounge,
Resource Center) UW Union265-3344
LesBiGay Teen Support Group
(Briarpatch & Picada)251-1126
OR246-7606
Lesbian, Gay and Bi Law Student Union
UW Law School, Bascom Mall, Madison 53706
Lesbian Parents Network
PO Box 572, 53701255-8582
Madison Volleyball Group (Jeff)251-8716
Madison Wrestling Club
PO Box 8234, 53708244-8675
MAGIC Picnic Committee
636 W Washington 53703256-3404
(EXT 220)
Mens Alanon255-8582
New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation)
PO Box 1786, 53701
Nothing to Hide (Gay cable)241-2500
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
PO Box 1722, 53701
Rainbow Community Collective (L/G/B/T Social Org)
Wil-Mar Neighborhood Ctr. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
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10% Society (student organization)
 Box 614, UW Mem. Union,
 800 Langdon, 53706 262-7365
Unicorns of Madison (L/L club)
 PO Box 536, 53701
The United (Education, Counseling, Advocacy)
 14 W. Mifflin St., Ste 103, 53703 255-8582
UW LesBiGay Alumni Council (Ken) 263-4086
Womansong (Woman's Choral Group) 246-2681

RELIGIOUS

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

SERVICES

KMA Systems of Madison (Computer Consultants)
 4702 Dutch Mill Road #14 222-9128

RETAIL

Pride Gallery and Gifts
 229 North Street, 53704 245-9229

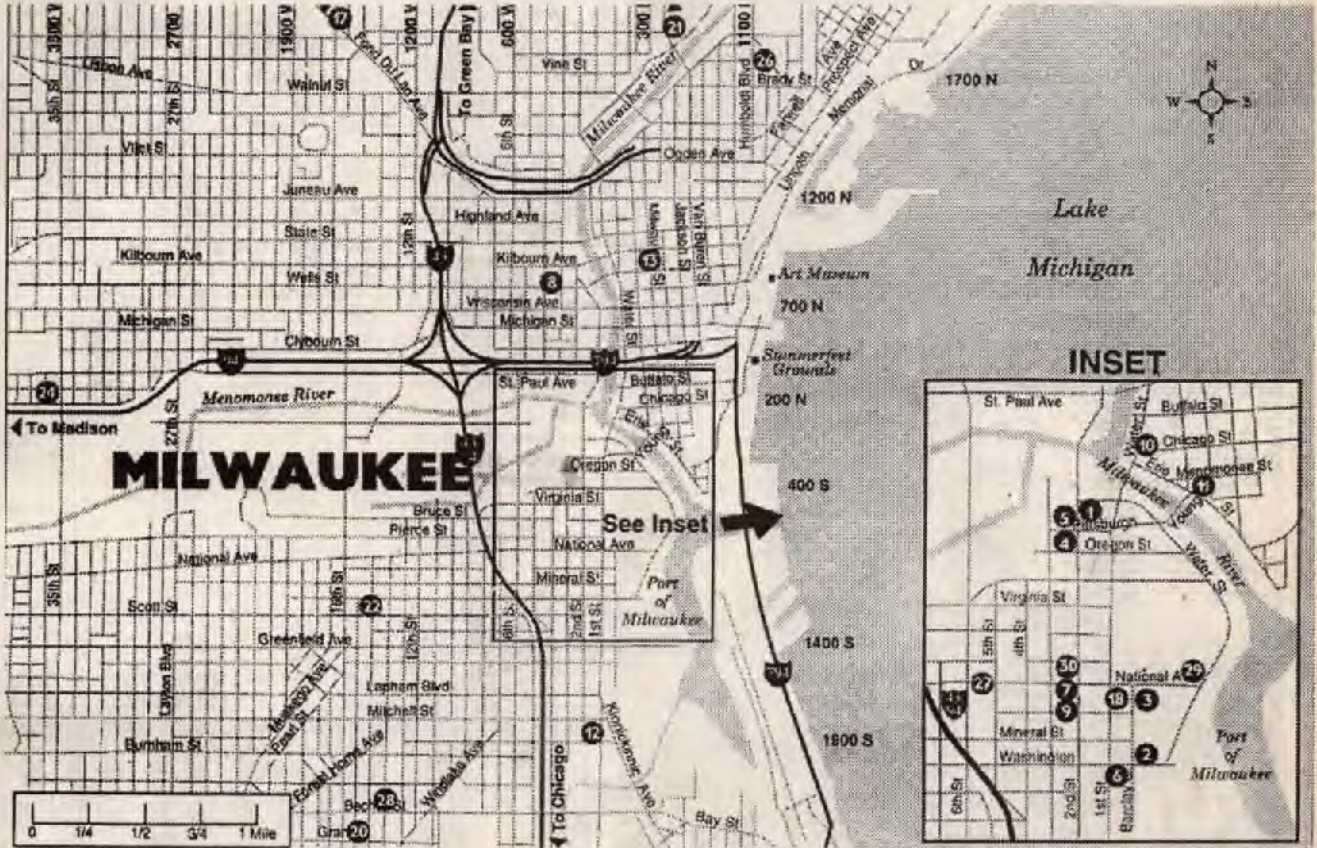
MILWAUKEE (414)

ORGANIZATIONS

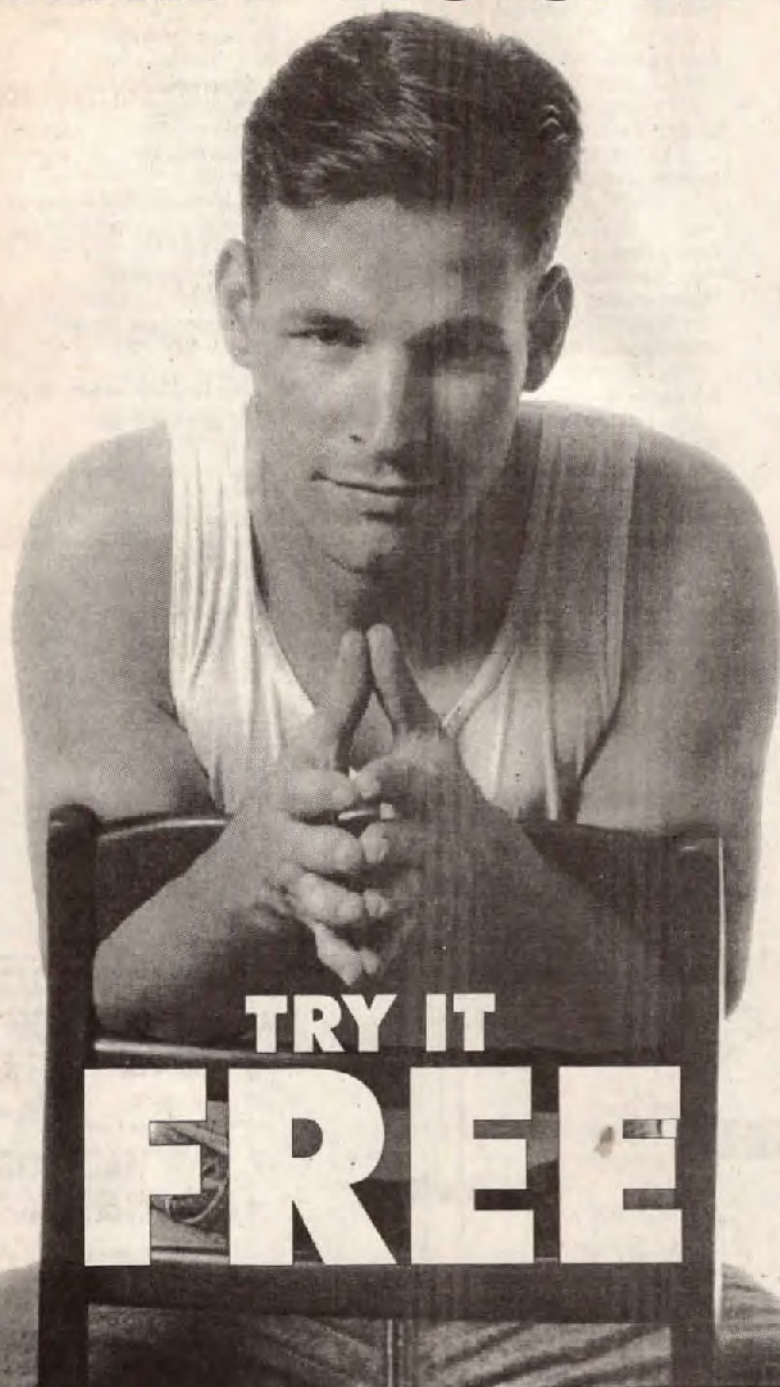
ACT UP
 Milwaukee PO Box 1707, 53201 769-8708
Alcoholics Anonymous
 (regular. Gay meetings) 771-9119
Beer Town Badgers

PO Box 840, 53201
Bi Definition
 PO Box 07541, 53207
 Carol 961-0082
 Steve 483-5046
BiNet USA (Milw. Contact) Steve 483-5046
 or PO Box 07541, 53207 Carol 961-0082
Blacks Education Blacks About AIDS (BEBA) 272-3009
Black Gay Consciousness Raising 933-2136
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 92322, 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 263-SING
Firebirds (L/L group)
 P.O. Box 159, 53201-0159 53202
Front Runners (Running Group) 332-1527
<http://execpc.com/~blackjan/franrun.html>
Galano Club (chemical free recovery club)

2408 N. Farwell 276-6936
Gay Father's Group
 1240 E. Brady St., 53204 372-8008
Gayloxians (G/L Sci-Fi group) 444-3853
GAMMA (athletic/outdoors/social)
 PO Box 1900, 53201 425-2146
Gay/Lesbian/Bi Community at UW
 Box 251, 2200 E. Kenwood 53201 229-6555
Gay Lesbian Education Employees of Metro Milw:
 (GLEEMM), Larry 384-9695
Gay/Lesbian Studies UW 229-6402
Gay & 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 09441, 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 862, 53201-0862
G/L Community Center Trust Fund
 P. O. Box 1686, 53201 643-1652
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 831-4038
Insight (young women 17-21) support 271-2565
Imani (Support/Social Group for Black Lesbians)
 PO Box 92146, 53202 521-4565
Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support)
 PO Box 27041, West Allis, 53227 548-4344
LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee)



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LOC/Women of Color
 PO Box 93594, 53203454-9300
MGALA (MU Graduates)
 PO Box 92722, 53202
Marquette LesBiGay Student Group
 Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233288-6873
MATCs Gay & Lesbian Organization (GLO)
 700 W State, Rm 322, 53233297-7053
Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Scott)962-6124
Milwaukee Les/Gay/Bi/Trans Community Center Project
 P.O. Box 92722, 53202483-4710
Narcotics Anonymous (request Gay mtgs.)543-4850
Oberons (Levi/Leather club)
 Box 07423, 53207
Orgullo Latina/o Latin Pride
 1532 N. Astor (c/o Murguia)
Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group963-9833
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
 PO Box 21853, 53221299-9198
Pathfinders (Youth counseling, shelter)
 1614 East Kane Place, 53202271-1560
Positive Outcomes
 Gay Males 17-21 (support)271-2565
PACT (People of All Colors Together)
 PO Box 93127, 53203871-3048
PrideFest (Pride Committee)
 PO Box 93852, 53203272-FEST
The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)
 PO Box 93951, 53203272-1500
SAGE Milwaukee (For older LesBiGays)
 PO Box 92482, 53202 after 4pm271-0378
Saturday Softball Beer League (SSBL)
 PO Box 92605, 53202
Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA)276-6936
Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc.
 PO Box 76115, 53216777-3986
Shoreline Country Dancers
 PO Box 92273, 53202-0273
Silver Space (Group for Older Lesbians)
 c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett271-2565
S.O.S. (Alcohol/Addiction Recovery)442-1132
Ujima (African Am. Support/Social, Call Eric)
 PO Box 92183, Milwaukee 53202272-3009
WL Leather Mens Assoc. Inc.
 PO Box 897, 53201-0897

RELIGIOUS

Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
 1821 N. 16th St.344-1746
Dignity (G/I Catholic Church)
 PO Box 597, 53101444-7177
Integrity Metro Milw (Open & Affirming)
 914 E Knap, 53211276-6277
Lutherans Concerned
 PO Box 1676, 53201372-9663
MAP Spiritual Care
 PO Box 92505, 53202273-1991
Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church
 UFMCC PO Box 1421, 53201-1421332-9995
Plymouth Church-UCC (Open & Affirming)
 2717 E. Hampshire964-1513
The Sanctuary (Ecumenical, nondenominational)
 1636 W. National647-9199
St. Camillus (Interfaith AIDS Ministry)
 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53226259-4664
St. James Episcopal Church
 833 W. Wisconsin Ave.271-1340
First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist Church)
 1342 N Astor 273-5257
Village Church (Reconciled in Christ)
 130 E. Juneau Ave.273-7617

MEDICAL

Mark Behar, PA-C (Family/ Primary Care)
 Family Care Center, 1834 W WI, 53233933-3600
BESTD (Brady East STD) Clinic (STD diagnosis and treatment; HIV tests) 1240 E Brady 53202272-2144
BESTD Womens Clinic
 1240 E Brady, 53202272-2144
Gay Mens HIV+ Support Group
 BESTD Clinic272-2144
Gay Men's Support Group for Partners of HIV+ Men
 BESTD Clinic272-2144
Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms)
 4311 W Vliet, 53208342-4333
Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP)
 HIV/AIDS Service Organization, 820 N Plankinton, 53203
 Office/Staff273-1991
 AIDS Information273-2437
Positive Health Clinic
 Medical Center Specialties Clinic
 945 N 12, 53233219-7908

St. Camillus HIV/AIDS

Ministry

(Nursing Care)
 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53226259-4664
STD Specialties Clinic
 3251 N Holton, 53212264-8800
United HIV Services
 (Continuum of HIV services/care)
 10100 W. Bluemound Ave., 53226259-4610
Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium
 (Experimental HIV/AIDS Drug Program)
 820 N Plankinton, 53203273-1991

COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS

Alternate Lifestyles BBS
 (Gay listings, messages)933-7572
Back Door BBS, 23 lines, messages, chat, games, graphics, Women's area, Internet Mail744-9336
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)873-2838
Dr. Pervitis Wildcat BBS (e-mail, graphics, sub-boards)873-1680
GLINN Multi-Board Super System (news, personals guides, files, on-line games, graphics)289-0145
ManTalk BBS (e-mail, chats)282-1124

BARS

12 8's Bar (MW, D)
 1579 S. 2nd, 53204672-5580
1 Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F)
 196 S. 2nd 53204273-7474
3 Boot Camp (M, L/L)
 209 E. National 53204643-6900
4 C'est La Vie (Mw, D)
 231 S. 2nd 53204291-9600
5 Club 219 (MW, DJ, V)
 219 S. 2nd 53204271-3732
7 Dance, Dance, Dance (Mw, DJ)
 801 S. 2nd 53204383-8330
6 1100 Club (Mw, L/L, DJ, F)
 1100 S. 1st Street 53204647-9950
2 Fannie's (Wm, D, F)
 200 E. Washington 53204 643-9633
7 Grubb's Pub (MW, F)
 807 S 2nd St 53204384-8330

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625 S. Second, 53204	273-2693
27 Just Us (MW,D,F)	
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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
26 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
29 South Water Street Docks (Mw, L/L)	
354 E. National Ave.	225-9676
13 This Is It (M)	
418 E. Wells 53202	278-9192
18 Triangle (M, V)	
135 E National 53204	383-9412
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
Pier 221 (Cafecattessen)	

221 N. Water St.	
The Wild Thyme Cafe (Lunch, Brunch)	
231 East Buffalo	276-3144
Walker's Paint Cafe (10am-afterhours)	
1106 S. 1st St. 53204	384-7999

HELP LINES

The Force	
(referrals to GBLT counselors)	276-8487
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	
	286-2200

SERVICES

Able Amazon	
(Home Repair, Remodeling)	447-0251
Alternative Connections (matchmaking)	765-1233
American Family Insurance/Richard Robinson	
7655 W. Luscher Ave., 53218	536-7575
Bikers Express (Delivery Service)	220-9073
Button & Badge Advantage	671-6711
Coldwell Banker Prestige Homes	
Rich Dalon	423-1500
Discovery & Recovery Clinic (Counseling)	
6510 W Layton Ave, 53215	282-6160
Federated Realty	
Jack Smith	964-9000
OR	283-1452

Financial Planning Services	445-5552
Theodore I. Friedman, PhD (Psychotherapist)	
2266 N. Prospect, Suite 206 53202	272-2427
Full Moon Productions (Women's Music Promoters)	
N235 Co Hwy W, Campbellsport, 53010	
Gay/Lesbian International News Network (GLINN)	
PO Box 93626, 53203 (Fax 289-0789)	289-7777
GLINN Voice Mail	289-8780
Heritage Funeral Home	
Joseph Koch, Director	645-1575
Horizon Travel (Member IATA)	
N81 W15028 Appleton, Men. Falls 53051	255-0704
Hume, Attorney Kathleen	
5665 S 108th, Hales Corners, 53130	529-2129
Hurricane Womyn's Productions	
PO Box 71268, 53211	
Denis Jackson, PhD. (Relational training, hypnosis, HIV & Vocational Counseling)	276-8669
K-9 8 till 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, 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 and Phillips, Attorneys at Law	
229 E Wisconsin Ave, Ste 1101, 53202	277-7780
Raiki Master/Wm Jacobs	
(energy balancing)	668-8860
Jeanie Simpkins, (MS), (counseling)	282-6160
Specialty Cleaning Services (carpet cleaning)	389-0770
State Farm Insurance/David Clark	827-1044
Prudential/ John R. Tomlinson Life Insurance	
1212 E Townsend, 53212	964-9799
Tech Support (Computer Technical Support Services)	
	272-2151
Telekinetics (World Wide Web Design)	

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 2222 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, 53226 ...453-8300
800/486-0975
 Travel Directions (Travel Agency)
 515 Glenview, Wauwatosa, 53213774-2174
 Wells Ink, Advertising & Design (Advertising, PR)
 1661 N. Water St., Suite 411, 53202272-2116

RETAIL

AfterWords (G/L Bookstore & Espresso Bar)
 2710 N. Murray, 53211963-9089
 Clinton Street Antiques
 1110 South First Street647-1773
 Constant Reader Bookshop
 1627 E Irving Pl., 53202291-0452
 Forever Yours (Flowers, fresh cut, dried)

2201 E Capitol Dr., 53211963-1006
 Designing Men (cards, t-shirts, jewelry, leather, etc.)
 1200 S 1st St., 53204389-1200
 Out of Solitude Jewelry
 3817 N Oakland, 53211962-6520
 Jerry Petrone/Wilde Dodge (auto sales)
 1901 E Moreland Blvd, Waukesha544-5400
 Second Time Around (resale)
 7712 West National, 53214778-1918
 Super Video & Variety (Videos, magazines & novelties)
 8900 W. Greenfield, Greenfield258-3950
 Survival Revival (Resale Shop)
 246 E Chicago, 53202291-2856
 Wishful Things (Antiques)
 207 E Buffalo, 53202964-9799

CENTRAL WI (715)

Central WI AIDS Network
 (CWAN) (HIV/AIDS Service
 Organization) 1200 Lake View Dr, Rm 200,
 Wausau, 54403848-9060
 Joseph T. Chojnacki, PH.D. (Psychologist)
 Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449387-5442
Empowerment/PAWS (Newsletter for PWAs)
 1932 Strongs Ave
 Stevens Point, 54481342-0576
G&L Society/Wausau848-0608
UWSP 10% Society
 Campus Activities Complex, Box 68
 UWSP, Stevens, Point, 54481346-4366
LDS Brotherhood (Gay Mormons)
 PO Box 152, Wausau, 54402848-0343
Mod Hatter (MW, DJ, V)
 320 Washington, Wausau 54401842-3225
HIV/AIDS Spiritual Support & Education
 2108 4th Ave, Stevens Point 54481345-6500
Marshfield Gay Lesbian Organ. (MGLO)
 c/o 117 W Jefferson St, Marshfield, 54449
 Vic:(715) 384-2613 Jim:384-6731
Platwood Club (MW, D)
 701 Highway 10W, St. Pt., 54481341-8862
Prince Edward 888
 203 W 5th, Shawano 54166526-2805
Wausau Narcotics Anonymous
 (ask for Gay meetings)536-LIFE
Women's Resource Center UWSP
 336 Nelson Hall, Stevens Pt. 54481346-4851

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 ...369-6228
Northern WI Lambda Society
 PO Box 802, Rhinelander 54501362-4242
SHEM (Support, Heal, Educate) for Parents, Family, Friends of
 Gays/Lesbians/Bi's359-7432
Out Up North (G/L Social/Info/Network)
 PO Box 695, Washburn, 54891682-2890

SHEBOYGAN AREA (414)

Blue Lite (Mw) 1029 N. 8th, 53081457-1636
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
 Shirley: 458-2506Carolyn:467-0422
Sheboygan Antiques
 336 Superior Avenue 53081452-6757
Wesley United Methodist Church (Reconciling Congregation)
 823 Union Avenue, Sheboygan458-4889

**RACINE/KENOSHA (414)
& SOUTHEASTERN WI**

Club 94 (MW, DJ)
 9001 120th Ave (Hwy C& I-94)
 Kenosha 53140857-9958
JoDee's (MW, DJ)
 2139 Racine St (Hwy 32) Racine 53403634-9804
What About Me? (WM)
 600 6th St. Racine 53403632-0171
Gay AA (Group 294 Meeting)554-6611
Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine
 625 College, Racine 54303634-0659
Gay Lesbian Union of Kenosha
 c/o Unitarian Universalist
 PO Box 593, Kenosha 53141654-9427
Southeastern WI AIDS Project (HIV/AIDS Service)

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Organization) 6927 39th Ave.
Kenosha 53141 1-800-924-6601;657-6644

UW-Parkside G/L Organization
900 Wood Rd., Box 200, Kenosha 53141595-2244

UW-Whitewater G/L Student Union
309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190472-5738

Diamond Hill Inn B&B
W1375 Hwy 11, Spring Prairie63-4421

Wychwalde (Jewelry & Gifts)
8321 Antioch Rd (Hwy 83), Salem 53168843-4209

SOUTH CENTRAL (608)

MASN Satellite Office (AIDS Info)
317 Dodge St., Janesville 53545756-2550

Cathren House (B&B)
Mineral Point987-2612

CrossRoads Bar (G/S/M/W)
W6642 Hwy B, Lake Mills 53551(414)648-8457

NORTHWEST WI (715)

Main Club (Mw)
1813 N 3, Superior, 54880392-1756

Trio (Wm)
820 Tower, Superior, 54880392-5373

Connect (G/L info line)
PO Box 1304, Superior 54880394-9467

Different Strokes BBS (Computer Bulletin Board)
PO Box 152, Wausau 54402-0152842-1377

N.O.W.A.P. (Northwest WI AIDS Project)
HIV/AIDS Service Organization
505 Dewey St., So, #107
Eau Claire 54702(800) 750-AIDS
Local Number836-7710

Scruples (MW, DJ, F)
411 Galloway St., Eau Claire 54703839-9606

The Trading Company (MW, DJ)
304 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701838-9494

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, 54702835-0860

Variations on Spring (Gifts, Collectibles)
22 West Spring St. Chippewa Falls 54729723-8490

SOUTH WEST/WEST CENTRAL (608)

The Alliance (LesBiGay Social Group)
PO Box 131, Platteville 53818348-5596
e-mail: ALLIANCE@uwplatt.edu

Cavalier Lounge (MW, D)
114 N. 5th St., LaCrosse 54601782-9061

Chela and Rose's B&B and Forest Retreat735-4829

Gay & Lesbian Alliance
Box 131, Platteville, 53818

La Crosse Health Dept. (AIDS/HIV Service Organ.)
300 N 4th, La Crosse 54601785-9872

LaCrosse L/G Support Group
c/o Campus Ministry Center784-7600

Leaping La Crosse News
Box 932, LaCrosse 54602

LaCrosse Parents & Friends of Gays782-6082

Rainbow's End (G/S, WM)
417 Jay St., La Crosse 54601

Rainbow Revolution (Alternative Books)
122 5th Ave S, LaCrosse 54601796-0383

The Pioneers (Rural G/L Support Group)
PO Box 53, Richland Center, 53581647-6384

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Wisconsin

WORK IT GIRL I'm a cross dresser, good looking, 6ft, 180lbs, 38 years old. I love to wear silk stockings, garter belts, and high heels. I would like to meet other cross dressers. (Appleton) **#13646**

MORE THAN THIS I'm a Gay male, straight acting, straight looking, 35 years old, 5'10, 160lbs. I'm looking for friends and possibly more. I live just South of Appleton. If you are interested give me a call. (Appleton) **#10875**

SECRET LOVER I'm a Bi White male, 27 years old, smooth, good looking. I'm looking for a younger White male 18 to 29 to be my secret lover. I can travel the whole state. Call me. (Appleton) **#8732**

APPLETON GUY I'm 22 year old Gay White male looking for someone to have fun with. Call me. (Appleton) **#6976**

LOOKING FOR A GOOD FRIEND I'm a 22 year old Gay White male new to the area. I'm attractive, 5'9, 150lbs, Brown eyes. I'm looking for someone 18 to 25 who loves to have fun and who can be a good friend. Call me. (Appleton) **#6949**

NO GAMES NO TRIPS I'm 6'1, Brown hair, Blue eyes, 178lbs, slim, good shape, good looking. I would like to meet someone for a long term relationship. Casual friends welcome. I enjoy sporting events and masculine men. (Fond du lac) **#32136**

COLLEGE KID I'm a student at Northland college. I'm 20 years old, 6'2, 180lbs. I like swimming, walks, bike rides, bowling, ice skating, etc. If that sounds interesting to you please respond. (Ashlan) **#12484**

EAGLE RIVER COUPLE We are looking to meet other men in our area or men who are willing to travel. I'm 28 years old, 6'1, 190lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. My boyfriend is 29 years old, Brown hair, Blue eyes. Let us know if you are interested. (Eagle River) **#12856**

HOMO ALONE I have a hairy chest and nice body, Blond hair, Green eyes. I would like to meet Gay men in my area. (Eau Claire) **#6870**

FEATURE PRESENTATION I'm looking for new friends and buddies to connect with on an occasional basis. I like dark hair and features. I'm a young looking 34 year old White male, 6ft, 190lbs, masculine. Call me. (Eau Claire) **#7099**

ARE YOU KIND HEARTED? I'm 23 years old, Asian male, 5'7, 135lbs, dark hair, dark eyes, very healthy, very athletic and good looking. I enjoy weight lifting, biking, and summer movies. I'm looking for a White male 20 to 32 who is fit and muscular. (Madison) **#3688**



DISCRETION A MUST I'm a 33 year old professional Bi male. I enjoy sporting events. I tend to be shy. My profession does not allow me to meet people freely. I look forward to meeting someone. Please be discreet. (Fond du lac) **#32076**

SUBMISSIVE BOY SEEKS MASTER I am looking for a dominant master. I am clean and want to serve a very dominant man. I will follow your every command. Make me do things your way. Please call me sir. (Green Bay) **#13475**

TOUCHING AND HUGGING I'm 5'11, 180lbs, single Gay White male. I like quiet times and going out. I'm looking for friendship first. (Kenosha) **#13604**

LET'S PLAY BALL I'm a 22 year old Gay White male interested in meeting someone for friendship or other reasons. I have dark blond hair and blue eyes and I love sports. (Kenosha) **#43128**

LOOKING FOR MEN I'm a 26 year old Gay White male looking for friendship and more. I'm clean shaven, 5'5, 170lbs, well built. I like down hill skiing, dancing, good times, and movies. Call me. (Madison) **#14270**

DISCREET FUN IN MADISON I'm looking for a good looking Gay White male. I'm 31 years old, 5'11, 170lbs, nice body, Blue eyes, friendly and easy going. I'm interested in very discreet fun. Call me. (Madison) **#5829**

I'M LOOKING FOR FRIENDS I'm new to the area. I'm a cute 22 year old Gay Asian male, 5'6, 120lbs. I'm looking for White guys 18 to 25 for friendship and maybe more. Call me. (Madison) **#10278**

LETS GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER I'm in my early 30's, well built, tall, clean shaven, healthy. I would like to meet men 18 to early 30's to get to know and have fun with. Call me. (Madison) **#8996**

HAIR WE GO I'm 18 years old, 6'4, 210lbs. I'm looking for someone 18 to 30 who likes to do just about anything. Hairy men are a plus. (Madison) **#3262**

ARREST ME I'm a submissive Gay White male, 5'11, 155lbs, Brown hair, Hazel eyes. I'm looking for a dominant man 21 to 45 who is in law enforcement. Call me. (Madison) **#2840**

ISN'T THAT YOU ON THE SCREEN? I would love to get together with some guys in my area. If you are into adult videos call me. Lets watch together. (Madison) **#1314**

MADISON BEAR I'm 28 years old, 6'2, heavy set, short Brown hair, hairy all over. I like big hairy men like myself. I'm into movies, theatre, reading, and good conversation. Call me. (Madison) **#1163**

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME I'm a Gay White male, 6'1, 175lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, 30 years old, fit, clean cut. I'm looking for a top Gay male for fun, friendship, and possibly more. Try me. No disappointment (Madison) **#34680**

CHUBBY DADDY 48 year old top, chunky build, 5'11, Blond hair, Hazel eyes. I'm looking for a male slave 18 to 35. If you want to be daddy's boy call me. (Milwaukee) **#14429**

TRANSEXUAL DOMINATRIX WANTED I would like to meet White, Hispanic, or Asian Transsexuals who like to dress up and get into new and exciting scenes. I'm 5'9, 175lbs. I would like to meet someone to dominate me. (Milwaukee) **#14446**

FINE YOUNG THING I'm in my late 20's, tall, slim, straight acting, cute. I'm looking for an older gentleman 35 to 50 who is clean, discreet, and masculine. I'm submissive and seek an in shape older man who is aggressive. (Milwaukee) **#14334**

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FOR THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE I'm new here from Chicago. I'm tall, 200lbs, work out, dark skin, live on the East side. If you would like a companion call me. (Milwaukee) #12586

DRESS UP TIME I'm a submissive, non passable * cross dresser, mid 30's, Bi sexual, looking for a strong, attractive top to use me as his toy. I also can be versatile. (Milwaukee) #14236

HOT BLACK BROTHER I'm an African American male, 5'11, 170lbs, Brown skin, bald head, nice body, well endowed. If you like this call me. (Milwaukee) #13995

WEST SIDE MASSAGE I'm 26 years old, good looking, Gay White male, Brown hair, blue eyes, smooth, clean shaven, swimmers build. I'm looking to get together with someone who will give me a massage. I will reciprocate (Milwaukee) #13563

MILWAUKEE MAN I'm looking for another gentleman into foot and boot worship, giving and receiving. Serious replies only. (Milwaukee) #13168

REACH NEW HEIGHTS I'm a good looking 33 year old White male, Brown hair, Brown eyes, 5'11, 175lbs. I'm looking for top men. I'm more of a bottom. (Milwaukee) #5873

CONDOM SENSE I'm 5'10, 180lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for top men for clean safe sex. I am a Bi male. Lets get together and talk. (Milwaukee) #12022

ATHLETIC WHITE MALE I'm a very good looking White male, 5'10, Brown hair, Brown eyes, nice build, very athletic. I'm into movies, volleyball, and anything athletic. I'm seeking men with similar build and interests. Please call me. (Milwaukee) #12112

WATCHING AND WAITING I'm 38 years young, 5'11, 175lbs, 32" waist, Brown hair, Green eyes. I'm looking for someone intelligent and sincere. I like boating, good food, books, music, hiking, poetry, politics, etc. If you have similar interests call me. (Milwaukee) #12129

FOX VALLEY MAN I'm a 36 year old Gay White male, 6'1, 190lbs, Brown eyes, hairy chest, masculine, very straight acting. If you are looking for just sex move on. I'm in the closet and plan to stay that way. I'm looking for a long term relationship. (Milwaukee) #11862

POSITIVE AND HEALTHY I'm 31 years old, HIV positive, healthy. I'm looking for men in my area. If you have left a message in the past please leave one again. Thanks. (Milwaukee) #7328

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT I'm a 33 year old White male, 5'10, 165lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes, handsome. I'm looking for men 29 to 35 who are attractive and straight acting. I'm interested in casual dating and a possible relationship. Call me. (Milwaukee) #10017

COOL, CALM AND SLICK I'm 6ft, 160lbs, nice looking, clean shaven, 23 years old, lonely. I enjoy movies, exercise, travel, etc. I'm seeking a very attractive bottom 18 to 22. Call me. No games. (Milwaukee) #9613

CLEAN AND INTELLIGENT? I'm a 27 year old Bi Black male looking for friendship. I like racquetball, fishing, working out, etc. I'm looking for someone 18 to 31 who is clean, intelligent and a non smoker. Call me. (Milwaukee) #10181

OUT AND ABOUT I'm a Gay White male, 29 years old, 6ft, 150lbs. I'm looking to meet other men 18 to 35 for friendship and possible relationship. I like the outdoors, good times, etc. Call me. (Milwaukee) #9137

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED I'm a handsome professional Gay White male, 33 years old, 5'10, 165lbs. I'm relationship oriented and I'm seeking attractive Gay White men 29 to 35 for dating, fun, and possible relationship. I'm straight acting and appearing. (Milwaukee) #9218

SMOOTH BOY I'm 5'9, 125lbs, smooth body, smooth chest. I'm looking for someone in my area for fun times. Call me. (Milwaukee) #8967

ON THE SIDE I'm a Gay White male, late 30's, 5'8, 150lbs, hairy chest, receded hair line. I'm looking for an East Side top for fun on the side. Call me. (Milwaukee) #7373

LET'S GET WET I'm 6'3, Bland hair, Hazel eyes, 155lbs. I like swimming, walking, biking, camping, etc. I'm interested in meeting new friends. Call me. (Milwaukee) #6599

HELP ME GET OFF I'm 25 years old, smooth bottom boy looking for a hot top muscular man. A hot construction worker, body builder, cop, etc. to take control of me. Make me do it sir. Make me your dirty little boy. (Milwaukee) #7498

READY FOR A CHANGE I'm a single White male, 30 years old, 6ft, 200lbs. I'm looking for a Transvestite. I need a first time experience with a kinky cross dresser. (Milwaukee) #5255

SIT BACK AND RELAX I'm a handsome and bored Gay White male, early 30's, slim, discreet, very oral. I'm looking for Gay or straight White men who would like to be serviced. Call me. (Milwaukee) #5879

THE WILD NIGHT IS CALLING I'm a very attractive 32 year old Gay White male, Blonde hair, Hazel eyes, 6'1, 165lbs, trim muscular build. I enjoy working out, camping, etc. I'm looking for guys in my area for fun and friendship. Call me. (Milwaukee) #3897

THE COLOR OF MY DREAMS I'm a 29 year old Black male, 6'3, 180lbs, mustache, attractive. I'm seeking other men of color in my area. Call me. (Milwaukee) #3985

MAKE ME LAUGH I'm 5'7, 180lbs, well built. I'm looking for the same in a guy with a good sense of humor. Lets go out. (Milwaukee) #1316

BLACK MEN ONLY I'm a 21 year old Drag Queen. I have Brown hair, Brown eyes, 5'9, 155lbs, flexible. I'd like to meet a very fun loving and caring guy who likes to do a lot of things as well as cuddle. I'm only interested in Black men. Call me. #42795

LEATHER TRAINING I'm into leather. I'm looking for a slave boy or she male. I'm in my 40's, good build. I'm looking for someone to train. (Milwaukee) #32154

ARE YOU THE ONE? GWM, 24, 5'9", brown hair, hazel eyes, seeks others, 18-30, smooth and boyish looks, for fun, friendship and pleasure. Leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #23317

BUDDY BONDING GWM, 23, 6'2", married, attractive, brown hair, blue eyes, attractive, seeks friends to hang out with and possibly more. Give me a call. (Milwaukee) #10354

SMOOTH LITTLE BOTTOM WANTED I'm a top man, 41 years old, 6'5, 230lbs. I'm looking for a smooth little bottom 18 to 25. I'm secure and a workaholic. If you would like to know more please call me. #8686



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OUT OF THE STARS

by C. Lichtenstein

Horoscope for October 2 through October 15



ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

October offers a bubbly cauldron of partnership fun. Are you committed to the relationship or not? It is time for all proud Aries to open up the lines of communication and speak honestly about expectations. Don't beat around the bush - partners are not into reading between the lines. Coyness is not within the rambunctious Rambo persona anyway.



TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

All the rushing planetary activity in October rushes a few extra work projects your way. Proud Bulls may bite off a bit more than they can chew but don't panic; you are up to the task. While the day to day job keeps you occupied, brace yourself for an unexpected detour in your overall career path. Ain't life interesting kids?



GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Pink Twins should make good use of Mercury's and Venus' forays this October when you may feel especially creative, romantic and theatrical. If life has been hum drum, liven it up with a drum beat from party central. What better time to plan that superb Coming Out party? Make it an event that they will talk about for the next year...or the next millennium.



CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Home and hearth pink Crabs feel especially warm and fuzzy this month as Venus and Mercury warm your home fires. You can sit and simmer or, even better, think of home improvement projects that need planning, attention or completion. Tackle these necessary domestic alterations now while the energy is right. As long as you are cleaning out your closet, clean out your house.



LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Proud and regal Lions are in rare form this October as the urge to bellow and roar become almost unstoppable. Use the energy as an affirmation as ideas and words of wisdom come to you almost effortlessly. Don't be afraid to expound on your more "creative" concepts - these seeds find fertile ground in the most inhospitable places! Add a bit of water and you are all set...



VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)

Serious and committed gay Virgos should turn their attention to financial matters, particularly on future monetary security. I have full confidence in you, my dear. I know you will figure out that perfect retirement plan that will not only serve you well but can also help others. Expect a surprise or five on the job. You just never know what onerous task will lead to nirvana.



LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

Lucky Libras are ready for the swell of adulation that will greet them in October. Maybe because it's your birthday month or maybe because you're hot and ready to celebrate our liberation, but people gravitate to you. Prepare for your ascension to center stage and take full advantage of it's possibilities. Be the diva you were born to be.



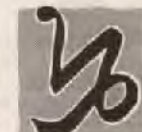
SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

Prepare for a minor sonic boom. All that has been carefully hidden from you will be catapulted into the forefront. Good thing too, Scorps need a good cleaning of the closet once and for all to flush out all the goblins, ghosts and demons that keep you from true affirmation. Deal with them swiftly one by one and don't be kind. Then breathe a sigh of relief and go celebrate!



SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

Social pastimes carve out a large piece of time this proud October. Good thing too; Gay Archers have a tendency to disperse their energies and never see anything for their considerable efforts. Now you can relax and enjoy yourself with kindred souls and good pals. Avoid becoming too boisterous though; you never know what you may belch in all the excitement.



CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

Proud Caps enter the center of the corporate storm so strike while the political energy is hot. You'll gain the upper hand in your career or life's work as long as you remain focused. You may be privy to an extra bit of insider scuttle. Review and chew it carefully, then use it to climb up another rung. You can't change the world until you get more power.



AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Aquarians have to scratch those itchy feet this October by travelling to some new, exotic clime. (It's always much more pleasant to be Out and about in a beautiful resort.) The benefits include not only a lovely, rested you, but also a new perspective for old problems. Experience life from a different angle. Try something (or someone) a little different.



PISCES (FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

Are you turning a lustful eye towards other people's money and possessions? Prepare for a case of the green meenies for those pink Fish who have not properly taken your finances into your own hands. On the bright side, sex and sensuality have never been hotter. Peppy Fish sure know how to turn on the heat when they are inspired and this is the month for gay inspiration.

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