

Wisconsin

IN

Wisconsin's Only GLBT Community Newspaper

Issue 18.25 • December 13, 2001

www.instepnews.com

Step



Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way!
Oh, what fun it is to live when you've told the world you're gay!
jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way!
Oh, what fun it is to love when you're happy that you're gay!

Interview with Rev. Troy Perry • Pg. 6
McCann to Review Hate Charges • Pg. 6

Galano Club Moves to
Community Center • Pg. 7

Gotcha! • Pg. 20
Cordially Yours • Pg. 39

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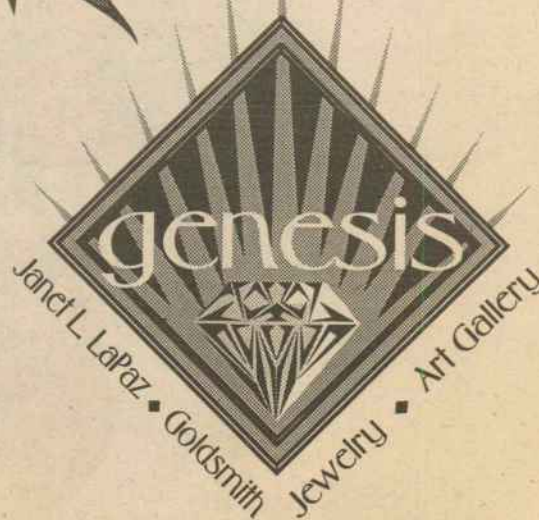
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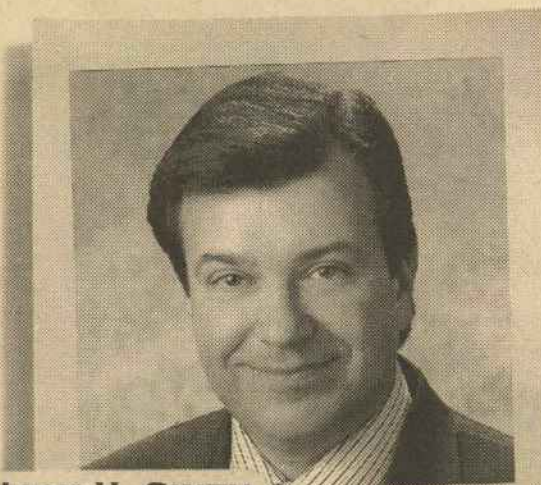
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This striking lannon stone provincial in Wauwatosa was built for gracious living. The sunken living room has an absolutely gorgeous natural fireplace and built-in bookcases. French doors lead you to the delightful sunroom that overlooks the landscaped fenced backyard with pergola and patio. The formal dining room has poured plaster moldings, ceiling medallions, chair rail and arched windows. You'll appreciate the wonderfully redone kitchen with ceramic tile floor and walls and separate dining area. The master bedroom suite has a 1930's glamour with its dressing room and closet. A beautiful home!
\$379,000 Pin # 91000

You'll love this wonderful two bedroom and two bath Third Ward condo. There's a carpeted combination living/dining room. The eat-in kitchen also has a breakfast bar. There's the convenience of an in-unit laundry. Unit comes complete with deeded underground parking space near elevator. Basic cable is included in the condo fee. Building features a community room with television and kitchen. The exercise room has a sauna, showers and lockers. Enjoy the landscaped interior courtyard with grills. Pets allowed, no dogs. This is a fabulous opportunity for great city living! \$174,900 Pin # 11640

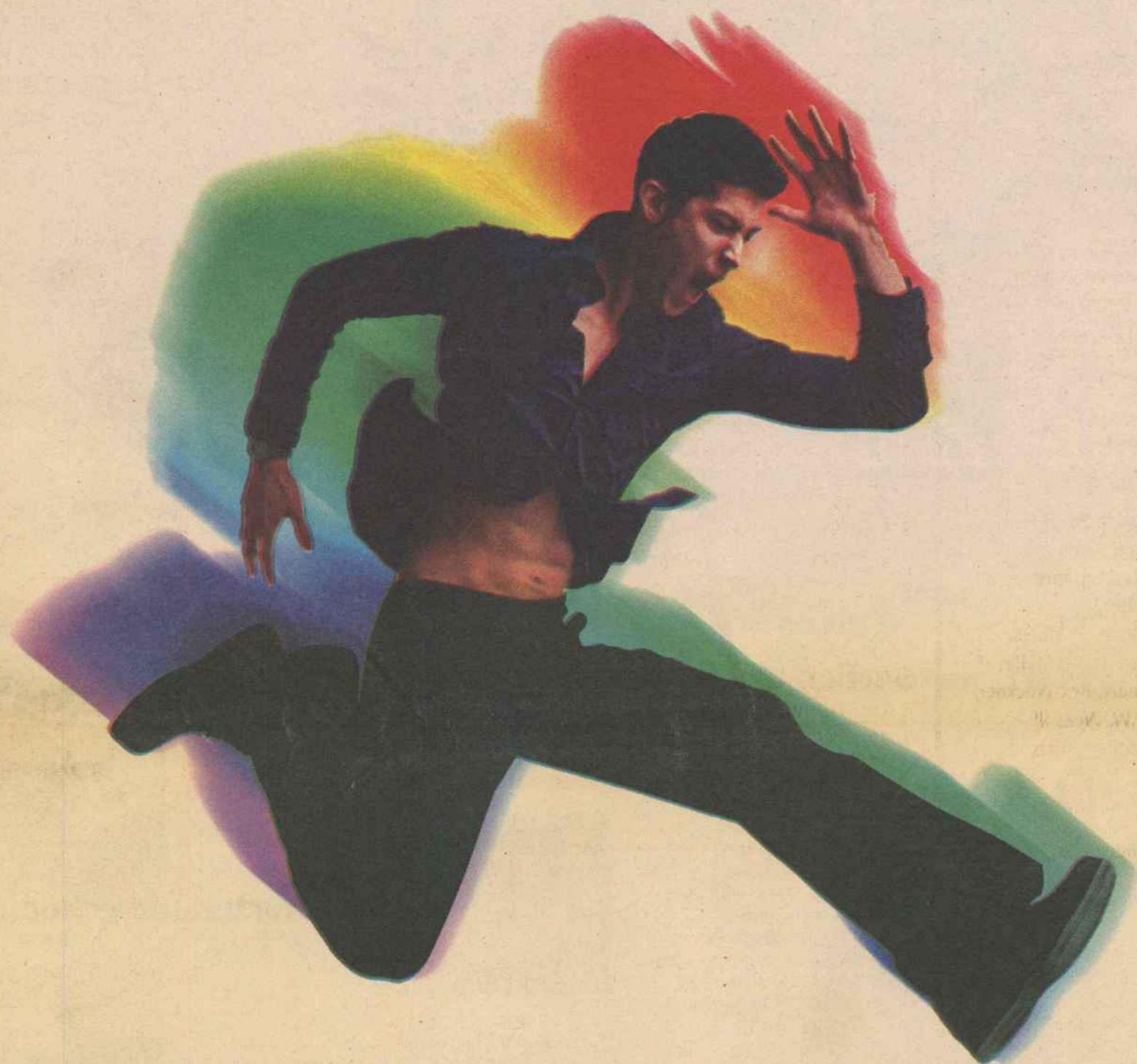


Spacious and comfortable colonial in Port Washington. A lot of house with a terrific flexible floor plan. Sought after first floor master bedroom suite and first floor laundry. Four nice sized upstairs bedrooms. Large eat-in kitchen with lots of cupboards and counter space. Amenities include Natural fireplace, central air, dual furnaces, lower level rec room and office, fenced yard with patio and garden shed. A great value in a great neighborhood!
\$199,900 Pin # 58110

This large and lovely Mequon ranch has a thoughtful floor plan and neutral decorating. The formal living room with bay window and formal dining room over looks the lovely landscaped front yard. The eat-in kitchen comes complete with appliances, bay window and pantry with sink. A brick natural fireplace enhances the warmth of the family room. The carpeted master bedroom suite has access to the patio and backyard. There are hardwood floors in the 3 other bedrooms. The attached and covered patio would make a lovely screened in porch. Large landscaped backyard perfect for your gardening pleasure. You are sure to enjoy this home.
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Wisconsin IN Step

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IN Side

News

- 6 Interview: MCC Leader Troy Perry
By Mike Fitzpatrick
- 6 McCann Agrees to Further Probe of Vega Murder
- 7 Galano Club Moves to New Digs at LGBT Center
By Jamakaya
- 8 Transgender Woman Defends Her Marriage in Kansas High Court
- 12 A Time to Give!
By State Rep. Mark Pocan
- 13 Weidner Whizbang Wows A Thou
Review by Mike Fitzpatrick

State Briefs

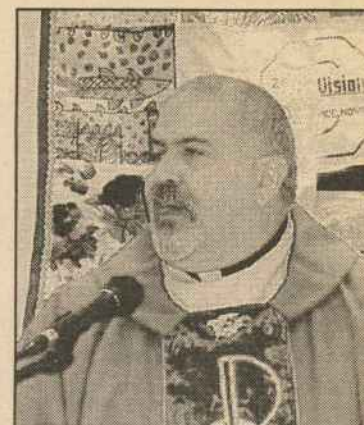
- 10 Rainbow Families Seeks Proposals
- 10 Galano Club Hosts New Year's Eve Dance
- 10 Women's Holiday Dance at UWM
- 10 Men's Voices to Hold January Auditions
- 10 Stories Sought for Book on LGBT Christians
- 10 Women's Dance and Cabaret Set for Dec. 29
- 11 Pink Party Tickets Now Available
- 11 LGBT Kwanzaa Celebration Set for Dec. 16
- 13 Lesbian Comic in Green Bay Feb. 1
- 13 DeeDee Winters Reigns as Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA

Opinions

- 14 Reality Check: Mullahs and Meccas
By Mike Fitzpatrick
- 15 Politics For '02, Not '82
By Chris Ott

Section Q

- 16 One-Woman Shows on Tap at Boulevard
- 16 Perfect Harmony Winter Concert Set
- 16 Marathon Reading at Woodland Pattern
- 16 Milwaukee Ballet Presents "Nutcracker" Dec. 14-30
- 16 Gotcha!
By Billy Masters
- 22 "Marlene: Her Own Song" and "The Girl"
By Jamakaya
- 23 INK: More Gift Books
- 24 Picture Perfect: Books for Giving
By Carl M. Szatmary
- 25 Or Take Your Own Photos...
By David Batterson
- 30 TRAVEL: Minneapolis-St. Paul
By Chris Ott
- 31 STAGE: Arsenic and Old Lace
Review by Carl M Szatmary
- 33 STAGE: "Guys on Ice" is Cool
By Kathryn Kingsbury
- 33 STAGE: Naughty Santa: "The Reindeer Monologues"
By Kathryn Kingsbury
- 36 Dear Ruthie
- 36 Keepin' IN Step: Laid Off
By Jamie Taylor



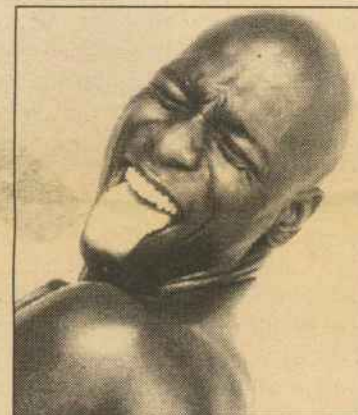
Interview with Troy Perry • 6

By Mike Fitzpatrick



Marlene: Her Own Song • 22

By Jamakaya



Picture Perfect: Holiday Books • 24

By Carl Szatmary



One Woman Show on Tap at Boulevard • 16

NEW YEAR'S ISSUE:

DEADLINE: Friday, Dec. 22 at 5 p.m.
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McCann Agrees to Further Probe of Vega Murder

MILWAUKEE - In a follow-up to a story in the last issue of **IN Step**, Milwaukee District Attorney E. Michael McCann has ordered a deeper investigation into the circum-



Juana Vega

stances around the murder of Juana Vega. Vega, a lesbian well-known to many in the LGBT community, was killed on Nov. 11 in what friends and family members believe was a hate crime.

The alleged assailant in the case, Pablo Parrilla, is the brother of Vega's ex-lover, Melodia "Ria" Parrilla. He is charged with first degree intentional homicide while armed but the District Attorney's Office did not add the hate crime penalty enhancer. At the time Vega was killed, Parrilla was already wanted by the police for a violation of his parole for a previous battery conviction.

Local supporters of Vega have been joined by leaders of national LGBT advocacy groups like the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Human Rights Campaign and the Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization in calling for the addition of the hate crime enhancer. In a meeting with McCann on December 1, Vega's family and friends described how Parrilla had previously threatened to kill Juana because of her sexuality. They say he also blamed Juana for supposedly turning his sister gay.

McCann ordered a further probe after hearing their accounts. Mayor John Norquist had also sent McCann a letter, saying that the case deserved more review. Vega's friends have vowed not to let the matter rest, and the local media have covered the murder and investigation fairly extensively.

"We don't want this to be dismissed as just another Latina killed on the south side," Vega's friend Carmen Alicia Murguía told **Wisconsin IN Step**. "There was more to it. We want Juana's story to be told, and we want justice."

An ad-hoc activist group is also working to set up a scholarship in Vega's name at the Milwaukee Area Technical College and is seeking an attorney to assist in working with the Milwaukee District Attorney's office in the matter.

For more information, contact the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center at (414) 271-2656.

Interview: MCC Leader Troy Perry

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Rev. Elder Troy Perry is the founder and head of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), the world's largest Christian ministry serving the LGBT community. Perry recently visited Green Bay to help the Angels of Hope MCC celebrate its fifteenth anniversary. Wisconsin IN Step had the opportunity to speak with Perry about his unique ministry, the challenges it faces and his vision for the future.

IN Step: Did you ever think back in 1968 you'd be where you are today? Can you summarize the amazing story of this community of faith?

Perry: (On) October 6, 1968 I conducted the first of Metropolitan Community church in the living room of my home. Nine friends and three strangers showed up that day. There was one woman, one Jew, one person of color, one heterosexual couple - that was just a view of things to come for the church. We've had tremendous growth. The National Council of Churches calls us one of the fastest growing groups in the United States. Within a year and a half, we owned our first property. We started running over a thousand in attendance. Today there are 310 churches in 18 countries plus members in an additional 13 countries. Historians today say that because we were founded that all the world's religions now deal with the issue of gays and lesbians in religion.

What is the approximate total membership in the church worldwide?

About 52,000 are members. We normally have more people than we have members that attend our church. We actually touch the lives of about a million different people a year. (Our members) are the people willing to put their names on the rolls, but our membership doesn't really reflect the strength that we have.

In the sermon you preached (for the Angels of Hope anniversary), you mentioned that "you have to keep the main thing the main thing," reminding people that MCC is not "the gay church" but a Christian church ministering to gay people.

When MCC first started, people would say "you're a gay church." I would say that if you mean when you're passing our church or any church, you were talking about the majority of the people attending the church, I would buy that. But our cornerstone is Jesus Christ, not gay rights. Gay rights is an important part (of the ministry) because we believe in bringing deliverance to oppression, no matter where we find it - whether its in our community, against women or its racial.

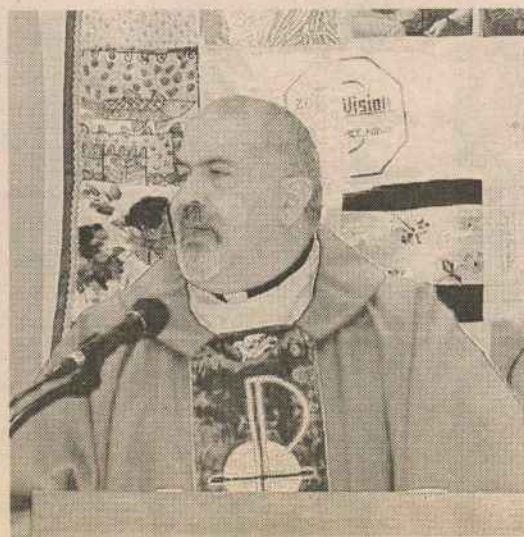
Yet the UFMCC has been in the forefront of the gay rights movement. You personally were one of the great motivators behind the Millennium March on Washington in 2000.

That's right. I'm one of those people who will never back away from trying to get laws changed that discriminate against me. The Constitution says that I'm supposed to have certain rights. I'm fighting for equality - no more, no less. I'll be damned if I let them treat me any other way. I've got my wish list of things I'd like to see changed in America... I'm a Vietnam era veteran and I still fight for the right of gays and lesbians to be able to serve openly in the military. My lover and I just celebrated this last year our 16th anniversary - and yet

we can't marry. I want that right before I die. I want to legally marry my other half.

And you see this part of the social justice component of the Christian ministry.

That's correct. At Metropolitan Community church we believe in a three-pronged gospel. Number one the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ. Number two the gospel of community. When I first founded MCC, gay people didn't know that you could honestly have a community. There used to be the battle of the five B's: the bars, the baths, the beaches, the bushes and the bookstores. There's nothing wrong with those places but there's got to be more than that... When God raised up the children of Israel they were all slaves -



Rev. Troy Perry

they didn't have a feeling of community (either). MCC was the first group where men and women mixed. People in those early days would say that if you wanted to see a mixed group of people, go to the Metropolitan Community Church; there's women, there's men, there's children, there's black, white, Hispanic, everything. Everybody's welcome in that church. The last thing is what I call Christian social action. Every MCC knows if there's oppression in their community they have to bring deliverance... that was part of Jesus' message in Luke, chapter 4.

Many of the MCC churches have an evangelical feel to them. Some gay people searching for a religious movement have trouble with that tone because of the anti-gay messages so often coming from other evangelicals. How do you respond to that discomfort?

I can't throw out the baby with the wash water. My background is evangelical. My style of preaching is evangelical. People expect to hear that from me. All of our clergy in MCC bring their gifts and different styles of preaching. Some of them sound like me, some of them don't. We tell people that we think you're going to like it here. You might find MCC a little different, but we're going to treat you in so many different ways, you're bound to like some of them.

How has the church responded to the events of September 11 terrorist attacks and their aftermath?

Three things: Number one, I checked to make sure that everyone in our local congregations in New York and the surrounding churches were okay. They weren't okay. We found out that one of our members had been burned over 40% her body - she later passed away. We moved immedi-

ately to raise money for that family. The second thing was Jerry Falwell. Falwell made his statement and blamed the attack on the gay/lesbian community along with the ACLU, pagans, etc. It was the most ridiculous statement we've ever heard. Finally the American community was shocked. I put out my press release and was widely quoted by the mainstream press. The third thing was to encourage the President to issue an executive order to suspend the throwing out gay people from the military. Its funny - every time we're in a war they want us in. Every time the war is over they want us out.

Is there any challenge to the MCC in the ever growing inclusion of gay people into traditional Christian ministries?

Not any. If we do the right thing - if we carry the gospel out to the community - we have nothing to fear... MCC is not an open and affirming denomination because we've always done everything - gay people can come to communion, gay people can get married, you can be ordained to the ministry. You have wonderful, affirming congregations who are doing the right thing - but their denominations stop them from doing everything. The Methodist church will throw out a person who performs a holy union. Many denominations will not always knowingly ordain open gays and lesbians. There is only one denomination in America that does exactly the same thing as the MCC does: that's the Unitarian Universalist Association.

MCC focuses on the unchurched. We find a lot of people who have been hurt by other religious groups and it takes them awhile to get over it. Once they start looking for a church home and they find us we're thrilled to death because they found out that (at MCC) they're truly home again.

What is currently the greatest challenge to the continued success of the Metropolitan Community Church?

Our greatest challenge is continuing to know who we are and what our work is. I'll bet there are millions of gays and lesbians who are still unchurched. They've through it - they've been so hurt by it.

Can you prophesy for us? What do you see the future ten years from now?

Ten years from now I believe with all my heart we will have ENDA (the Employment Nondiscrimination Act) passed by Congress. Will we have marriage by then? Probably another state or two will have marriage as close as we can get it. The military: I think within ten years you will have more and more gays and lesbians serving (openly) in the military. I hope to God we see less and less discrimination against our kids in high school. That has to end. The last thing for me is that the courts have to stop taking kids away from their parents because (the parents) are gay and lesbian.

Any last comments?

I'm retiring as the moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in 2005. I will be 65 years old. I'm a great believer in letting the next generation come in, take the reins and move forward. I don't want to die in the pulpit.

Finally no matter what else people hear me say I hope they'll hear this: God didn't create you so God could have something to sit around and hate.

Galano Club Moves to New Digs at LGBT Center

Recovery Support Offered During & After Holidays

By Jamakaya

Milwaukee — The Galano Club is perhaps one of the least known but most valuable resources in Milwaukee's gay and lesbian community. But the club is likely to become much more familiar to many with its recent move into the LGBT Community Center and its sponsorship of several special holiday events.

Galano is a volunteer-run recovery club providing social support for individuals in recovery and space for the fellowship

Board member, sees it as an asset.

"It's definitely smaller, but to me that's a good thing. It's intimate really, which means we'll all be a little closer."

Mark, Sandi and Garth W., first Vice President of the Galano Board, all wanted to emphasize that no one needs to be a Galano Club member to attend a meeting, and all meetings are free of charge. Membership is encouraged, however, as a means of supporting the club and its activities. Many who have benefitted from its services happily pay the monthly (\$10/\$5 low income) or yearly (\$105) dues.

Garth got involved at the club in 1989 after feeling uncomfortable in AA groups for the general population.

"I ran into some homophobia in other groups," he said, "and you really don't need to deal with that when you're trying hard to deal with your recovery too. I think especially when you are new or shaky, you don't want to worry about 'Will they find out about me?' or 'Will they reject me?'"

"In our groups," Garth said of Galano, "acceptance of your sexuality is a given. You can be totally free and honest about all parts of your life, including your relationships. That relieves a burden for a lot of people."

Although Galano's special mission is to serve members of the gay community, it allows anyone with an addiction — as long as they are respectful of gay people and serious about recovery — to join groups as well.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Galano Club members are sprucing up the new space and gearing up for several special holiday events.

"We all know the holidays can be stressful," Mark said. "It can be especially tough for people in recovery. So we'll be here to offer an alternative for our community — something to do outside the bars and the drinking environment."

The club is hosting an Open 12 Step Meeting at 8 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Participants from all the 12 Step groups are welcome to attend, as are newcomers. The only prerequisite for attendance at these and any Galano-sponsored meetings is a sincere desire to pursue recovery.

The club will host a New Year's Eve Dance on Dec. 31. An Open House will run from 4-7:30 p.m. and be followed by the regularly scheduled AA meeting. The doors to the Center's large community

room on the first floor will then open at 9 p.m. for the dance. Admission is \$3 for members, \$4 for non-members. Everyone is welcome, but no drugs or alcohol will be tolerated.

"We will be here for everyone who needs us after the holidays as well," Mark noted. "And we're already planning other special events for next year."

Sandi and Mark offered these additional thoughts.

"I've heard some people say they don't want to come to AA because they don't believe in God," Sandi said.

The 12 Steps invoke God's power and assistance but also include the phrase "as we understand Him." Some groups use the phrase "higher power" instead.

"When I first joined, I was really mad at God," Sandi confessed. "My higher power was a cloud at that time. God is my higher power now but he doesn't have to be yours." The concept of God or a higher power is open to interpretation in most groups and is dependent on individuals' spiritual beliefs. "It shouldn't keep anyone from attending."

"You know," Sandi added, "when I was drinking, there was no art. There was no music. There were no movies. I had no appreciation of snow or rain or roses or sunsets. Sobriety awakened me to all those things. It makes life worth living. So I say, 'Come. Have fun. Enjoy the sanity.'"

"Various studies have found that up to one third of gays and lesbians are substance abusers," Mark noted. "We want to reach more of those people in our own community to let them know we're here to provide support through recovery."

"We're very open to any ideas about how we can provide better services," Mark said about the club. The Board would like to see more women become involved. A women-only AA group met there in the past, and that could be revived if there is enough interest to sustain it. "Ideas and input are always welcome," he reiterated.

To contact the Galano Club, call (414) 276-6936, or feel free to attend a meeting. The club is now located on the second floor of the LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. (just off N. 3rd St., one block north of W. Cherry St.).

Victory For Lesbian Class Sweethearts

DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE — Earlier this month, Dover High held a "Senior Superlative" voting week. Among the twenty categories under consideration for the yearbook were "nicest eyes," "best dressed," "sassiest smile," "biggest flirt" and so forth. The class elected a male and a female in each area, and also elected a couple for the category "class sweethearts," to represent the couple that was most in love.

You can guess what happened by virtue of the fact that you're reading a GLBT newspaper. The seniors overwhelmingly selected Nicole Salisbury and Ashley Lagasse, girlfriends who had been together for over two years. In high school dating time, that's the equivalent of a 25-year marriage.

According to the Portsmouth Herald, the yearbook committee took these problematic results to Principal Robert Pedersen, who cited vague "rules" that don't allow gay couples to win the "class sweetheart" award. Instead, he told the yearbook committee to honor the heterosexual couple with the most votes. The yearbook committee, in turn, decided to dispense with the entire category, and also thought about putting a picture of the couple elsewhere in the book.

Dover is a liberal high school, with an active Gay Straight Alliance. Within a day, students were starting a petition drive, and the school superintendent, Armand LeSelva, took command of the brewing rebellion and reinstated the sweethearts. Although Pedersen had implied that the girls won because students weren't aware of the mystery "rules," LeSelva said that since they won with 77 percent of the vote, the decision of the senior class was clear. "We don't have any hanging chads in this one," he said. The head of the state civil liberties union told the Associated Press that Pedersen's decision was "outrageous," and that rules barring gay couples from winning the category "would be unconstitutional on their face."

Gay Surprise for Ape Researchers

NEW YORK — Gay orangutans have been spotted in Sumatra. Researchers say this is the first time homosexual behaviour has been seen in wild populations.

Only two of the four males which took part were sexually mature and both of these were also seen mating with females.

Until now homosexual behaviour has only been seen among captive orangutans or rehabilitated animals which have had close contact with humans.

Other great apes known to take part in homosexual behaviour include male mountain gorillas, female and male bonobos and humans.

"It's disheartening that we're only now beginning to learn of the full range of behaviour among these highly intelligent animals, yet they are vanishing faster than any time in history," said Dr. Elizabeth Fox, a researcher from the Bronx Zoo-based Wildlife Conservation Society.

GALANO CLUB MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday:
7:30 p.m. AA — "Come to Believe," 12 Step Spirituality in AA

Tuesday:
5:30 p.m. AA — "Over 40 and Under 40"
7 p.m. Sexual Compulsives Anonymous
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday:
8 p.m. AA — 12 Steps and 12 Traditions

Thursday:
7 p.m. AA — "Living Sober Meeting"
7 p.m. Sexual Compulsives Anonymous

Friday:
5:30 p.m. AA — "60 Minutes"
7 p.m. AA — "Step/Topic Meeting"

Saturday:
8 p.m. AA — Topic Meeting

Sunday:
10:30 a.m. AA — "Step/Topic Meeting"
10:30 a.m. AA — Anon Meeting
6 p.m. Sexual Compulsives Anonymous
8 p.m. AA — "Big Book Meeting"

meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon and other 12 Step programs, including Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA). Its origins go back to the 1970s, when gays and lesbians active in AA Group 94 decided that a special meeting place for gays in recovery was needed.

Its first headquarters was located at 1428 N. Farwell Ave. on the city's east side. Since 1989, it has been operating out of rented space on Farwell just off of North Ave. The big move to the second floor of the LGBT Center in early December heralds a new era for the club.

"We hope the new location right in the community center will raise our visibility," Mark S., President of the Galano Club's Board of Directors, told *Wisconsin IN Step*. "Our last location wasn't very connected to the community, so we hope being at the center will help draw more people in. We're open to anyone who needs a safe and sober place to find support."

(In keeping with AA traditions, club members interviewed for *Wisconsin IN Step* will remain anonymous, although one joked that "A lot of people will know who I am anyway.")

Galano's new space is smaller than its previous location but Sandi G., another

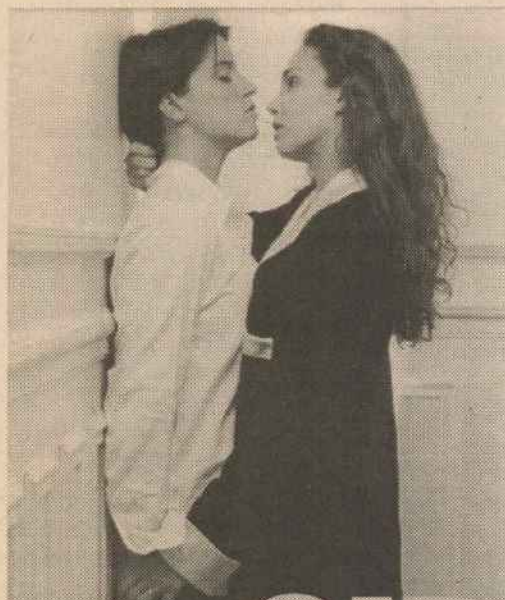
Raising Their Voices



Members of Men's Voices Milwaukee and their artistic director Ken McMonagle (center) perform at their holiday concert "Peace on Earth" on Dec. 1. Photo: Wayne Beatty.



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Transgender Woman Defends Her Marriage in Kansas High Court

Topeka — The Kansas Supreme Court heard arguments earlier this month in the case of a MTF woman who is fighting for recognition of her gender, recognition of her marriage, and by extension, fighting for a share in the estate of her late husband. J'Noel Gardiner married Marshall Gardiner in September of 1998, after dating for four months. The bride was 40, the groom was 85. Less than a year later, Gardiner died, leaving a small fortune of roughly \$2.5 million.

Although normally, Kansas wives have an automatic claim on at least half of their husband's assets, the situation was confused by a partially-completed prenuptial agreement. According to a long article in the Kansas City Pitchweekly, J'Noel says she insisted on the document in order to prove that the marriage was a love match, and in order to protect Gardiner's estate from her own family if the couple were to die together. Gardiner was reluctant to comply with her request, she said, and although he obtained a standard prenuptial form, he never filled in the paperwork. Just before they married, J'Noel herself composed a paragraph stating: "I, J'Noel Ball, do now and forever waive, deny and reject any property interests, real or chattel, of Marshall G. Gardiner."

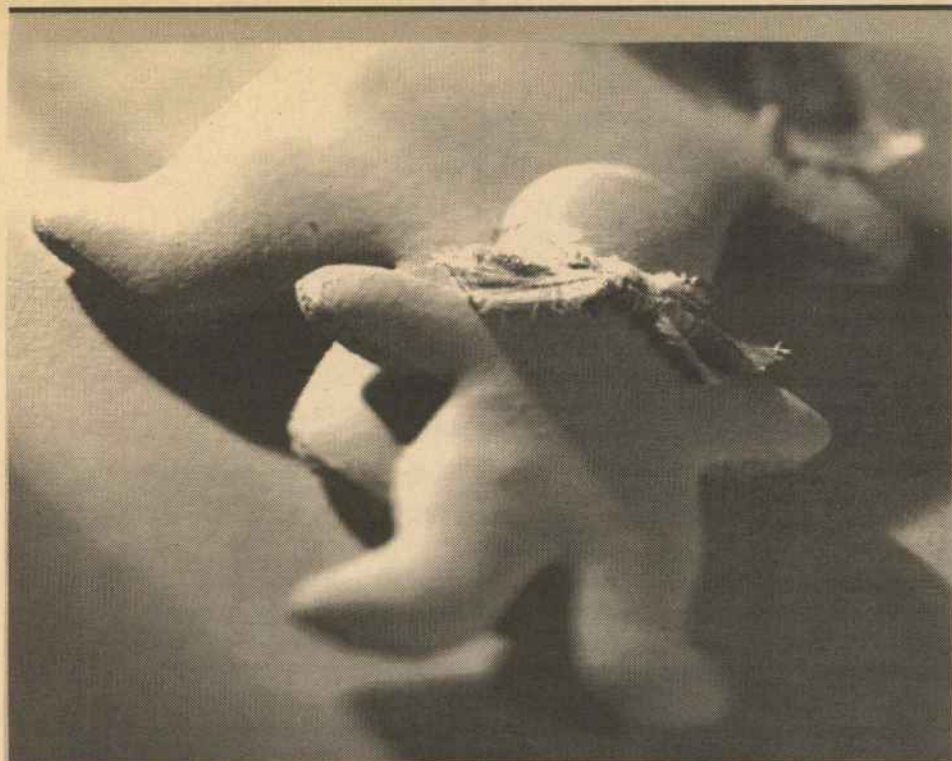
After the marriage, Pitchweekly reports, Gardiner's son Joe says he and his

wife Joy got a call from the newlyweds. "J'Noel seemed to be extremely nervous," he recalled, "she didn't want us to believe that she had married my father just for his money, so she brought up the topic of the prenuptial. And my father explained that what was hers was hers, and what was his was his, regardless of the outcome of the marriage."

After Gardiner's death, Joe Gardiner discovered J'Noel's statement and filed a motion in probate court, asking to be named executor. Oddly, no will could be found. But after a short time, a family friend suggested to Gardiner that his step-mother might have something to hide. Although J'Noel corrected her sex back in 1991, she still had an Adam's apple and a large build. Joe Gardiner did some research and discovered that she was born male. At that point, he filed a new motion, arguing that the marriage itself was invalid.

Although Joe Gardiner reportedly offered J'Noel a "substantial" amount of money to settle the matter, J'Noel chose to fight. A district court decision came down in favor of the son, ruling that J'Noel was male under Kansas law, and that the marriage was illegal. "The body J'Noel inhabits is a male body in all respects other than what the physicians have supplied," wrote Judge Gunnar Sundby. But Sundby's ruling was overturned by a state appellate court in May of last year. The definition of gender, said the appellate panel, was complex and could turn on several factors including sexual identity.

As for J'Noel, if she loses before the state supreme court, she could try to seek review before the U.S. Supreme Court. If she wins, she's in store for more litigation in district court over the validity of the prenuptial documents.



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World Briefs

Quebec to Establish Civil Unions

Montreal — The Canadian province of Quebec will set up a civil unions procedure that grants gay couples every right of marriage except access to adoption, the government said Dec. 7.

The government will submit the plan to the Quebec National Assembly where it is expected to pass.

"We're aiming to erase the discrimination that exists in our laws and guarantee that same-sex couples have the same rights as others," said provincial Justice Minister Paul Bérubé.

A recent poll found that 76.5 percent of Quebecers support letting gays formalize their relationships.

But some activists are not pleased with the proposal.

"This is not true equality," René Lévesque told the Toronto Star. "The day that we have access to marriage and divorce like other people, that will be a true legal status."

Lévesque and his partner, Michael Hendricks, have sued Quebec for the right to marry under the ordinary marriage laws. The case is ongoing.

Irene Demczuk of The Coalition for the Recognition of Same-Sex Couples of Quebec told the CP wire service, "If we don't get parenting rights, we will be back in courts. Parental recognition is not a minor thing."

Mountie Recruits Asked About Sexuality

Toronto — Royal Canadian Mounted Police recruits are asked if they are gay, the Ottawa Citizen revealed Dec. 3.

"This is a question that is black and white in the security interview," admitted RCMP Staff Sgt. Normand Nadeau. "It's there. It is common knowledge to everybody that has gone through the interview. This is a departmental policy."

"Our members have to deal with top-secret files on a regular basis, and are made aware of privileged information," Nadeau told the newspaper. "We want to make sure there is no compromise [due to blackmail]."

Legal experts told the Citizen the question violates the Canadian Human Rights Act, which prohibits such inquiries during job interviews. It also may contravene the privacy and freedom-of-expression guarantees of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, lawyers said.

"Certainly an individual's sexual orientation should not be of any import to an employer one way or another," said Canadian Human Rights Commission spokeswoman Catherine Barratt.

Egypt Denounces Europe Over Gays

Cairo — Egypt's speaker of the Parliament, Ahmed Fathi Surur, denounced the European Parliament Dec. 1 for its criticism of Egypt's treatment of gays.

On Nov. 29, the EP approved the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement but added language committing Egypt to respect human rights, gay rights and democracy.

"The Egyptian Constitution stipulates respect for the fundamental rights of citizens and the Egyptian government respects their rights in practice," Surur said. "Only the Egyptian parliament has

the right to monitor the respect of the government [for human rights]."

On Nov. 14, Cairo's Emergency State Security Court handed down verdicts in the cases of 52 men detained since May because of alleged homosexual activity. Twenty-three of the men were sentenced to between one and five years hard labor and 29 were acquitted.

The men were charged with obscene behavior and contempt for religion. Police say they were arrested in and around the gay club Queen Boat on May 11. International human-rights activists maintain that many of the men were nowhere near the club when they were taken into custody on May 11 and following days, and have denounced the prosecutions as a sham.

Colombian Same-Sex Unions Bill Altered

Bogotá — The same-sex unions bill that passed out of a Colombian Senate committee Nov. 21 was altered substantially in the process, activists report.

The International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission said: "The bill had originally addressed a wide range of discrimination issues, with provisions criminalizing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and others requiring that homophobic content be eliminated from school curricula. However, those provisions were eliminated."

As passed, by a 9-1 vote, the measure allows one member of a registered same-sex couple to inherit half of the assets accrued by the other partner during the relation-

ship, and extends spousal health, pension and alimony benefits to same-sex couples.

The bill now moves to the full Senate. If it passes there, it will go to a Chamber of Deputies committee, then to the full Chamber, and finally to the president.

"Despite the narrowing of the scope of the law, activists are satisfied that the proposal is moving forward and that an open and positive discussion is taking place in the halls of Congress and in Colombian society as a whole," IGLHRC said.

Indian Sodomy Ban Challenged

New Delhi — The gay AIDS group Naz Foundation has filed suit in the Delhi High Court against India's ban on gay sex, Penal Code Section 377.

The organization says the law violates constitutional rights to life, liberty and equal protection under the law, and impedes AIDS prevention work.

"Private, consensual adult sexual relation falls within the intimate associations protected from the State intrusions under Article 21 [of the Constitution], the exercise of which lies at the core of individual autonomy and are key to development of one's personality," Naz said. "There exists no compelling State interest to justify the curtailment of such an important element in the fundamental right to life and liberty."

"The social effects [of the statute] drive gay men underground, with a devastating impact upon the AIDS prevention effort," the group added. "Once underground, they become extremely vulnerable to AIDS because it becomes difficult for them to negotiate safe sexual behaviours. It also becomes difficult to identify and target this population for AIDS prevention efforts through education and medical services."

S.F. Agitators Held on \$500,000 Bail

SAN FRANCISCO — The city of San Francisco has come to the end of its patience with "activists" David Pasquarelli and Michael Petrelis.

After a campaign of harassment against a variety of health officials, journalists and AIDS activists, the pair were arrested Nov. 28, held on \$500,000 bail, and charged with stalking, criminal harassment, conspiracy and making terrorist threats, the S.F. Chronicle reports. The Chronicle itself won a restraining order against both men in mid-November, after the two of them made a string of menacing phone calls and allegedly tossed in a bomb threat that forced the newspaper to evacuate their offices.

Pasquarelli and Petrelis are also on the receiving end of a couple of civil suits filed by some of their targets, including five Chronicle reporters. The Chronicle, by the way, drew the men's wrath for publishing a story about rising syphilis rates among gay men in the Bay Area, and by covering the general rise of unsafe sex, (both documented phenomenon).

On Nov. 15, the gay Bay Area Reporter published an open letter signed by 17 of the city's leading AIDS activists. "Enough syphilis cases. Enough HIV infections. And enough of Michael Petrelis and ACT UP/San Francisco's personal and vicious attacks on prevention efforts. We've had it," the letter began.

"It's unacceptable for David Pasquarelli, a member of ACT UP/San Francisco (a renegade group that doesn't believe HIV causes AIDS) to call up Tom Coates, director of U.C. San Francisco's AIDS Research Institute and say: 'Get this and get this good, you Nazi pig. If you open your mouth one more time to the media and stigmatize homosexuals as diseased and deadly, we're going to shut it for good.'"

"It's unacceptable that in our community, someone can call STD director Jeff Klausner's wife at home asking about her husband's 'syphilitic dick.' It is unacceptable to put an image of him on a poster next to a skeleton with a swastika. It is unacceptable for ACT UP/SF and Petrelis to give Oreos cookies to African-American prevention workers and tell their Jewish colleagues that they're 'like good Jews, working for Nazis,' or to call any of us 'sellout fags.' All of us are fine being accountable to the community; none of us want to be woken up at 2 am to hear Michael's voice warning us that 'the day of accountability is here.'"

The letter continued with a reference to perhaps the most damaging aspect of Petrelis' personal activities: "It is also unacceptable for Petrelis to routinely provide incorrect and misleading charges about gay prevention organizations to the right wing in Washington, D.C., resulting in conservative senators and congressional representatives demanding audits and cutbacks in funds for gay prevention programs."

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State Briefs

Rainbow Families Seeks Proposals for Conference

Madison — Rainbow Families Wisconsin will hold its second annual conference next April 20, 2002 in Madison and is currently seeking proposals from individuals and organizations who would like to present workshops.

Topic areas may include (but are not limited to): legal protections for GLBT families; options for parenting like insemination, adoption and surrogacy; improving the educational climate in schools; gender/transgender issues; transracial adoption; organizing and networking in rural areas; and parenting concerns from pre-school to adolescence.

Rainbow Families is particularly interested in sessions that provide attendees with both information and a chance to share their own experiences in these areas. Panel presentations and/or interactive formats that offer time for participant discussion are strongly encouraged.

To obtain a session proposal form, visit www.rainbowfamilieswisconsin.org, or write to: Rainbow Families Wisconsin, c/o OutReach, Inc., 600 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703-3588. The deadline is January 15.

Rainbow Families Wisconsin is a volunteer, statewide organization dedicated to organizing, strengthening and celebrating Wisconsin families whose parents are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Its mission is: 1) to help LGBT parent families form connections for social support and information sharing; 2) to strengthen connections among existing groups and to help new groups form in geographic areas

where there is interest; and 3) to advocate for LGBT families.

Galano Club Hosts New Year's Eve Dance

Milwaukee — The Galano Club will hold a New Year's Eve Dance at its new headquarters in the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. on Dec. 31.

The doors will open at 9 p.m. Admission is \$3 for members, \$4 for non-members. The Galano Club is an alcohol- and drug-free environment. No drugs or alcohol will be tolerated. Join others in the LGBT community to celebrate the end of 2001 in a safe, sober place. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call the Galano Club at (414) 276-6936.

Men's Voices to Hold January Auditions

Milwaukee — Men's Voices Milwaukee (MVM), the Milwaukee area's GALA men's chorus, will hold auditions in the month of January for its Spring 2002 season. Auditions are in private with the chorus's artistic director, and do not require a prepared musical number. Auditions are by appointment and take approximately 15 minutes. All male voices are encouraged to audition for the chorus. Rehearsals for the Spring 2002 season begin on Monday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

Men's Voices Milwaukee will present "Men on Broadway" in June 2002 with spe-

cial guest Ann Morrison, who originated the role of Mary Flynn in the Broadway premiere of Stephen Sondheim's "Merrily We Roll Along," as well as other roles on Broadway and on the London stage. Morrison will perform a set of songs from her stage career and will join the full chorus for a salute to the Great White Way. For more information or to schedule an audition, call (414) 765-9198, or e-mail: mvmchorus@prodigy.net.

Women's Holiday Dance at UWM Dec. 14

Milwaukee — The Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMB) and the UWM Women's Resource Center are sponsoring a Women's Holiday Dance on Friday, Dec. 14 at UW-Milwaukee. The fun begins at 8 p.m.

In addition to lively tunes to dance to, the evening will feature a performance by Madison's lesbian comedy troupe Flaming Dykasaurus. Advance tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Women's Resource Center or Outwards, 2710 N. Murray Ave. Admission at the door is \$12. The event will be held in the Wisconsin Room of the UWM Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. For more information, call the Women's Resource Center at (414) 229-2852.

Stories Sought for Book on GLBT Christians

Milwaukee — Corey Liebmann is working on an anthology about LGBT Christians and their stories of faith. The anthology is tentatively entitled "Just As I Am." The book will be a collection of true stories of LGBT Christians and their spiritual journeys.

Liebmann is looking for stories that

detail the struggle that LGBT Christians have had in reconciling their faith and also how their faith has been strengthened in the process. He is looking for stories that are powerful and encouraging, but that are also honest. Anyone who would like to contribute to the anthology should mail a 2-3 page typed, double-spaced summary of their personal story to: Just As I Am, P.O. 091486, Milwaukee, WI 53209.

All summaries will be read and thoughtfully considered. Only writers that are chosen for the book will be contacted due to the volume of submissions. In summaries that are chosen, the final product will need to be considerably longer — approximately 20 pages.

Liebmann is a former minister with the Assembly of God who returned his credentials after coming out in 1996. He has also directed the Chapel of Hope Ministries to LGBT Christians. His essay "Gay and in Bible College" appeared in the book "Out and About Campus," available from Alyson Books.

Women's Dance and Cabaret Set for December 29

Madison — The largest women's holiday celebration in the Midwest will take place Saturday, December 29 at the Madison Civic Center, 211 State Street. A dance and cabaret will run simultaneously from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Organized by SPRAWL, admission to the entire "SPRAWL Ball" is on a sliding scale from \$5-\$10.

Emcees Katy Conley and Laura Varela of Lesbian Variety Show fame will host local and regional artists in the Marquee Room Cabaret. Local performers include jazz singer Lynette as well as Tara Ayres performing with Barb Cheron and Mariann Flemming. Folk/pop artist Lis Harvey and hip-hop rapper God-ess are scheduled to appear in addition to the girls of Scrawl Spoken Word. Minneapolis-based folk/pop singer Ellis rounds out the entertainers.

The Spotlight Room dance features DJ Sandy Seuser from It's Your Move, LLC. "Sandy mixes the music well, always striving to satisfy the diversity reflected in the crowd," explained Tiffany Boyd, SPRAWL organizer. "She spins everything from salsa to swing, rock, club music and even a polka or two."

For women attending SPRAWL from out of town, three hotel discounts are available. Deals offered by the Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club, the Hilton Madison Monona Terrace and Inn on the Park are detailed at www.womensprawl.com or by calling the hotels directly. Ask for "SPRAWL Ball" group prices when making a reservation.

The Civic Center is wheelchair accessible and smoke free. Cash bars will be available. The event is funded in part by a grant from Kissing Girls Productions and welcomed by WORT 89.9 FM.

Please visit www.womensprawl.com for more information or email sprawl@her-space.com.

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Pink Party Tickets Available Now!

Madison — Tickets for this New Year's Eve Pink Party at the Madison Civic Center are now on sale for \$15.00 at six locations in Madison. Tickets are available at OutReach, A Room of One's Own, Border's Bookstore East and West locations, and Bongo Video on both Williamson St. and Atwood Ave. Tickets will also be sold at the door on December 31st for \$20.

Credit card purchases are possible by calling at (608) 255-8582 or stopping by OutReach. A sliding scale is also available for those in need by calling or coming by OutReach, which is located on 600 Williamson Street.

The Pink Party features DJ Nick Nice with lighting and sound by Dantech Systems and Gartoonz. There is also a country-dancing event hosted by the Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys as well as a Jazz Café in the Spotlight Room. The event is open to all ages.

OutReach is eager to give tickets to people who can spare some volunteer time, you will receive one free ticket in exchange for three volunteer hours. People are needed to help decorate and set up at the Civic Center before the Party, and to take tickets and check coats during the event.

If you are interested in helping with the Pink Party, please come to our volunteer meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2001 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at OutReach. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please call (608) 255-8582.

Putting up posters also gains one free entrance to the New Year's Eve bash. People willing to poster should come to OutReach at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12th, Tuesday, December 18th,

or Thursday, December 27th.

The OutReach LGBT Community Center has served Madison's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community since 1973, providing counseling, advocacy, education, youth information and referral services. It also offers a lending library, free publications, and meeting space.

For more information, contact OutReach at (608) 255-8582 or email programs@outreachinc.com.

LGBT Kwanzaa Celebration Dec. 16

Milwaukee — A Kwanzaa Celebration specifically for the LGBT community will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16 from 6-9 p.m. at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. in Milwaukee.

Kwanzaa is an African American celebration of community, family and culture which is based on the Nguzo Saba of seven principles: Unity (Umoja), Self-Determination (Kujichagulia), Collective Work and Responsibility (Ujima), Cooperative Economics (Ujamaa), Purpose (Nia), and Faith (Imani).

Everyone should bring a dish to share. Music and entertainment will be provided. There will also be a special Kwanzaa libation ceremony. Children and families are welcome. For more information, call Beverly at (414) 964-5508.



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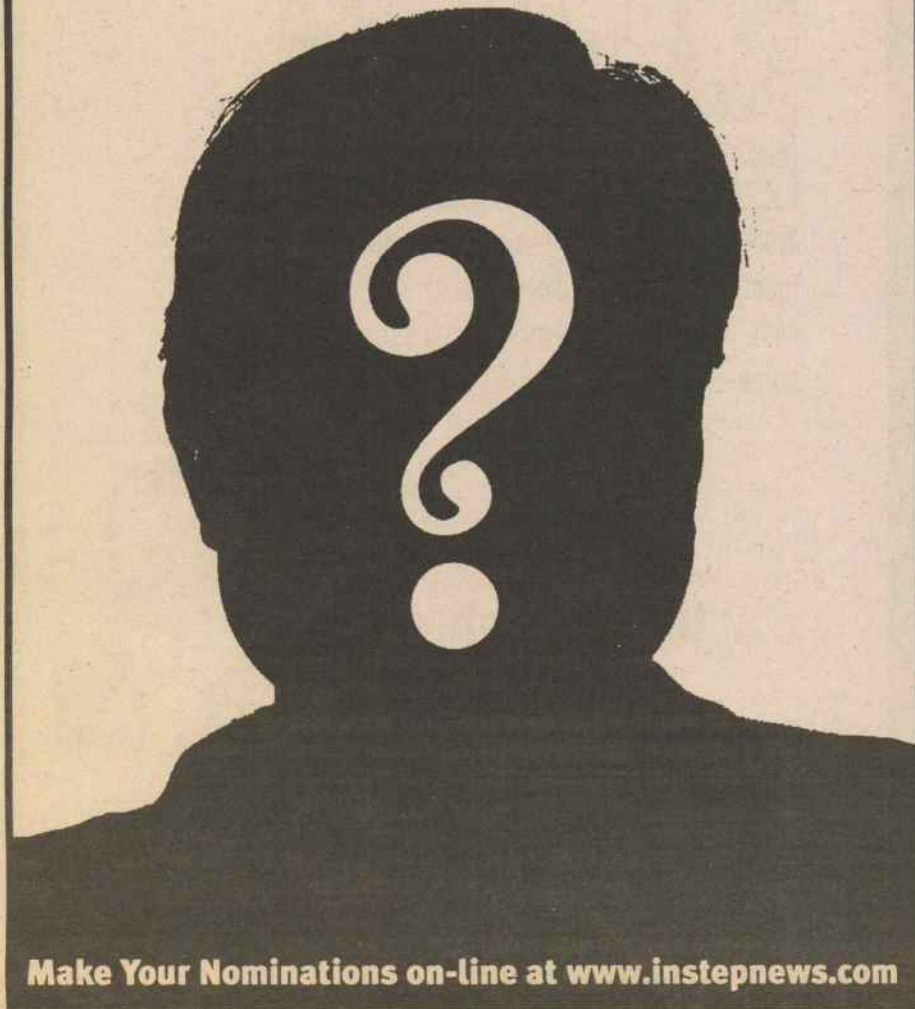


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Capitol View

A Time to Give!

By State Rep. Mark Pocan

As the end of the year approaches many people are being solicited by different organizations, and some of you may be looking to make year end donations or to off-set tax liabilities. Either way, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to think of those organizations that serve our community when deciding where to donate your money.

There are a wide range of options — too many to list — but I would ask that you consider the following:

OutReach, Inc. is South Central Wisconsin's largest LGBT support agency and offers a wide range of benefits including support groups, speakers' bureau, lending library, community space and advocacy. I have served on their Board of Directors during their combination of two other organizations and can personally vouch for their tremendous work. They are currently conducting a major donor campaign and would greatly appreciate any donation you can make. Their mailing address is P.O. Box 168 Madison, WI 53701-0168.

Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center has come of age and is a vibrant, integral part of building community in Milwaukee. The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center is a community-based organization represented by more than 150 volunteers and recently opened its new office location. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for

LGBT people in the Metro Milwaukee area. They do fantastic work with LGBTQ youth in their programming and safe space. Their address is 315 W. Court Street, 1st Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53212

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network of Wisconsin) strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. This chapter recently won a national award for their aggressive work and accomplishments in our state. Their address is 1202 Williamson Street, Madison, WI 53704.

Action Wisconsin is a statewide organization dedicated to advancing and protecting the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered peoples through education, advocacy, grassroots organizing, coalition-building and electoral involvement. It is the only organization of its kind in the state, helping to find equal rights for the LGBT community. Their address is P.O. Box 342, Madison, WI 53701

Once again these are just a few options of the plethora of groups that serve our community around the state. Please take a minute to show your financial support for one or more of these organizations or one of your own choosing. These are the groups and individuals who are on the front lines fighting for our rights on a daily basis. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

I wish each of you a happy and safe holiday season.

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Fox Valley Round-Up



Suzanne Westenhoefer

Lesbian Comic in Green Bay Feb. 1

Green Bay — Suzanne Westenhoefer, arguably America's best-known openly lesbian comedian, will appear in concert at the Historic West Theatre here Friday, February 1. Westenhoefer, who has appeared in several comedy specials on HBO and Comedy Central, along with appearances on network and cable shows such as *Evening at the Improv*, *Politically Incorrect* and *Caroline's Comedy Hour*, will perform her provocative and hilarious routines beginning at 7 PM.

Advance tickets are available by mail for \$25 and \$20. Contact Juli Adams at Jewel Productions by phone at (920) 412-0253 or by email at wiskid05@hotmail.com. Seating is limited. If available, general admission tickets at the door will be \$25.

According to Adams, proceeds from the Green Bay concert will in part benefit ARCW. Westenhoefer will also be performing a benefit concert in Madison during her midwest tour.

DeeDee Winters Reigns as Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Green Bay — She may have represented Madison as a first runner-up, but a hometown girl won big at the Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA 2002 pageant held December 2 at the Historic West Theatre here.

In her fifth try for the big tiara, Green Bay's DeeDee Winters was selected as the twelfth Miss Wisconsin USofA titleholder from a record field of 22 contestants. The

panel of judges, all but one from an out of state, also awarded Winters the plaque for Best Evening Gown. Her gold and silver Coco Vega original glimmered with thousands of bugle beads.

First Runner Up was Chantal, Miss Gay Kenosha USofA. Second runner-up was Eileen Dover, who also won Best Talent for her hilarious musical, dance and spoken send-up of "Mommie Dearest" Joan Crawford. Veteran Milwaukee female illusionist Shannon DuPree took home two prizes for Best Interview and Miss Congeniality.

Winners of the Jimmy King Memorial Award were Kenosha's Lady Di, Brenda and the staff of Lavender Productions. The award, named in honor of the late founder of the Wisconsin USofA pageant system, is awarded annually to the individual or group that best promotes quality female illusion in the state.

The USofA pageant system also awarded Kenosha's Club 94 as the top pageant preliminary venue for 2001.

The standing-room only crowd was entertained by USofA titleholders from all over the country, including Miss Gay USofA 2001 Erica Norell. Hosting this year's pageant were former titleholders Kelli Jo Klein and DuWanna Moore.



DeeDee Winters is crowned Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA 2002 during the annual pageant held this year at the historic West Theatre in Green Bay. (Photo credit: Frank Michaels)

Weidner Whizbang Wows A Thou

Review by Mike Fitzpatrick

The old saying that the "third time's the charm" never proved truer here November 29 as northeast Wisconsin's Entertainers Against AIDS troupe shined in their 3rd annual production of the World AIDS Day Celebration of Remembrance and Hope at the Weidner Center. Those who were part of the record attendance of close to 1000 got a lollapalooza of a variety show that brought both cheers and tears, not to mention several standing ovations throughout the three and a quarter hour spectacular.

The evening had literally something for everyone: from Hawaiian hula dancers to tiny tap-dancing tots, from high flying acrobatic teens to classy classical musical performances. With the exception of the now-traditional unveiling of the human Red Ribbon in EAA's opening number, the show's line-up was totally revamped. The singers, dancers and performers kept the show fast-paced and fresh throughout the evening.

Gone too, was the clunky staging which plagued the sophomore production. Celebrity co-hosts, news anchor Erin Davisson of Green Bay's WFRV-TV and talk show host Jean Fera of Wisconsin Public Radio's Ideas Network, proceeded so rapidly than on a few occasions the Kabuki-like stage crew failed to disappear before the main stage lights came up.

In a night of memorable moments, the one-two punch of the first half finale especially stood out. The EAA troupe's heartbreaking rendition of "Even Now" as a portion of the AIDS Quilt was lowered slowly and silently behind them left not a dry eye in the house. That had been immediately preceded by Jean Fera's reading of her moving self-penned poem about her mother's final days in the mental cloud of Alzheimer's disease. Those of us who have watched loved ones struggle in the final stages of AIDS-related dementia were especially touched.

Only the one or two emotionally earnest but technically imprecise performances reminded the crowd that this was an amateur production. The overall exuberance of the cast of more than 250 created a dual sense of joy and caring that more than made up for any artistic shortfalls.

If there was any quibble it was with the length of the show. Billed as a two hour event, the tickets given out to attendees the night of the program advised of a two and a half-hour time commitment. During the 45 minute actual overrun, over a third of the crowd melted out of the theater. That certainly was not fair to the performers on the final portion of the bill. Even with appropriate editing of a couple of overlong speeches and performances, there simply was too much show to



Miss Green Bay Tina Sauerhammer performs a cello solo during the Weidner World AIDS Day show. Photo: Paul Jacob

squeeze into the promised time.

After the AIDS Walk and ARCW's Make A Promise dinner, the EAA World AIDS Day Show is now the third largest annual AIDS-related event held in Wisconsin. It is also one of the most unique in the United States, or the world for that matter.

However, even with record attendance this year, the Weidner remained nearly two-thirds empty. But if the Entertainers Against AIDS continue to produce future events similar to the quality of the 2001 show, it's likely the Weidner could be SRO in a year or two. That would be a wonderful occurrence because EAA's mix of message and magic really is too important for anyone to miss.



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Of Mullahs & Meccas

By Mike Fitzpatrick

As I pen this month's column, I see that America about to commemorate - some might even suggest celebrate - the third month anniversary of the now infamous September 11 terror attacks. The mainstream press has had a field day comparing 9-11 to the 60th anniversary of that "other" day of that lives in infamy: Pearl Harbor.

The press tells us that venerable old Pearl Harbor is now nearly nothing in comparison to September 11. They say the polls suggest that many Americans are still terribly traumatized by the images of collision and collapse.

Instant replays of the actual events may have stopped but cable news channels breathlessly scroll every breaking bit of wind from the Afghan front across the bottom of our television screens. As a nation were continue in full obsessive-compulsive mode: we just can't get enough of the grisly goings on.

I don't know about you but I'm ready to bitch slap the next person who tells me that "everything has changed forever." I have a genuine news flash for you - in terms of our national behavior, nothing has changed. Only the topic of discussion has.

It's scary to think that if we look in terms of ongoing media coverage, the last ten years of American history largely can be summed up in four stories: Whitewater, O. J., Monica and Osama. Each story has had oodles of our country's three favorite flavors: money, sex and death.

All of those stories have been incessantly dished out over the last decade by our national media with a fervor that would make an Islamist mullah's mandates seem

mild by comparison. While I cannot speak for each of you, I'm personally sick to death of the first three stories and my patience with the fourth has already worn very thin.

My recent trip to another Mecca awakened me to the fact that very real change has been going on right in my own back yard. I'm not talking about the Saudi Arabian holy space that we're now all newly familiar with, but the classic gay one by the Bay: San Francisco.

Travel was certainly the same. Getting there and back was just a tedious as always. I dutifully showed up the recommended extra hour early. The result? An extra 55 minutes to wait before boarding the plane.

Fewer flights meant longer layovers. Security was more thorough. When I checked in for my first flight, the check-in worker gasped that I fit the terrorist profile. Wasn't that a security breach in itself?

The terrorist tip-off flattered me. After a spate of health problems in the past year, it was refreshing to hear. In a year where I seemingly hurtled every faster toward decrepitude, I still had the ability as a single, gay male to strike fear into government computers. Would John Ashcroft be tapping into my surreptitious conversations with telemarketers, who lately seem to phone more frequently than friends?

But back to the real change. The city that people left their heart in appears to have lost a lot of its charm. The streets were chicken-bones-on-the-sidewalk dirty. Where three or more gathered a homeless person had a hand out. Lines of hungry tourists snaked outside the McDonald's on Fisherman's Wharf. Others browsed in the corporate quaint of the Barnes and Noble nearby.

San Francisco's "painted ladies" of row houses also appear to need a fresh coat of paint. Many are being replaced completely by faux modern multi-family versions of the same. About the only thing missing from total tourist trap tenor was a water slide or two.

The gay locals tell me no one but out-of-towners goes to the Castro these days. Its too plastic and touristy. South of Market is where its happening. My quick revisit to the area on my final day in town

confirmed their consensus.

In fact the closest I felt to being in a city with an overwhelming gay population was during a shopping trip to the Macy's Men's Store near Union Square the day after Thanksgiving. Though it was filled to near bursting with queer consumers in hot pursuit of first day holiday bargains, those adding another Hilfinger to their wardrobe really didn't look much different than their Wisconsin counterparts at the Mayfair mall.

Odd too was the incessant media sports talk of a Superbowl "Battle of the Bay" between the 49ers and the Raiders. Feeling the need to catch up on LGBT news I searched the alternative press stands for a copy of the Bay Area reporter. Even in nearby Berkeley none existed in mainstream venues. I finally scored a copy in a gay bar.

The lack of gay visibility in Frisco was made more striking by the fact that just a few days before my trip I had picked up my latest copy of Wisconsin INStep during a quick trip to one of Green Bay's supermarkets. Mainstream Green Bay press also had been full of front page feature stories about the Entertainers Against AIDS World AIDS Day show at the Weidner Center, the AIDS quilt coming to town and Rev. Troy Perry's visit for Angels of Hope MCC's fifteenth anniversary celebration.

Suddenly I was aghast. Green Bay more gay than San Francisco? Good-bye Castro, hello Historic West Theatre? It seemed all so mind-boggling.

Then I realized the profound change that has occurred. San Francisco is no longer the "gay bay" of 70's trucker CB lingo, it is genuinely "post-gay." The gay community's assimilation into the mainstream is complete. And Green Bay, not to mention Madison, LaCrosse or Milwaukee, is not very far behind.

And why not? Wisconsin's same-sex inclusion in its equal rights law will be twenty years old in a few weeks. Wisconsin's gay inclusive hate crimes law is the national model for other states wishing to pass Supreme Court muster. Thanks in part to Jamie Nabozny's struggles in rural Ashland, Wisconsin already has safe schools legislation. Wisconsin also have a

greater per capita number of United Ways telling the Boy Scouts to play fair with gay kids or lose funding than any other state.

Wisconsin may be an iota behind the curve in legislated domestic partnership benefits at this point in time. But heck, only Vermont and just recently California and the District of Columbia are ahead of us. And is that the fault of public attitude statewide or government gridlock in Madison? No one's agenda has progressed there since 1996.

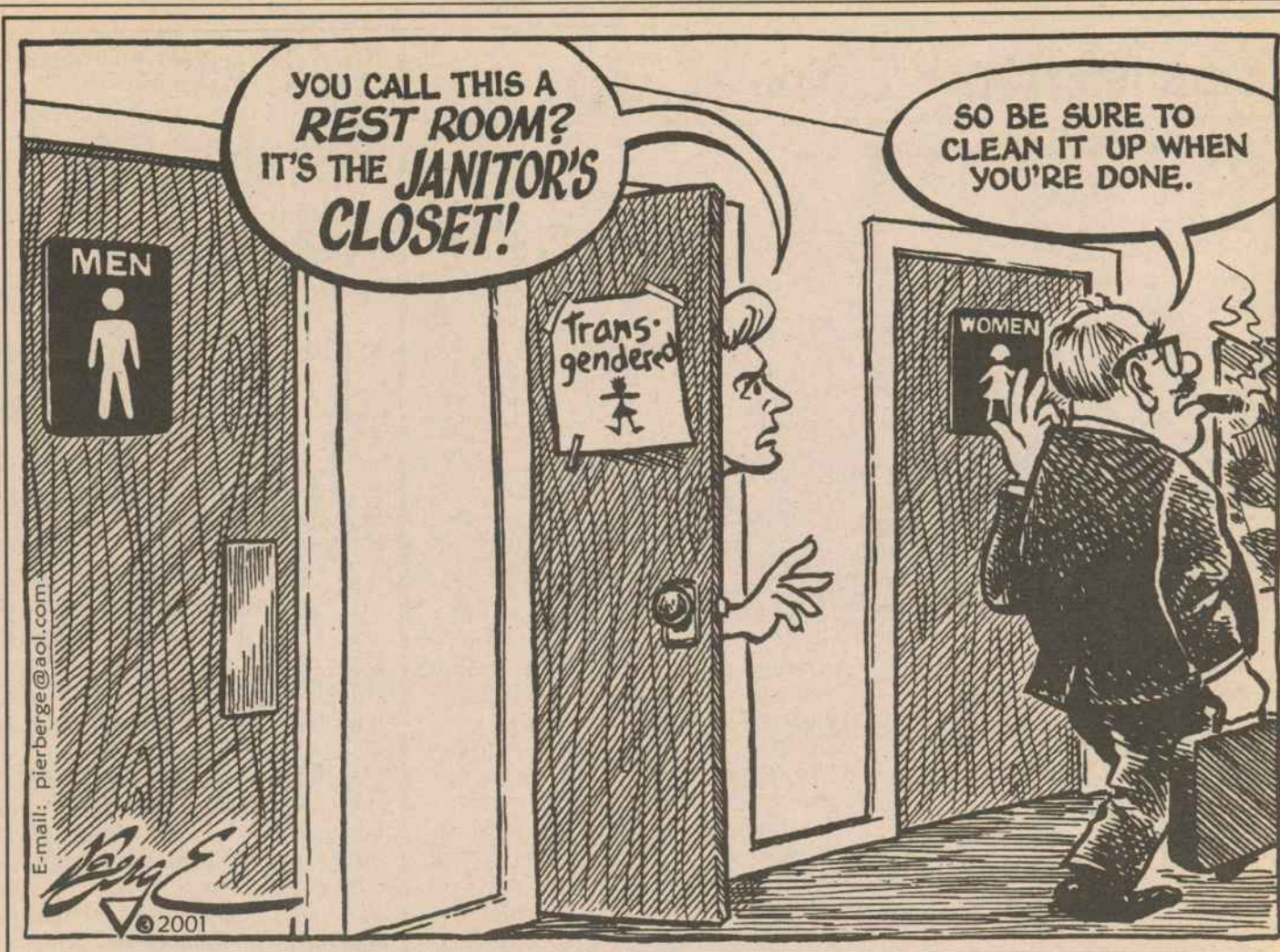
In fact, legislative output at the state level in the last five years has been the worst it has been in Wisconsin's 153 year history. Until there is a political makeover in Madison in all likelihood there's little chance for anything but more of the same for anyone's agenda.

The LGBT community has to recognize that genuine seed change in public attitude. They know we're here, we're queer and they've gotten used to it. Now gay folk have to actually believe it too. Its time to toss out our "Blanche Dubois" victim mentality. We simply must stop relying on the kindness of strangers to hand us the final rights which achieve our full legal integration into the American system. We have to hold our heads high then head for the political backrooms to hammer out the deals necessary, just like every other player in the legislative system.

America's anti-gay mullahs are in full retreat. Jerry Falwell has been chided by none other than President Bush. Pat Robertson has quit the Christian Coalition, which was already in complete disarray.

Finally and most importantly - when equality is everywhere, there's no need for Meccas. If you like overcrowding and overpricing, head for the Frisco hills. But if you think you are seeking the freedom to live your life they way you choose, you won't find it thousands of miles away.

The key to unlock that door is located somewhere between your own heart and mind. Terror, as openly gay people have known for years and post-911 America is starting to figure out, is a self-sustained, emotional state of mind. Only when you stop listening to the mullahs and seeking non-existent Meccas will you find the ultimate truths of acceptance.



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Politics For '02, Not '82

By Chris Ott

Back in 1982, Wisconsin was a legislative leader on gay rights. That's the year the state became the first in the nation to pass a gay-rights law, and even more remarkably, it all happened under a Republican governor.

New Year's 2002 arrives in a couple weeks, however, and we need to look at how Wisconsin's LGBT citizens have fared over the last 20 years, legally speaking. Unfortunately, in an area where Wisconsin used to be a national leader, it can barely even be considered a follower today.

There have, of course, been important steps forward. There's a smarter and more humane response to HIV and AIDS. Media coverage of issues like discrimination, hate crimes, and the sheer kookiness of zealots

even a whole new up-and-coming generation that was born after the law took effect.

In that light, and with relatively little legislative progress to show for the last 20 years, I'm surprised by the reticence of some fellow Wisconsinites.

A good example of this reticence was the criticism in a column by Mike Fitzpatrick, which appeared in *Wisconsin IN Step* last month. Fitzpatrick criticized Madison's energetic and creative state Rep. Mark Pocan, and also wrote that "adding conservative considerations to our strategic mix will both enrich and further empower our movement."

I couldn't disagree more. It's easy to criticize Pocan because so few members of the state legislature are actually taking a lead on LGBT issues. And as for the belief

try to legalize same-sex civil unions, and a variety of countries, including Canada, France, Germany, and the Netherlands, have gone even further, legalizing gay marriage or something very close to it.

The fact is that the situation for LGBT citizens in our state is merely above average in a country that is falling behind overall. Wisconsin's gay-rights law shouldn't be taken for granted, but personally I'm not too excited about being ahead of states like Mississippi and Texas. And internationally, America's poor legal treatment of its LGBT citizens now ranks us with countries that we wouldn't care to be compared to in most other respects.

How did we get into this predicament? Well, it's not because we haven't ceded enough ground to "conservative considerations." In fact, many of our current debates already take place within solidly conservative confines. Measures like domestic-partner health coverage, for instance, wouldn't be so important in the first place if the U.S. followed the lead of nearly every other developed country and provided a straightforward and affordable way for citizens to get health care — regardless of where they happen to work or who they happen to be in a relationship with. In many respects — not just when it comes to gay issues — the United States needs to be hauled into the 20th century. We'll have to worry about the 21st later.

Of course, there are pragmatic considerations. Conservative politicians (both Republicans and Democrats) who have held Wisconsin back compared to other states — and who have held our country back compared to the rest of the developed world — can't just be ignored the way they've ignored us. There's a need to pick fights carefully, to play our cards close to our chest, and to make some pragmatic compromises.

But when it comes to pushing harder just to catch up, what are we afraid of? That there will be no major LGBT legal advances at the state level for 20 years? That timid Wisconsin Democrats will think it's too risky to support measures that are becoming increasingly ordinary in other states? That Wisconsin will fall behind other states, countries and private companies in offering equal pay for equal work to its employees? That worthy bills — like those being pushed by Mark Pocan and others to finally address these problems — won't even get a public hearing or a vote?

That's the situation we've already been in, and it isn't because we haven't been deferential enough to "conservative considerations." It's because conservative considerations have usually been the only considerations.

That overly cautious approach hasn't even enabled Wisconsin to keep up. We need a politics for 2002, not 1982, and that means confronting — not catering to — out-of-touch conservatives. We need politicians who will at least follow in the right direction. And ideally, we need more politicians who will make Wisconsin a leader again.

UNFORTUNATELY, IN AN AREA WHERE WISCONSIN USED TO BE A NATIONAL LEADER, IT CAN BARELY EVEN BE CONSIDERED A FOLLOWER TODAY.

like Fred Phelps and our own local variants have begun to educate the general public. And for many of us — including a few openly lesbian and gay politicians — it's simply a lot easier to be 'out' than it was (or would have been) in 1982.

That's good news overall, but a lot of these changes have been social and cultural — they have yet to be reflected in legislation. From a legal standpoint, LGBT Wisconsinites aren't much better off than we were just after Wisconsin's first-of-a-kind law passed in 1982. Twenty years is a long time to wait when the discrimination against us is still so blatant, and there's

that we need more "conservative considerations," that makes sense only if you ignore what's happening outside Wisconsin — and especially outside the United States.

Since 1982, Wisconsin's first-in-the-nation status looks less and less relevant. Eleven other states have passed gay-rights laws, several of which go further than ours. Hundreds of employers nationwide — including more than a hundred state and local governments, and more than half the companies in the Fortune 50 — have begun offering domestic-partner health benefits which Wisconsin state employees still lack. Vermont became the first state in the coun-



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Milwaukee Ballet Presents "Nutcracker" Dec. 14-30

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee Ballet is presenting its annual production of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" Dec. 14-30 in Uihlein Hall of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water St. Each performance features the Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra.

"The Nutcracker is an opportunity for everyone to take a break from the holiday rush and enjoy the season's most beloved tale," said Christine Harris, executive director of the Milwaukee Ballet. "We are enormously proud to host the community's largest and most spectacular holiday production."

As the curtain rises, audiences will be entertained by detailed sets, costumes and choreography that infuse the production's more than 130 cast members with life. Artistic director Simon Dow and choreographer Lisa de Ribère have worked diligently to put a new spin on the classic holiday production. This year's production will feature a newly choreographed Snow Scene, which

will include a pas de deux between the Snow Queen and the Snow King. The Snow King character will be seen for the first time in this production of "The Nutcracker."

Tickets for "The Nutcracker" range from \$13-\$51 and are available through the Milwaukee Ballet box office at (414) 643-7677, the Marcus Center at (414) 273-7206, or online at www.milwaukeeballet.org.

Perfect Harmony Winter Concert Set for Dec. 15

Madison — Perfect Harmony Chorus will present its Winter Concert 2001 on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington, on the Capitol Square in Madison. Admission is by donation.

The program will include traditional holiday favorites "Sleigh Ride" and "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Sacred classical pieces will include Franz Biebl's "Ave Maria." There will be pop standards like "What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?" and "Baby, It's Cold Outside," and a Nigerian Christmas song, "Betelemu." There will be a few fun surprises and audience participation carols as well. Curtis Blomberg directs.

Now in its fifth year, Perfect Harmony is a 30 voice (and growing) men's chorus serving Madison's LGBT community and the community at large. In the past year, they've performed for numerous community events and churches. Last July, they presented the song cycle "Naked Man," written for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, in their summer concert. In September, Perfect Harmony, along with other Madison choral groups, participated in Voices of Remembrance, a memorial concert for those who died on Sept. 11, at Madison's Oscar Meyer Theatre. Most recently, they appeared on Wisconsin

Public Radio's "Higher Ground."

Perfect Harmony is a non-audition chorus. Membership is open to all gay or gay-friendly men who love to sing. There are non-singing positions available as well. New members are welcome at the beginning of each concert season. The next new member rehearsal is Sunday, Jan. 6, 7-9 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church. Next year's summer concert will be a Broadway Revue. For more information, e-mail: perfectharmonymenschorus@hotmail.com.

New Photo Exhibit at Madison Art Center

Madison — A new exhibit of contemporary photos, "ExtraOrdinary: American Place in Recent Photography," is showing at the Madison Art Center, 211 State St. through Feb. 24. Admission is free.

As freeways, suburbs and tourist outposts have reshaped the American landscape, artists have taken note. "ExtraOrdinary: American Place in Recent Photography" brings together the work of seven such artists specializing in series photography. In depicting both natural and built environments, often through the filter of the surreal or the sublime, the artists capture not only the physical characteristics of these sites but also their impact on the American psyche.

"ExtraOrdinary" uses the photographic series to document how we have shaped our surroundings and the values expressed therein. Each artist will present a substantial number of prints from a single series in its entirety. The participation of David Heberlein, Todd Hido, Miranda Lichtenstein, Catherine Opie, Greta Pratt, Paul Shambroom and Bridget Smith promises a stylistic and conceptual diversity to match the variety of locales presented.

One-Woman Shows on Tap at Boulevard

Milwaukee — The Boulevard Ensemble, Milwaukee's most intimate studio theatre, will be presenting two one-woman shows to usher in the new year of 2002. "The Belle of Amherst" and "Blown Sideways Through Life." "Belle" runs from Dec. 21-Jan. 20, and "Blown Sideways" runs from Jan. 6-27 at the Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

"The Belle of Amherst" is William Luce's award-winning play about the life and work of poet Emily Dickinson. Julie Harris won acclaim in the role of Emily, which she played all across the U.S. In the Boulevard production, directed by Maureen Kilmer, Emily will be played by Beth Monhollen. Some performances are already sold out, so tickets for this insightful play should be purchased soon.

Playing in repertory with "Belle," is Claudia Shear's "Blown Sideways Through Life," another one-woman tour de force, this one about a modern woman's frenetic struggle as an aspiring actress. New York performer Patricia Durante makes her Boulevard debut in the lead role. The play has won kudos for its side-splitting and hilarious comedy. It contains adult themes and language. Mark Bucher directs.

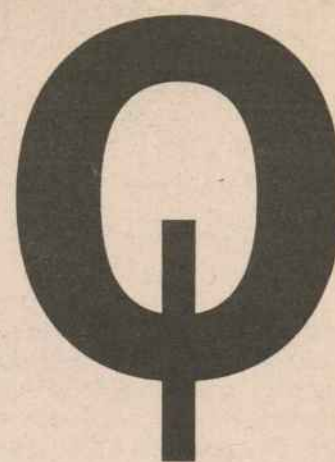
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Patricia Durante in "Blown Sideways Through Life."



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For more information, call the Madison Art Center at (608) 257-0158.

Marathon Reading for Woodland Pat- tern Planned

Milwaukee — More than 90 poets, musicians, fiction writers, playwrights and performers will read at Woodland Pattern Book Center's eighth annual marathon benefit on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2002. The event runs from 1 p.m. to midnight at 720 E. Locust St. Each marathon participant will present five minutes of creative work.

Showcasing Milwaukee's creative arts community and raising funds to support Woodland Pattern's dynamic programming schedule, the marathon draws a large and enthusiastic audience. An incredible range of genre, experience and style are featured, including several winners of literary prizes, authors of published books, and beginning writers. Past participants include James Liddy, Daisy Cubias, Peggy Hong, Antler and Susan Firer. A complete list of readers with biographical data is available — call (414) 263-5001.

Woodland Pattern continues to seek readers and sponsors for the marathon.. All-day admission costs \$6 at the door and \$5 for Woodland Pattern members and advance purchases. For more information, please call (414) 263-5001.

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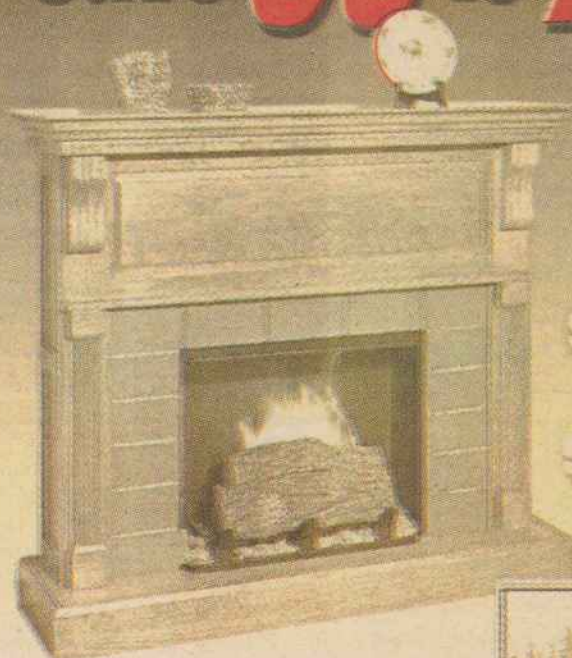
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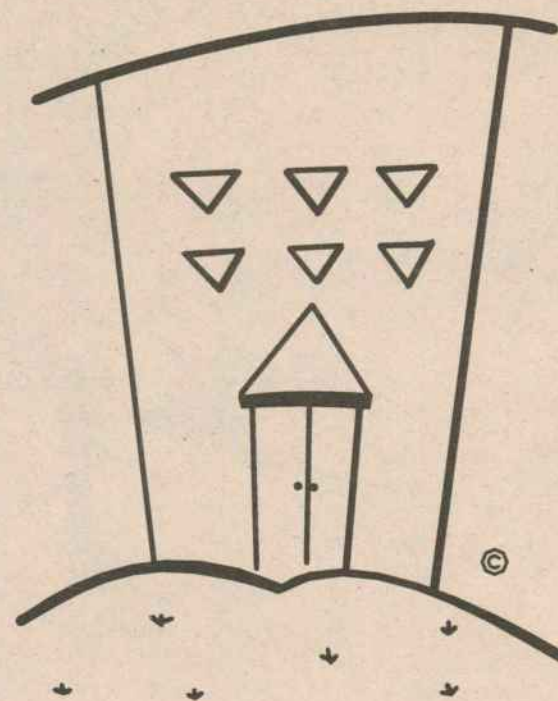
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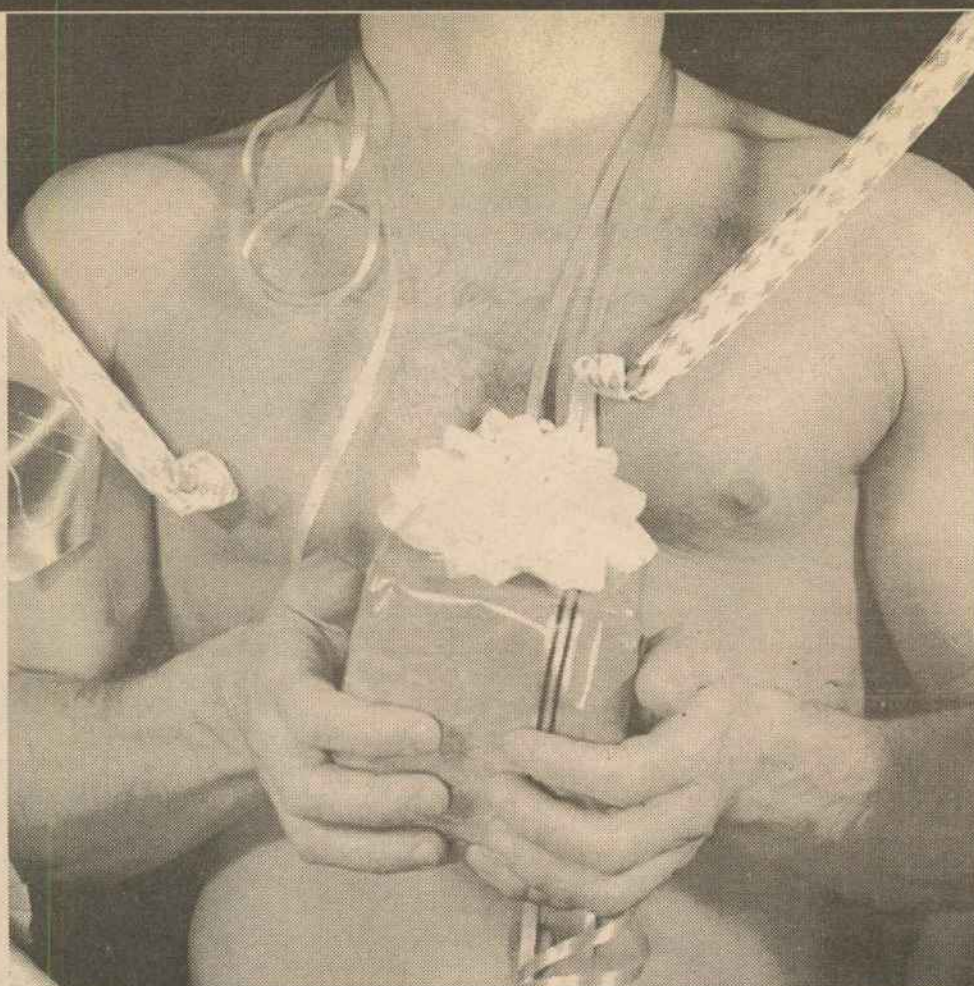
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THEATRE/MUSIC:

"Almost a Man (It's a Little Hard)" (Madison): Broom Street Theater is at it again in Joel Gersmann's original play about impotence, Fris.-Suns. thru Dec. 16, Broom Street Theater, 1119 Williamson St. FMI: (414) 224-8338.

"Ancestral Voices" (Milw.): Chamber Theatre presents A.R. Gurney's poetic play about a family in wartime New York in the 1940s, thru Dec. 16, Studio Theatre in the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. FMI: (414) 291-7800.

"Annie" (Racine): The sun is still coming out tomorrow for this modern chestnut of a musical, produced by the Racine Theatre Guild, thru Dec. 23, 2519 Northwestern Ave. FMI: (262) 633-4218.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (Milw.): Milwaukee Rep production of Joseph Kesselring's macabre and madcap comedy about eccentric old ladies who dispatch their guests, runs thru Dec. 30, Quadracci Powerhouse Theatre, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

"The Belle of Amherst" (Milw.): William Luce's compelling one-woman play about poet Emily Dickinson, produced by the Boulevard Ensemble, opens Dec. 21, runs thru Jan. 20, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. FMI: (414) 744-5757.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" (Waukesha): Just what its title suggests – and more, brought to you by the Waukesha Civic Theatre, thru Dec. 23, Bryant Civic Theatre, 264 W. Main St. FMI: (262) 547-0708.

"A Christmas Carol" (Milw.): The Milwaukee Rep's annual production of Charles Dickens' holiday classic, runs thru Dec. 30, Pabst Theatre, 144 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

"A Christmas Story" (Madison): The hilarious holiday movie is staged by the Madison Theatre Guild. Will Ralphie ever get his BB gun? Dec. 13-16 and 20-22, Drury Stage, Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin St. FMI: (608) 238-9322.

"The Eight: Reindeer Monologues" (Madison): Jolly Old St. Nick from the reindeer's perspective (and it's not a pretty sight!), comedy produced by StageQ, thru Dec. 22, Evjue Stage, Bartell Theatre, 115 E. Mifflin St. FMI: (608) 204-0306.

"Guys on Ice" (Madison): Madison Rep production of comedy about ice fishing buddies in Northern Wisconsin, thru Dec. 23, Mitchell Theatre in Vilas Hall, 821 University Ave. FMI: (608) 266-9055.

"Hello Dolly!" (Milw.): "Put on Your Sunday Clothes" to see the Skylight Opera's fresh production of Jerry Herman's beloved musical, thru Dec. 23, Cabot Theatre, Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. FMI: (414) 291-7800.

"Holiday Hell" (Milw.): In Tandem presents annual holiday spoofs, including a take-off of you-know-what called "It's a Life," thru Dec. 23, Walker's Point Center for the Arts, 911 W. National Ave. FMI: (414) 444-2316.

"Holiday Greetings" (Elm Grove): Produced by the Sunset Playhouse thru Dec. 22, 800 Elm Grove Rd. FMI: (262) 782-4430.

"My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra" (Milw.): Musical revue featuring the songs that made the Chairman of the Board the Chairman of the Board, thru Jan. 6, Stackner Cabaret, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

"Phaedre" (Milw.): The Professional Theatre Training Program at UWM presents Jean Racine's tragedy, thru Dec. 15, Peck School of the Arts Mainstage Theatre, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-4308.

"Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy" (Milw.): Three show biz vets barred from their profession talk and kvetch over old times, extended thru Jan. 6, Vogel Hall, Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 273-7206.

"Visiting Mr. Green" (Milw.): Jeff Baron's gay-friendly play about an old man's relationship with a younger man forced into performing community service, thru Dec. 30, Off-Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 278-0765.

BOOKS:

Monday, December 17

Peace & Justice Book Circle (Madison): Feminist group reads women's studies, cultural criticism, politics and history, 6 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 317 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Wednesday, December 19

Feminist Study Group (Madison): Modeled after Kay

Leigh Hagan groups, 8-9:30 p.m., OurReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 244-5084

Thursday, December 20

Lesbian Book Club (Madison): Discussion of "Slow River" edited by Nicola Griffith and Ellen Key Harris, 6 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 317 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Monday, December 24

Peace & Justice Book Circle (Madison): Feminist group reads women's studies, cultural criticism, politics and history, 6 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 317 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

FILM, TV & RADIO:

Thursday, December 13

"Manhattan" (Milw.): Woody Allen's 1979 classic about life and love in the big city, with Allen, Meryl Streep, Diane Keaton and Mariel Hemingway on the big screen in glorious B/W! 8 p.m. Union Theatre, 2nd floor, UWM Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-4070.

Friday, December 14

Student Video Fest (Milw.): UW-Milwaukee film students screen their best (Dec. 15, too), 8 p.m., Union Theatre, 2nd floor, UWM Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-4070.

"Harvey" and "A Clockwork Orange" (Milw.): The weirdest double billing of all time! "Clockwork Orange" is shown at midnite Friday only with a separate ticket. "Harvey" thru Dec. 20, Times Cinema, 5906 W. Vliet St. FMI: (414) 453-2436.

Saturday, December 15

Gay Video Club (Madison): Showing "Queer as Folk - Behind the Scenes #2" (Showtime), "The House of Morecock" (animation), and "Stroke" (Falcom), 8 p.m. Call for location: (608) 244-8675 eves.

"Rocky Horror Picture Show" (Madison & Milwaukee): Midnight screenings with all the queer fun! In Madison at the Majestic, 115 King St. In Milwaukee, at the Oriental, 2230 N. Farwell Ave.

Sun., Dec. 16 and Every Sun.

"Her Turn," Womyn's Radio (Madison): WORT Radio 89.9 FM - A weekly show featuring news and information by and about women, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Followed by "Her Infinite Variety" - Women in music - all genres and styles - interviews, live guests and announcements for the women's community, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-2001.

"Better Living Through Show Tunes" (Madison): WORT Radio 89.9 FM. Host Bruce Wheeler, 2-3 p.m. (608) 256-2001 or bwheeler@cuna.com.

Women's Music Radio (Milw.): WMSE-91.7FM. 10:30 p.m. to Midnight. Variety of women's music genres and announcements of events in Milwaukee's women's community. Request Line: (414) 799-1917.

"Nothing to Hide" (Madison): WYOU public access cable channel 4 at 2 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 18 & Every Tues.

"The Queer Program" (Milw.): Live weekly telecast on MATA public access cable channel 47 (96 in some areas) at 7 p.m. Hosts: Michael Lisowski and Charles Daniels. Re-broadcast Saturday at 12:30 a.m. and Sundays at 10 p.m. FMI: (414) 265-8500.

Wed., Dec. 19 & Every Wed.

"Queery" (Madison): WORT, 89.9 FM - Madison's GLBTQ radio show, 7 p.m., followed by "This Way Out," the international news magazine, from 7:30-8 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-2001.

Wednesday, December 19

"Smiles of a Summer Night" (Milw.): Ingmar Bergman's

1955 romantic comedy about a weekend in the country, 7 p.m., plays with the Danish film "Gertrude," at 9 p.m. (also Dec. 20), Union Theatre, 2nd floor, UWM Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-4070.

Friday, December 21

"It's a Wonderful Life" (Milw.): See Bedford Falls on the big screen in beautiful B/W. We love you George! Love you, ZuZu! Merry Christmas! Thru Dec. 27, Times Cinema, 5906 W. Vliet St. FMI: (414) 453-2436.

Saturday, December 22

"Rocky Horror Picture Show" (Madison & Milw.): Midnight screenings with all the queer fun! In Madison at the Majestic, 115 King St. In Milwaukee, at the Oriental, 2230 N. Farwell Ave.

MUSEUMS/GALLERIES:

America's Black Holocaust Museum (Milw.): African Heritage exhibits. 2233 N. 4th St. FMI: (414) 264-2500.

Cedarburg Cultural Center (Cedarburg): Annual Fall Show of the Cedarburg Artists Guild. W62 N546 Washington Ave. FMI: (262) 375-3676.

Charles Allis Art Museum (Milw.): "Holidays at the Allis" and "Elsa Ulbricht: Wisconsin Master," thru Jan. 13. Tudor style mansion with original furnishings and art collection. 1801 N. Prospect Ave. FMI: (414) 278-8295.

Elsner Museum (Milw.): "The New Woman," thru Jan. 27; "Selling Hollywood: Classic Movie Posters" thru March 3; "The Power of Advertising: Corporate Identities," thru May. 208 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 276-7889.

Elvehjem Museum (Madison): Indian miniature paintings from the Watson Collection and contemporary art from the Marshall Erdman & Associates Collection. thru Jan. 6. 800 University Ave. FMI: (608) 263-2246.

Haggerty Museum of Art (Milw.): "William Wegman: Early Works," thru Dec. 30; "German Art Between the Wars: The Marvin and Janet Fishman Gift," thru April 30. Marquette University, N. 13th and Clybourn Sts.

FMI: (414) 288-1669.

John Michael Kohler Arts Center (Sheboygan): "Teresa Serrano: Dissolving the Memory of Home," thru Jan. 6; and "Hmong Art: Selections from the Collection." Exhibits, performing arts, classes and lectures. 608 New York Ave. FMI: (920) 458-6144.

Madison Arts Center (Madison): "ExtraOrdinary: American Place in Recent Photography" thru Feb. 24. Also, Highlights from the Permanent Collection. 211 State Street. FMI: (608) 257-0158.

Milwaukee Art Museum (Milw.): "Milton Avery: The Late Paintings," runs thru Jan. 17. 700 N. Art Museum Dr. FMI: (866) 626-1323.

Milwaukee County Historical Society (Milw.): "The German American Farm: A Wisconsin Chronicle"; also "Billie the Brownie and the Milwaukee Circus Parade" and "Milwaukee's Multi-Cultural Heritage." 910 Old World Third St. FMI: (414) 273-8288.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens (Madison): "Bolz Conservatory Exhibit: Wild World of Orchids," thru Dec. 31; see the new Thai Garden and Olbrich's Holiday Express - "Flower and Model Train Show." 3330 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 246-4550.

Ozaukee Art Center (Cedarburg): W62 N718 Riveredge Drive. FMI: (262) 377-8230.

Villa Terrace (Milw.): Decorative arts in Italian style villa. 2220 N. Terrace Ave. FMI: (414) 271-3656.

Walker's Point Center for the Arts (Milw.): "City Scenes," photos by Milwaukeean Ron Zabler, opens Dec. 14, reception that day, 5-7 p.m. 911 W. National Ave. FMI: (414) 672-2787.

West Bend Art Museum (West Bend): Friends of the WBAM Annual Art Exhibition, thru Dec. 23. 300 S. 6th Ave., West Bend. FMI: (262) 334-9638.

Woodson Art Museum (Wausau): "Gizmos, Gadgets, and Flying Frogs: The Art of William Joyce and David Wiesner," and "Adopted by an Owl: Building a Children's Book," thru Jan. 27. 700 N. 12th St. FMI: (715) 845-7010.

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Gotcha!

By Billy Masters

While the season has been filled with a variety of holiday parties, this past week I was honored to help celebrate the 50th birthday of talent manager **Bill Sammeth**. You may not know his name, but Sammeth has, in one way or another, been a key force in some of the biggest careers in showbiz — everyone from **Cher** (he orchestrated the "Believe" album) to **Joan Rivers** (the pre-Missy years). While most people would have a big birthday bash, Bill had two — one in Los Angeles and one in NYC. What else did these two events have in common? They both took place in bowling alleys! While I'm not much of a bowler, I did give that **Florence Henderson** a run for her money, although I almost tripped over my balls when I realized that I was sharing a lane with **John Barrowman**. However, the funniest thing happened at the end of the party when **Salma Hayek** crashed! We were preparing to leave when the Latin lovely wandered in and dashed to the ladies room. While she was in the loo, we tried to figure out what was going on. When she finished in the "facilities," she exited the bowladrome as quickly as she had entered. I guess that we were just a convenient pit stop, proving once again that when you have to go, you have to go.

The following night, I attended a special party celebrating OUT Magazine's December issue — "The Out 100." Aside from the individuals celebrated in this installment, the crowd was augmented by an eclectic group of luminaries, from the always-hunky **Dirk Shafer** to "The Young and the Restless" star **Heather Tom**. Throw in drag divas (each in their own way) **Elvira** and **Momma**, and it was

quite an evening. We won't even mention **Andy Dick**, who showed up with three "twinks" and declined to have his photo taken. Whatever! But most memorable for me was the first extended conversation that I've ever had with **Paul Lekakis**. While I've taken Paul to task in the past (when he deserved it), I've also praised his rebound from certain obscurity to starting at the bottom (so to speak) as a working actor. After I introduced him to my fashion guru, the incomparable **Charlie Lapsen**, Paul told us intimate details of his steamy scene with hunky **Andre Khabbazi** in Shafer's "Circuit" (coming out in 2002). Lekakis reportedly continues studying acting and making the rounds at various auditions with nary a hint of ego, insincerity, or false bravado. Good luck, Paulie.

Let's talk about "Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time." This new porn video is loosely based on Jeff's popular play of the same name, and while I was not a fan of the stage version, I have to acknowledge the market for this material. In fact, this skin flick is immensely entertaining if for no other reason than the fact that Stryker continuously delivers. Although the dialogue and delivery are what we'd tactfully call "Strykeresque," one cannot deny that the man looks great. He has a body that guys half his age would die for, and his dick speaks for itself (well, almost). Jeff has wisely surrounded himself with some amazingly hunky guys — particularly Playgirl model **Randy Savino** and my new favorite, **Kurt Wagner**. It may have taken a few years to get this film made, but it was well worth the wait. You can order the film directly from Jeff at www.jeff-stryker.com. Tell him Billy sent ya!

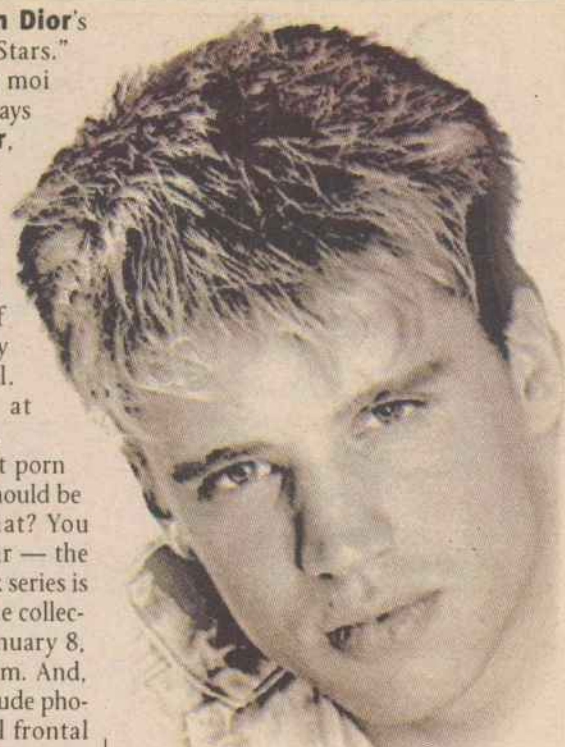
If you think that I have dish about porn

actors, pick up **Geoffrey Karen Dior's** memoirs, "Sleeping Under The Stars." Miss Dior's exploits make even moi blush. Just the cover of the book says it all — hot pics of **Ken Ryker**, **Rex Chandler**, **Ryan Idol**, and **Joey Stefano**. And the foreword is by **Chi Chi LaRue**, so you know that this is gonna be dishy, dirty, and delicious. For the record, I checked with several of the "stars" in this book, and they confirm every diabolical detail. Check it out on the web at www.SleepingUnderTheStars.com.

Perhaps you like hot men, but porn isn't your cup of tea. Maybe you should be watching "Queer As Folk." What? You don't get Showtime? Have no fear — the entire first season of this landmark series is being issued on DVD. Although the collection will not be released until January 8, you can preorder it at Amazon.com. And, since we're not above publishing nude photos of hot men, how about a full frontal shot of "Queer" actor **Peter Paige**? Just head over to www.filh2go.com and enjoy!

While we're talking about nude photos on our website, we do have some very special totally nude pics of **Ewan McGregor** in all of his adorable and uncut glory. Ewan is currently filming "Young Adam," in which he is portraying a porn star. Regarding the graphic sex scenes that he's done in the past, McGregor says, "I have never been shy about this sort of thing." Thank God!

Could it be that pop star **Robbie Williams** is slowly inching out of that closet of his? So say my sources in England, who tell me that the former "Take That" star has been a mainstay in the tabloid headlines. As we previously reported, Robbie filmed a steamy video with **Nicole Kidman** (a gal who knows her way around a closet or two) for their duet "Somethin'



Paul Lekakis

Stupid". Then he scandalized the BBC during his television special "One Night With Robbie Williams" with some unscripted provocative "banter" with openly gay actor **Rupert Everett**. Now comes word of his frank comments in a documentary in which he says that he's considered having gay sex but adds that the only thing stopping him is that he's not really interested in penises. If you're interested in Robbie's penis, we've got a doozy of a photo of it at www.filh2go.com (where else?).

Could it be that a certain porn pup has been leaving his lovers with a little something extra to remember him by? Yeah — parasites (also a gift that keeps on giving)! Not long after the seasonal boy toy left our fair city, these critters made their hardcore presence known in no fewer than three notable local lovelies. When these guys started talking, they realized that the only thing they had in common was a wild ride with this insatiable bottom. Well, that and a prescription for a potent antibiotic. As I've learned recently, when you play with fire, you've gotta be prepared to get burned (and, in this case, the burning is in some most uncomfortable places).

When a porn star passing an STD is news, then it's definitely time for me to get a bottle of Cipro (just in case) and end yet another column. My, my, my — isn't life funny? Just when you think you've seen it all...SURPRISE! Frankly, I'm not a guy who likes to be taken off guard (my acting training can go only so far), but I'm always delighted to hear when things work out for the people in my life — parasites notwithstanding.

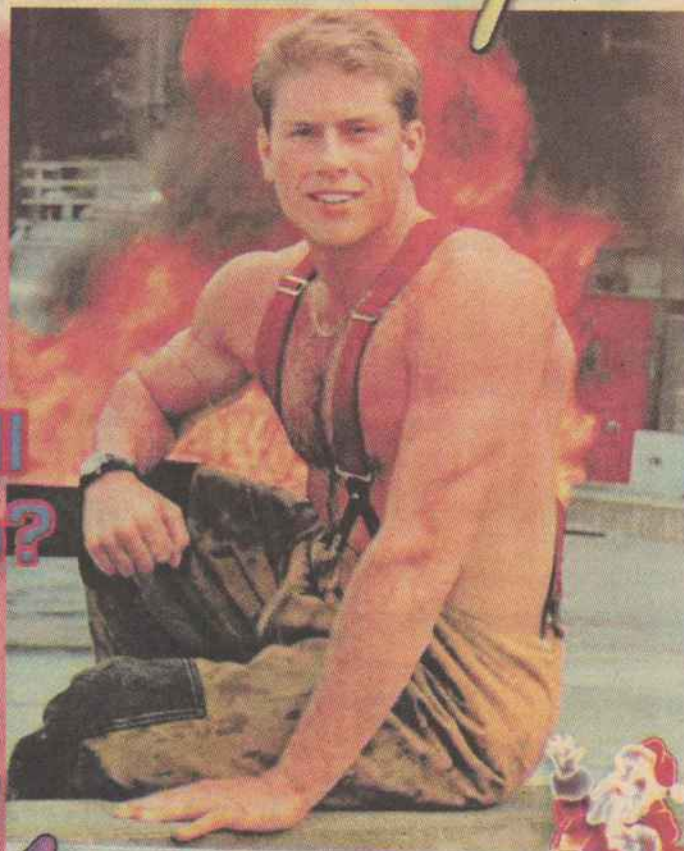
Although I'm leaving LA (and not a moment too soon), I'm thrilled that I'll be spending the season with loved ones back East — and perhaps London. But, have no fear — I always stay in touch with my fans. Simply send an e-mail to me at Billy@filh2go.com and I promise to get back to you before Karen Dior writes a book about me! Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible. Before I close this week's column, many of you have asked where you can send your holiday cards (along with any other tokens of affection). You can drop them in the mail addressed to Billy Masters, 269 S. Beverly Drive, #800, Beverly Hills, CA 90212. So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Happy Holidays!



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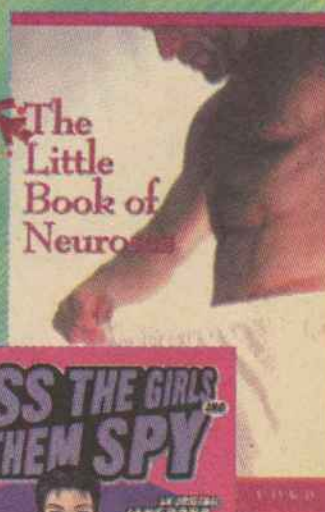


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"Marlene: Her Own Song" and "The Girl"

By Jamakaya

I'd been complaining to my boss lately that he wasn't giving me any lesbian stuff to review. Geez, even my colleague Ed Grover, who reviews books for this paper, has been critiquing lesbian sex manuals (and enjoying it a little too much, if you ask me!). My kvetching paid off in the form of two preview videos I got to watch and tell you about.

"Marlene: Her Own Song" is a new documentary about German-American film

pendent film with lots of steamy lesbian sex scenes but little else to recommend it, opens Dec. 14 at Milwaukee's Rosebud Cinema.

If you love Marlene Dietrich (and who doesn't?), you won't want to miss "Her Own Song" on TCM. But you are unlikely to learn a whole lot of new information, and any queer angles to her life, or her colleagues or work are studiously ignored – unless you count her drag scene from "Morocco," repeated here for the umpteenth time.

Directed by Marlene's grandson, J.

Maria's comments are a bit more evenhanded than they were in the often bitter biography she wrote about her mom ten years back.

"Her Own Song" offers little context or perspective about Marlene's youth and how she rose to stardom. Eight minutes in, she's already a headliner, so neophytes unfamiliar with Dietrich are likely to be baffled. Fans looking for more depth should check out Maximilian Schell's (anti-)documentary "Marlene" from 1984. Despite Dietrich's stubborn unwillingness to cooperate, Schell packed in a lot more information and food for thought.

The TCM program – at least the unedited preview version I saw – had some major errors. When a scene from "Judgment at Nuremberg" is shown for example, it is dated "1949." "Judgment" was actually released in 1960 or '61. Jamie Lee Curtis's lifeless narration also could have used a little more spark. Couldn't the perky telephone sales pitch have added an inflection here or there?

One big thing I learned from "Her Own Song" that I did not previously understand was the extent of Dietrich's political commitment and her true courage during the



Marlene Dietrich

war years. I always knew she entertained the troops, but she went way farther out on a limb than Bob Hope ever did! She was literally on the front lines some of the time, ducking artillery shells and in danger of capture by her former countrymen. When she renounced her German citizenship to become an American it was a bold, intentional rebuke to the Nazis, who held hopes they could lure her back to the Fatherland. She also provided continual financial and moral support to fellow Germans who fled the Hitler regime.

The coverage of the war years is the best part of TCM's bio. An actual audiotape of Marlene communicating by telephone with her mother in Berlin just days after the Nazi capitulation sent chills down my spine. She didn't know at that point if her mother was still alive or whether she would even want to talk with her again. The raw emotions of that call are precious. In moments like that, the program really soars.

"The Girl" is a lot more problematic. If you're in the mood and looking to enjoy some steamy sex scenes between women, then you might enjoy this flick. That is, if the really, really dumb dialogue and the constant cigarette smoking before, after and during sex don't spoil the passion quotient, as they did for me. Though shot in France, "The Girl" is in English.

This slight film (running time: 84 minutes) is a stylized film noir with a butch lesbian, identified only as The Painter, becoming obsessed with a Parisian chanteuse known only as The Girl. Complications arise because The Girl is basically owned by a nasty nightclub owner named – you guessed it – The Man. The only other character is The Painter's way too patient girlfriend, Bu Save, who comes to her rescue more than once.

Painter obsesses, Girl prevaricates, Man menaces, Trouble ensues. There are long walks along the Seine with mind-numbing voice-overs that are bearable if you imagine Alan Ladd reading them. Needless to say, things end badly, though the (final) climax may elicit more guffaws than anything. The advantage to seeing "The Girl" on video was being able to fast forward frequently, a mercy unavailable in theatres.

The Rosebud Cinema, home to arty and alternative fare, deserves our support. Plan to see another film there.

Verdict: "Marlene" Ja! "Girl" Non!



Scene from "The Girl"

star and long-time queer icon Marlene Dietrich, which will be aired on Turner Classic Movies Dec. 27 (the 100th anniversary of her birth), and "The Girl," an inde-

pendent film with lots of steamy lesbian sex scenes but little else to recommend it, opens Dec. 14 at Milwaukee's Rosebud Cinema. If you love Marlene Dietrich (and who doesn't?), you won't want to miss "Her Own Song" on TCM. But you are unlikely to learn a whole lot of new information, and any queer angles to her life, or her colleagues or work are studiously ignored – unless you count her drag scene from "Morocco," repeated here for the umpteenth time.

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More Gift Books

Here are some more suggestions for holiday giving. If your reader is an activist, he or she might like my first suggestion. I've also included a book of amusing short stories that make you think a bit and a book of male erotica for those that like their reading hot, suggestive and sometimes funny. Check out your local LGBT bookstores for more helpful suggestions.

Perfect Enemies

BY JOHN GALLAGHER & CHRIS BULL

This book traces the debates that arose between the religious right and the gay rights movements after the Stonewall riots in 1969 through the rise of leaders like Robertson and Falwell in the 1990s and what's happening with the respective movements in the 21st Century. Here are discussions on everything from gays and lesbians in the armed services to statewide anti-gay initiatives, and recent debates about same-sex marriage and legal recognition of gay relationships. There is also material on the Boy Scouts, hate-crimes and the religious right's effort to regroup behind George W. Bush. The authors have provided a balanced look at the policies, efforts and advances that have occurred in the religious right and gay rights movements. (Madison Books, ISBN: 1-56833-178-9, paperback, \$18.95).

Interesting Monsters

BY ALDO ALVAREZ

In this book the author tells stories that are well worth reading. Here you will find wit, sadness and inspiration in some beau-

tifully crafted tales. Throughout the book, Alvarez writes with confident power and pleasing elegance. His stories are for readers who like ambiguities, for those who enjoy being able to decide whether a work is illustrative or poetic, tied up neatly with a bow or left with loose ends. His stories ask for some concentration, and they give rich rewards to those readers who are willing to put in a little effort.

In "Property Values," it's clear that a homophobic real estate agent sees her planned social advancement thwarted when the people she expects to readily agree with her intolerance don't seem to agree at all. In "Losing Count," an FBI agent seems ready to put his career at risk to pursue a romance with a man he knows is embezzling from the store in which he works. Or perhaps the agent is taking advantage of his position in pressuring the thief into having sex. Maybe the agent is just in love, and blind to risk and coercion.

In "Quintessence," a man squelches a developing romance with a man who is not as smart as he is. Would that be admirable self-restraint, or contemptible snobbery? There is something in some of Alvarez' fictions to satisfy readers who like their stories spelled out for them. Alvarez steers a few of his narratives down fairly direct trails from development: A to B and then to C.

Alvarez is the Executive Editor and Publisher of "Blithe House Quarterly," a web site that features new short stories by queer writers. The site, located at <http://www.blithe.com/>, was nominated for the GLAAD Media Award by Out Magazine; aspiring LGBT writers should check it out. (Graywolf, ISBN: 1-55597-356-6, paperback, \$14).

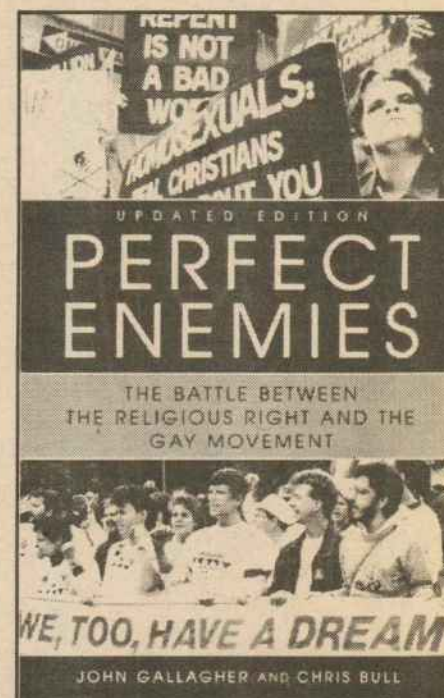
Long Slow Burn: Masterful Gay Erotica

BY GRANT FOSTER

Is your fantasy about married men who are getting it on for the first time? Is it about younger men who are just fanning the first flames of lust? Both types are in this collection of stories that feature muscular, well-hung, blue-collar men in all kinds of situations.

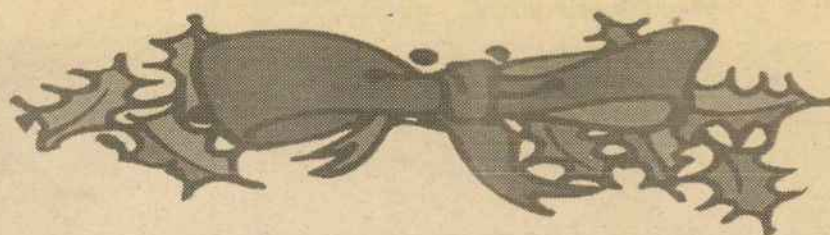
The cover story is about young married man named Jonas who is so preoccupied with building his body and wondering whether he's "seriously" attracted to other men that he's missed the whole point of the fire that is approaching his house in Silverwood Estates. His furious wife takes his daughter and leaves him there to the tender mercies of Kent Radke, a neighbor whose "wife understands his needs"; they allow each other the freedom to explore their sexual natures. As Kent pushes the boundaries of man-to-man bonding, we read about pulsing erections and flexing muscles as they realize the fire is approaching and they settle in for "one more quick one."

On the lighter side of things, we meet pudgy Jimmy Ray in "Jimmy Ray Hicks Versus the Ingrates." He tells his story from the Drucker County Correctional Facility where he's been incarcerated for "accidentally" walking out of the local Piggly Wiggly without paying for a ham. He was ogling some well-muscled trailer trash; one of whom he invited to move in and there the fun began. There's lots of drinking and hot, sloppy sex (of which our hero gets none). He finally concocts a scheme to get



rid of these "ingrates" as he calls them; he puts Tabasco sauce in the lube and watches the fireworks.

But never fear, our JR has met "someone special" while he's been in confinement. He's lost 22 pounds and Vern has become his weightlifting coach. Those guys who done him wrong better watch it when he gets out; he's damned mad! This is almost as good as something out of Dear Ruthie's column. (Alyson Books, ISBN: 1-55583-559-7, paperback, \$14.95)



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Picture Perfect: Books for Giving

By Carl M. Szatmary

A couple of years ago at Christmas I highlighted a new book of black and white photography called "Chop Suey Club." Although the work of the celebrated Bruce Weber, "Chop Suey Club" wasn't especially popular. Too expensive was just one of many popular quibbles. Those lucky folks who received it as a Christmas present — or for that matter, those who treated themselves with the book — now find themselves with a hot collector's item fetching several hundred dollars on Ebay.

Who'd have thought?

Christmas 2001 finds a variety of handsome titles that will dress well practically anyone's coffee table. While none of these are likely to become the next "Chop Suey Club," these wonderful gift books are always welcome under the tree come Christmas morning.

For the Boys...

This year's most unique offering is "Gymnasium" by Luke Smalley (Twin Palms HC \$60.00). From the reflective youth on the cover, Smalley portrays the driving energy of teenage boys in a series of fascinating photographs of youths in various sport activities that are perceived to be from an earlier time period. Wistful, evocative yet

certainly very fun, it proves to be endlessly entertaining to find something so familiar, and for some reason, so comforting, in a scene so totally based on imagination.

While Luke Smalley seeks in his photography to evoke an earlier era, the work of Thomas Eakins is the real thing. Darrel Sewell's glorious study of this uniquely American artist, "Thomas Eakins" (Yale Univ. Press HC \$65.00) makes clear Eakins' fascination with the male nude, someone who produced a body of work romanticizing scenes of rowing, sailing, and boxing whose homoeroticism seems abundantly clear when viewed today.

To continue this millennium's continued fascination with the one previous, come "Dear Friends" by Deitcher (Abrams HC \$35.00) and Robert Mainardi's "Strongman: Vintage Photos of a Masculine Icon" (Council Oaks Books HC \$24.95). Again, the editors of these two volumes have found a wonderful collection of authentic images of men, often paired as couples, which to today's eyes would be viewed with a

definite gay point of view. Or are we viewing a simpler, less liberated era when masculine affection did not always infer a homoerotic attraction?

Fans of David Leedick's earlier volumes of historical exploration of nude male photography should be



"Rescue From The Academy," 1999, Oil On Canvas by Wes Hemple from "Male Nude Now: New Visions for the 21st Century"

delighted with Leedick's third entry, "Male Nude Now: New Visions for the 21st Century" (Universe Pub. PB \$39.99). "Male Nude Now" offers an essential guide through this new frontier of the male nude with more than

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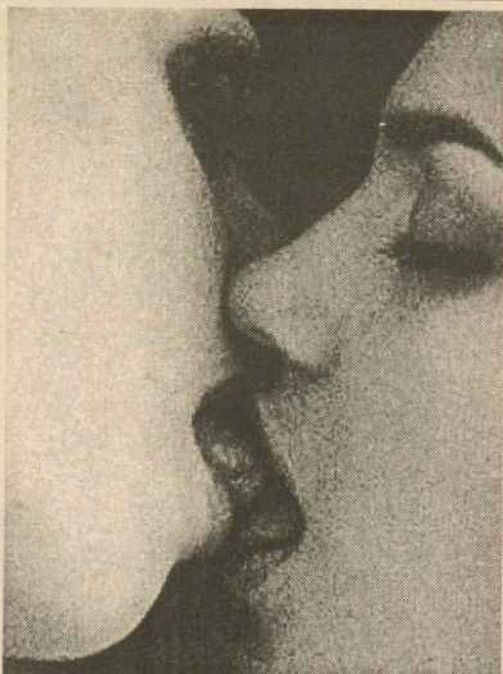
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Michelle Olley's "Femmes."

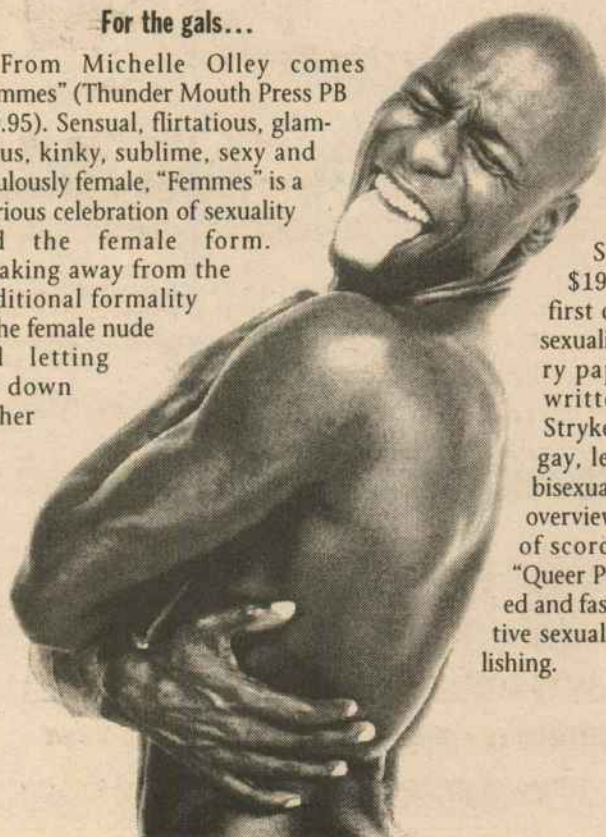
240 spell-bindingly fresh and provocative images from new and emerging contemporary artists and photographers.

Less academic is probably okay for the holidays, especially if the book in question is from publisher Bruno Gmunder. This year's crop of stunning photography books from Germany offer a variety of pleasures. Photographer Howard Roffman, with several marvelous coffee table books already to his credit, turned his lens onto Johan Paulik, arguably the most popular model in Bel Ami's stable. "Johan Paulik" (HC \$39.95) presents an exciting combination of Roffman's tender dreamy picture language and the magical appeal of Johan Paulik, who's youthful, charming naturalness has made him into a superstar.

Not a Johan fanatic? No problem. Photographer Benno Thoma takes an erotic trip to the breathtaking Scandinavian landscape in "Absolute Sweden" (HC \$39.95). Against the backdrop of impressive scenery, his attractive models partake in the change of seasons and days full of sensual bliss. Since Bruce Weber's "Bear Pond," no photo album has appeared that merges erotic male photography so convincingly with scenic photography. Those looking for no nonsense images of hot, hunky naked men need look no further than "TitanMen" (HC \$39.95), featuring the men from Titan videos or "The Bear: Essentials" (HC \$39.95) which features the dynamic photography of The Bear, long-time Kristen Bjorn lensman.

For the gals...

From Michelle Olley comes "Femmes" (Thunder Mouth Press PB \$29.95). Sensual, flirtatious, glamorous, kinky, sublime, sexy and fabulously female, "Femmes" is a glorious celebration of sexuality and the female form. Breaking away from the traditional formality of the female nude and letting her down off her



pedestal to live a little, "Femmes" brings together the work of some of the best erotic photographers of the twentieth century. Capturing the beauty, vitality, exuberance and sensuality of the female nude, "Femmes" takes modern erotic photography to new heights.

If Olley's "Femmes" sounds familiar, it might be because her popular offering, "Venus" (PB \$29.95) was published last year. Like "Femmes," "Venus" splendidly represents photographers from a variety of backgrounds and countries that have brought their artistic talents to bare on one photographic muse: the female form, mostly nude and in a variety of erotic poses. Beautifully illustrated in color and black-&-white photos.

Those Judi Francesconi fans disappointed by the lack of her fabulous calendars for 2002 can console themselves with a copy of one of her books. Both Judy's first book, "Stolen Moments" (PB \$25.95) or the more deluxe edition, "Visual Sonnets" (Pb \$49.95) remain available. The beautiful photographs of "Visual Sonnets" are artistically and erotically rendered in black-and-white and in brown-tones in a stunning oversize format. This coffee-table book is a dynamic collection of photos the every lesbian will want to own.

"Starlet: Photographs from the Hollywood Front Lines" (Universe HC \$35.00), an homage to the starlets who risked it all, is a wonderful gift item this year. Striking, adventuresome, sexy, fresh, vulnerable, sometimes wistful, dramatic, overeager, resistant, uncomfortable-these photographs taken over the last twenty-five years were shot through the curious and sympathetic eye of Nancy Ellison. Many of these women became superstars-some may be recognized while others existed so ephemerally only these beautiful images and the dreams they represent remain.

Also from the entertainment world comes "Songbird: Fabulous Female Vocalists from Billie Holiday to Britney Spears" (Universe HC \$29.95). "Songbird" brings together all the most memorable female singers of our time-from Aretha Franklin to Annie Lennox, Emmylou Harris to Eartha Kitt, Debbie Harry to Dinah Shore, along with dozens more. In a seemingly male-dominated industry, these women have fought long and hard for recognition and success.

...and something for everyone

From homicidal homos to locked-up lesbians, and almost every sexually dangerous combination in between, "Queer Pulp: Perverted Passions from the Golden Age of the Paperback" by Susan Stryker (Chronicle PB \$19.95). "Queer Pulp" is the first complete expose of queer sexuality in mid-twentieth century paperbacks. Compellingly written by historian Susan Stryker with chapters covering gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexually oriented books, a lively overview of the genres, and loads of scorching paperback covers, "Queer Pulp" reveals the complicated and fascinating history of alternative sexual literature and book publishing.

Or Take Your Own Photos...

Gay-Friendly Intel Offers Dandy Digital Camera

By David Batterson

All of us must continually vote with our pocketbooks, to let companies know that we appreciate how they treat the GLBT community. Intel Corp. (Nasdaq: INTC) is a perfect example, as they are number 16 on the "gfn.com 50" list of the most powerful and gay-friendly, publicly-traded Fortune 500 companies.

Intel recently sent a review unit of its new Pocket Digital PC Camera. If you're a go-anywhere, do-anything type of person (most of us are!), this could be the digital camera to serve your needs.

The Intel Pocket Digital PC Camera, although small in size, comes with advanced features found in more expensive digicams. You can take up to 256 images or up to a minute of video with sound, with the 16MB of internal memory. You easily add more memory with SmartMedia (up to 128MB) cards, allowing huge storage capability.

This is not just a snapshot camera. The Pocket Digital PC Camera can be used as a Webcam to broadcast live video over the Net, or create mini-videos for e-mailing (or snailmailing) to friends. [Remember, e-mailing video files is terribly slow, unless you have a broadband (Cable/DSL/satellite) Internet connection.]

For example, a test video with sound only 17 seconds long was a 7.85MB file! Our test videos came out very sharp and clear. You don't get a zoom lens with this camera, however. If you want to mail videos, you need to copy them to a CD (if you have a CD-R or CR-RW drive).

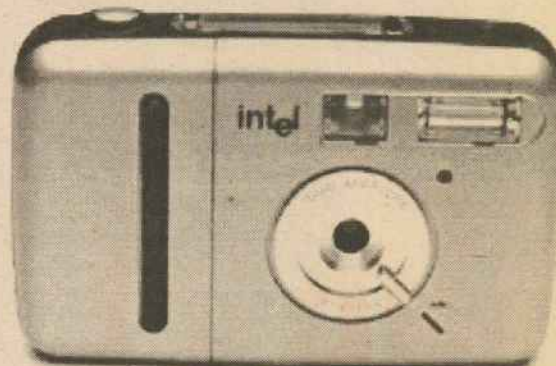
The camera is about 4 by 2.5 inches, and a little more than an inch thick. It has 16MB of internal flash memory, CCD sensor for enhanced image quality and low-light performance, a 50-degree field of view, focus range of 10cm to infinity, video frame rate up to 30 frames per second, automatic exposure/white balance and color control, and four AAA batteries included. For Web usage, the camera takes photos of VGA (640x480) resolution. I prefer higher resolution, myself. This cam will also take 1024x768 or 1.3 megapixel images; these are best for printing. You save the pics in usual formats like .jpg or .bmp. Here are more details on what you get with this digital camera. It comes with built-in flash, built-in microphone, a dual-aperture lens, SmartMedia memory expansion (memory cards purchased separately), LCD display (not for images, but for displaying camera modes/features), a tilt swivel base (for Webcam use), tripod socket, carrying bag With shoulder strap (how divine!) and wrist strap.

Included with the camera is an amazing array of software applications within the Intel Create & Share Software Suite. These include Picture Manager (for importing photos to your PC), Auto Snapshot (just likes it sounds), Email Postcard, Digital Puzzle (create jigsaw puzzles instantly), Virtual Studio (this allows you to add backgrounds to videos, like in a movie studio), Home Page Builder (Web site creation), MGI PhotoSuite 4 SE (image editing), Video Phone (for video Internet calls), Movie Builder (use stills and videos to create personalized movies),

and more.

The system requirements for Intel PC cameras is simple enough: a desktop or notebook PC with a USB port [a serial port won't suffice], and a Pentium processor with MMX technology at minimum 266MHz or greater. A high-quality color printer is also advised, and fast Internet access if you plan to use the video features.

The Intel Pocket Digital PC Camera



has a suggested retail price of \$149.99. It's available at computer stores nationwide, Web retailers or at Intel's online store at: www.shop-intel.com. We recommend it. For more information on this and other Intel cams, surf to: www.intel.com/pccamera/.

More Details on Intel's "Gay-Friendly" Ranking

According to GFN.com: "Two basic prerequisites [must] be satisfied before a firm could be considered for their list. Each company has to have a policy stating that it does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. Second, the firm had to extend benefits to same-sex domestic partners."

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) ranks Intel as a "9" on the 0 to 10 point scale established by the glvReport. Intel enacted domestic partner health insurance benefits in 1997, way ahead of many Fortune 500 corporations.

The GLBT employee group contact for Intel is: IGLOBE (Intel Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgender Employees), 2200 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara, CA 95092; www.glyphic.com/iglobe.

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1/3: La Cage (10 pm - 1 am)

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Community Calendar

December 13 – December 27, 2001

Please send your calendar listings to calendar@instepnews.com, or fax your listing to (414) 278-5868. Calendar listings will not be accepted via phone.

ACTIVITIES:

Thursday, December 13

Briarpatch (Madison): Group for middle school LGBT kids, middle school kids of LGBT families, and friends, 6 p.m., 512 E. Washington Ave. FMI: (608) 251-6211.

Friday, December 14

"The Eight: Reindeer Monologues" (Madison): A dark Christmas comedy produced by Stage Q that looks at the Santa from the reindeer's perspectives. Christmas will never be the same! 7:30 p.m. S10/S12, Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin. FMI: (608) 204-0306.

Women's Holiday Dance (Milw.): Sponsored by the Lesbian Alliance and UWM Women's Resource Center, featuring an appearance by Flaming Dykasaurus! 8 p.m. S12 at the door. Wisconsin Room, UWM Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-2852.

Saturday, December 15

Frontrunners Run/Walk (Milw.): GAMMA-sponsored run/walk, starts at 9 a.m. at the Watertower at the east end of North Ave. FMI: (414) 365-3453.

Holiday Musicals (Hudson): Sponsored by Out in the Valley, the St. Croix Valley GLBT social group, begins at 6 p.m. with potluck dinner, show and sing-a-long. FMI:

Winter Concert (Madison): Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus holds its annual concert, 7:30 p.m., donation, Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington Ave. FMI: perfectharmonymenschorus@hotmail.com.

Sunday, December 16

SAGE Holiday Party (Milw.): Celebrate the season with GLBT elders, by reservation only, 1 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 271-0378.

Kwanzaa Celebration (Milw.): Join the African American celebration of community, family and culture. Bring a dish to share, music and entertainment. Free.. 6-9 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 964-5508.

PFLAG Meeting (Madison): Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays meet at 2 p.m., Friends Society Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court. All welcome. FMI: (608) 271-1286.

Monday, December 17

Madcap Squares (Madison): New Square dance group welcomes all! 6:30 to 8 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1021 Spaight St. First three classes free. FMI: (608) 347-7974.

Living As A Gay Man (Madison): Drop-in discussion group for gay men, 5:30 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-8582.

Tuesday, December 18

Teens Like Us (Madison): GLBTQ Teen support group, ages 14-18, 6-8 p.m., call for location: (608) 251-6211.

Womansong (Madison): Weekly rehearsal of women's chorus, 7 p.m., Beth Israel Center. FMI: (608) 222-2987.

Wednesday, December 19

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys (Madison): Beginning and advanced lessons taught, 7 p.m., couple; 8 p.m. line dance; 9 p.m., open dance. Sapphire Ballroom, 4802 E. Washington Ave. S3 donation, cash bar. FMI:



Smoooooch! Photo by Jamie @ Woody's

(608) 255-9131.

Ten Percent Society (Madison): Weekly meeting at 8 p.m., Memorial Union, 800 Langdon. check "Today In The Union." FMI: (608) 262-7365.

Friday, December 21

Transgender Group (Madison): A support and advocacy group for Transsexuals, Cross Dressers and their friends, families and significant others, 7 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 257-4297.

Saturday, December 22

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers (Madison): 3K to 10K run or walk, 9 a.m., Lake Wingra Park, Knickerbocker and Arbor Dr. FMI: (608) 663-6463.

Sunday, December 23

Bette Davis Bowling League (Madison): 5-person team format, 3 p.m. at Bowl-a-vard Lanes, 2121 E. Spring Dr. FMI: (608) 273-8275.

Tuesday, December 25

Teens Like Us (Madison): GLBTQ support group for teens, 14-18, 6-8 p.m. Call for location: (608) 251-6211.

BAR SPECIALS:

Sundays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Join us for the Packers! Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.90 -til 6 p.m.

Barracks (Madison): Beer Bash, 4-8 p.m., \$6. 50¢ off all rails, taps and bottles, 4-8 p.m.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Sunday afternoon bottle beer special from 3 to 7 p.m.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Tacos & Beer with Alvin!

Club Boom (Milw.): "Queer as Folk" at 9 p.m. Previous episode at 8.

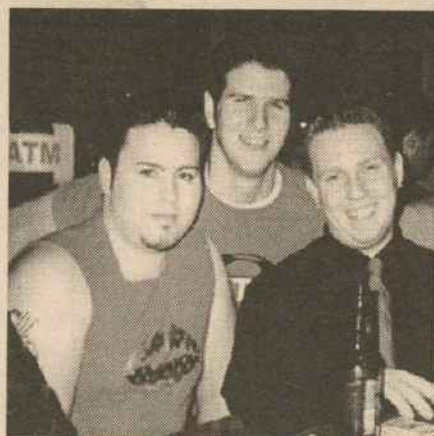
The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Closed

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Beer Bash 3 to 8 p.m. \$6. 50¢ off all rails, taps and bottles, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Shots of Mudslides, Hot Sex, Pucker, \$2 open-close.

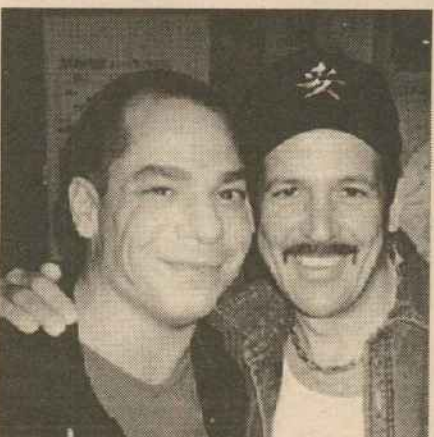
Club 219 (Milw.): \$1 tappers, \$2 rail drinks, \$2 bottled beer. Two shows: 8:30 p.m. - no cover - and 11:30 p.m.

Fluid (Milw.): \$6 Beer Bust, taps of Gen. Draft or Miller Lite, 5 to 9 p.m.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Pints of Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers & Greyhounds - \$2.50! Shirtless men half price any time.



Sisters! Photo by Jamie @ Fluid



Holiday Cheer by Jamie @ The Ball Game

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Noon to 4 p.m. Bloody Marys & Screw Drivers - \$2 a mug.

M&M Club (Milw.): Brunch from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Bar-B-Q, 1-4 p.m.

Napalese Lounge (Green Bay): \$6 Beer Bust from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Game Show Mania every Sunday at 8:30 p.m. \$1 Bloody Marys!

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): \$1.50 Bloody Marys hosted by the Gay Voice.

Rainbow Room (Madison): Beer Bash, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Patio bar open at 2 p.m. Beer Bash from 2 to 8 p.m. Open volleyball. Food available from 2 to 6 p.m. 2/4/1 10 p.m. to close

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 3 p.m. Beer Bust, \$5 from 9-midnight.

Switch (Milw.): Back the Pack! Packer parties featuring 75¢ pints of beer, free food, free shot for every Packer TD, half-time contests for prize \$, open half-hour before game. Dare to wear "Beachwear/Swimsuit," get \$1 off drinks, 8 p.m.-close.

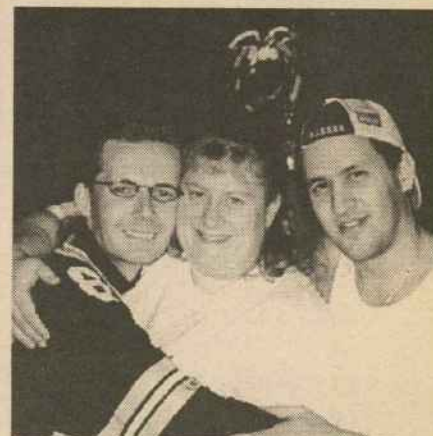
Walker's Pint (Milw.): \$8 domestic pitcher & pizza, \$3.50 Bloody Marys, both from open-close.

Woody's (Milw.): Packer Backer Day! Beer Bust, \$5 from 2-6 p.m.

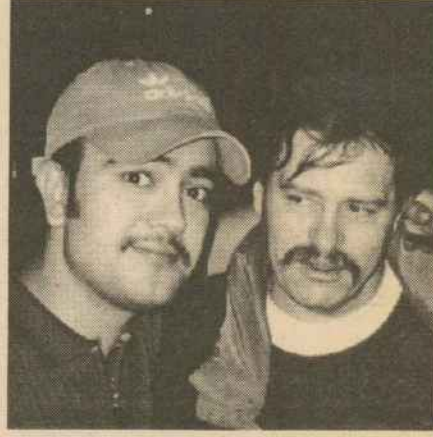
Mondays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, All day & Night! Domestic Beer. \$1.75.

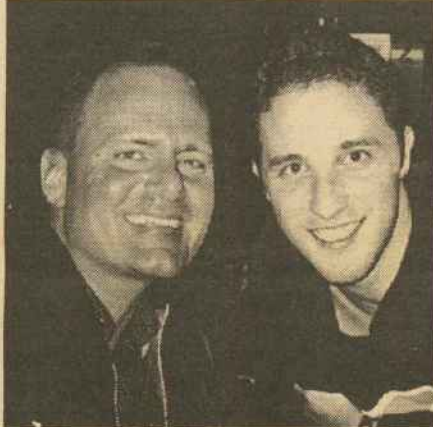
Barracks (Madison): 2-4-1 on all drinks up to \$3.75, open-close. \$9.



Squeeze Play. Photo by Jamie @ Woody's



Party Time by Jamie @ Woody's



On the Town. by Jamie @ Switch

Shots of Lava of Revelstoke, \$1. Shots of Mudslides, Hot Sex, Pucker, \$2, open-close.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Bud Nite! All Buds, \$1.

Cell Block (Chicago): WWF/WCW Wrestling. \$2 specials on microbrews.

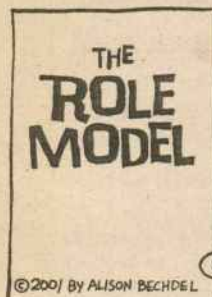
C'est La Vie (Milw.): Pizza & Beer Bust, only \$4, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.!

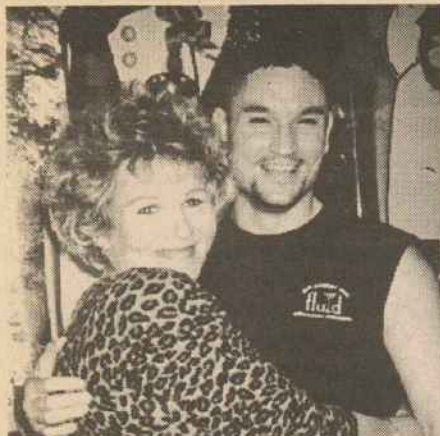
Club Boom (Milw.): Closed.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Closed.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): 2-4-1 on all drinks up to \$3.50 all night long!

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel





Hug me baby. Photo by Jamie @ Fluid



Hat Club for Men. Photo by Jamie @ Ball Game



Cuties of the week. Photo by Jamie @ Fluid

Fluid (Milw.): \$3.50 Absolut Mixers, 8 p.m. to close.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza. Shirtless men half price anytime. Bartenders, waiters, owners \$1 off drinks 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): 4 to 6 p.m. Pull tabs!

LaCage (Milw.): "Shake-a-Drink" all nite - no cover.

M&M Club (Milw.): Mountain of BBQ Rib Special!

Napalese Lounge (Green Bay): Pull tabs from 3 to 7 p.m. (Drinks as low as 25¢). There is a \$6 Beer Bust from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Miller products - \$1.50.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): Melrose Mondays. Free pizza & shot specials. Rainbow Room (Madison): Rolling Rock, \$1.50.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. \$3.50 and under drinks over \$3.50 get \$1 off.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): \$3 pitchers - 9 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5pm til 8pm, with \$1 off all drinks. Monday Madness, 8 p.m.-close features rotating drink specials and winning ticket give-aways.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. - Absolut and anything, \$2.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): All night, mix and match. \$1 off pitchers of Miller products.

Woody's (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 4 to 9 p.m. Tappers \$1.75, rail drinks, \$1.50.

Tuesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Cocktail Hour rail drinks or NEW! Pull tabs - try your luck! 9 p.m. to close.

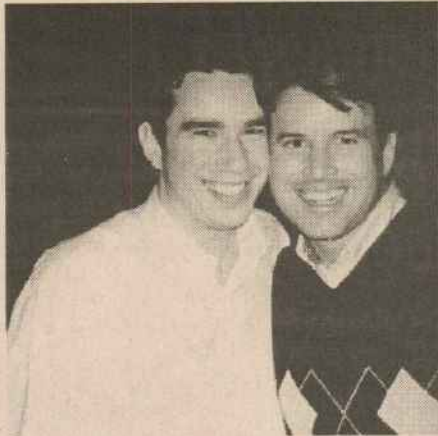
Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off all drinks. Revelstoke spiced whiskey, \$1. Corona 12 oz. bottles, \$2.50. Shots of Mudslides, Hot Sex, Pucker, \$2, open-close.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Vodka Nite! All vodka drinks, \$1.50 and Call Brands, \$2.50 with free, hot Klement's pizza!

Cell Block (Chicago): SMUT Tuesdays! XXX Videos. Cheap Drinks. Free Games.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Shirts Off! Show us what you've got!

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Leather/Lexy Night. Well-drinks & draft beer



Celebutants. Photo by Jamie @ Fluid



Boyz on the Town. Photo by Jamie @ The Ball Game

\$1. Dress Code Enforced. Pit open.

Club Boom (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 8-10 p.m. rail and tap beer.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Shoreline Dancers Practice, 6 p.m. to ?

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 on all drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all other drinks. Corona 24 oz. bottles \$3.50. Shots of Mudslides, Hot Sex and Pucker, \$2, open-close.

Club 219 (Milw.): Amateur Strip Nite! No cover. \$1 tap beer, \$2 rails and bottled beer.

Fluid (Milw.): \$2 Cold Shots, 8 p.m. to close.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Nipple ring nite - gentle tug on yours, 2nd drink free! Shirtless men half price anytime.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Mexican Night! 4 p.m. to ? Tacos \$1.75 to 10 p.m. 2-4-1 Tequila 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Corona \$1.75.

LaCage (Milw.): "Prize Nite" - no cover.

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Half price locker.

Napalese Lounge (Green Bay): Shake a Drink! Aces free and sixes half price - 3 to 7 p.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Bud Products \$1.50. The Trading Company (Eau Claire): 2 for \$2. Domestic bottles and rail mixes all night.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): All coffee drinks - \$2.

Rainbow Room (Madison): \$1 off rail and domestic.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Free pool with drink purchase from 9 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 8-close, "Show-tunes" with Todd, 2-4-1 rail drinks and 50¢ off taps.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks!

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Double trouble, 6-10 p.m. Same rail prices = twice the liquor.

Woody's (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 4 to 9 p.m. Free bountiful buffet.

Wednesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Special Export \$5 pitchers and \$1.10 mugs from 9 p.m.-close.

Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off all taps and rails. Shots of Lava of Revelstoke, \$1. Corona 12 oz., \$2.50. Shots of Mudslides, Hot Sex, Pucker, \$2, open-close.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink specials. It's Leather & Western Night! Prizes & drink specials throughout the night.

Cell Block (Chicago): Open Shawn's Treasure Chest for Great Prizes! Check your planner for more. \$2 Lite/MGD longnecks.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Rail drinks only \$1.

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Free pool.

Club Boom (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 8-10 p.m. rail and tap beer.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Open at 6 p.m.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 on all drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all other drinks. Shots of Lava of Revelstoke, \$1. Half price appetizers, 5-8 p.m. (bar only). Karaoke from 8-10:30 p.m.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are \$1 price from 5 to 8 p.m.

Emeralds (Milw.): Lady's Night! Call drinks \$2.

Fluid (Milw.): Rotating Martini Special, 8 p.m. to close.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Leather Nite! Men in leather, 2-4-1 drinks, 7 p.m.-close. Shirtless men half price anytime.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Hump Day! Everything's a buck. Open to close.

LaCage (Milw.): 2-4-1 all night!

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.

Man's Country (Chicago): 7-5-7. Special: Rooms and Lockers \$7 for 5 hours.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Half price rooms.

Napalese Lounge (Green Bay): Rail drinks \$1.50, Soda & juice are 50¢ from 3 to 7 p.m. \$6 Beer Bust from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): \$2.50 pitchers/50¢ drafts. Retro party with DJ Cris.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): Karaoke! \$1.50 MGD and Michelob Goldens.

Orbit (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks.

Rainbow Room (Madison): Shots of Doctors - \$2.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. \$1.50 Dr. or Schnapps with drink 9 p.m. to close.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): 2 for \$2 domestic bottles and rail mixers. 9 p.m. to closing.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. 2-4-1 cocktails all day.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! Nuts 'n Bolts Night: Match your "hardware" with "his" to win a free drink, 8 p.m.-close.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. Super Beer Bust - All U Can Drink! \$5 domestic, \$7 premium.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Flavored Long Islands, \$5 a pint or \$8 a pitcher.

Woody's (Milw.): Dart league Night! Happy Hour, 4-9 p.m.

Thursdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Cocktail Hour rail drinks or NEW! Pull tabs - try your luck from 9 p.m. to close.

Barracks (Madison): 5 for \$10 on any Miller product. Pitchers of Bud Lite and Miller Lite, \$6.50. Shots of Lava of Revelstoke, \$1.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink specials.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Karaoke Night, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Club Boom (Milw.): 2-4-1 all night long.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Starting Aug. 31 - Open at 6 p.m.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 on all drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all other drinks. Frozen cocktails, \$3. Pitchers of Bud Lite and Miller Lite, \$6.50.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are \$1 price from 5 to 8 p.m.

Dish (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Groove with Amy! Amy entertains!

Fluid (Milw.): \$3 Cosmo's, 8 p.m. to close.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half price anytime. 10oz. Cosmopolitans \$4.50, 6-11 p.m.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Slammers! \$1 - 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

LaCage (Milw.): "Super Bust" - no cover for card holders.

M&M Club (Milw.): Happy Hour from 5 p.m. to close!

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Crazy 8 rooms and lockers. \$1 locker with college ID.

Napalese Lounge (Green Bay): Pull tabs! drinks as low as 25¢ 3 to 7 p.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Beer \$1 Well drinks \$1.50.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): \$1 bottle beer. 50¢ drafts.

Rainbow Room (Madison): Corona - \$2.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): Free Pool & Darts. 2-4-1 tap beer 9 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): \$1 off drinks during Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. Karaoke Night! 8 p.m. to close.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. \$6 Rail Bust!

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Import Night, 6-10 p.m. \$1 off imports.

Woody's (Milw.): Double Bubble all day, all night.

Fridays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served!

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Strippers! Enjoy local boyz! 11:30 p.m. No cover.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Double Bubble until 7 p.m. DJ starts at 10 p.m.

Club Boom (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 8-10 p.m. rail and tap beer. Country music with DJ Dan, 9 p.m.-Midnight.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 on all drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all other drinks.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are \$1 price from 5 to 8 p.m.

Dish (Milw.): The new night spot for women! Happy Hour 2-4-1 5 to 7 p.m. Join DJ Amber for dancin' & romancin'.

Fluid (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. 2-4-1, martinis included!

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half price anytime. 10oz. call Martinis \$5, 6-11 p.m.

Jo'Dees International (Racine): Bring on the Bears and Bikers! \$1.25 Tap MGD & Miller Lite, \$1.75 Pints of Leinie's Red, \$2.50 Pints of Hacker-Pschorr Weisse.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Pull tabs! 5 to 7 p.m.

LaCage (Milw.): LaCage Showcase.

M&M Club (Milw.): All you can eat Fish Fry and other great specials.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Party night!

The Office (Rockford, IL): Best Dance Party! DJ Cris.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 5-9 p.m., with Ms. Karen Valentine. \$1 off all drinks and bottle beer.

The Trading Company (Eau Claire): All chilled shots \$1.50 - 9 to 11 p.m.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! \$3 Margaritas from open to close.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Domestic tap beer bust, 6-8 p.m., \$2 cold shots, 8-10 p.m.

Woody's (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 4 to 9 p.m. Tappers \$1.75, rail drinks, \$1.50.

Saturdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.75, and \$1.10 mugs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Barracks (Madison): Levi/Leather/Uniform Night! 50¢ off all drinks if dressed in L/L/U. Bartender's discretion.

C'est la Vie (Milw.): Female Impersonators with Big Mama at 11:30 p.m. No cover.

Club Boom (Milw.): Video Dance! 2-4-1 from 8-10 p.m. rail and tap beer.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Open at 6 p.m. DJ starts at 10 p.m.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys! Shirtless men half price anytime. Pitchers of beer, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., \$4.50 domestic & \$6.50 Harbor Room's own brew!

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Short beers 2 for \$1.50.

LaCage (Milw.): Where Milwaukee Dances!

Man's Country (Chicago): Male Strippers and Porn Stars. Show at Mid-night. Free Continental Breakfast Sunday Morning.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Bar-B-Q, 1-4 p.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Rockford's Best Dance Party! DJ's Jerry & Jess One.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): \$1.50 shot specials. DJ/Dancing.

Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 up to \$4.25, \$1 off all other drinks.

Rainbow Room (Madison): Beer Bash, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Live DJ 9 p.m. to close. Men's Room (Levi/Leather) 7 p.m. to close: 50¢ off all drinks with card. Progressive Happy Hour from 7 to 10 p.m.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): All chilled shots only \$1.50 - 9 to 11 p.m. DJ & dancing starting at 11 p.m.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 3 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! Opens at 5 p.m. 70s and 80s DJ spin, outdoor patio bar open.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Bring in 2 non-perishable food items and get \$1 off your first drink. All proceeds go to Second Harvest of Milwaukee.

Woody's (Milw.): Bucky Badger Day!

BAR EVENTS:

Thursday, December 13

Club 5 (Madison): Holiday and Anniversary Celebration! Buffet Dinner, male dancers, 2-4-1 drinks all night and drawings for prizes! 5 Applegate Court. FMI: (608) 277-9700.

Friday, December 14

Shamrock Bar (Madison): Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Group Happy Hour. The group meets at 6 p.m. for cocktails every Friday. Decides where to dine at 7 p.m. 117 W. Main St. FMI: (608) 274-5959.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): HIV testing, 10 p.m. to 1 p.m., 315 S. Water St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Strippers - Enjoy Local Boyz! 11:30 p.m. No cover. 231 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 291-9600.

Fri & Sat, Dec. 14 & Dec. 15

Chip and Py's (Mequon): Live Jazz Fridays and Saturdays, 7-11 p.m. Reservations suggested. 1340 W. Towne Square Rd. (I-43 at Mequon Rd.) Call (414) 241-9589.

Saturday, December 15

Harbor Room (Milw.): HIV testing, 10 p.m. to 1 p.m., 117 E. Greenfield Ave. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Off the Tracks (Milw.): Christmas Party! Karaoke with Patty! Food, fun, prizes, DVD raffle! Party starts at 6 p.m., 1534 W. Grant. FMI: (414) 384-5980.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Female Impersonators with Britney! 11:30 p.m. No cover. 231 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 291-9600.

Sunday, December 16

Off the Tracks (Milw.): Packers vs. Tennessee ~ the best place to watch the game! Free shots for Packer TDs, snacks, Bloody Marys \$2. Open at 11 a.m., 1534 W. Grant. FMI: (414) 384-5980.

Club 5 (Madison): "Simply Divine" Christmas Show! Hosted by Miss Caroline, in memory of Brian Feminie, aka "Simply Divine." Benefits Transitional Housing Inc. 5 Applegate Court. FMI: (608) 277-9700.

Wednesday, December 19

Fluid (Milw.): "Shaken & Stirred" — Grinch Martinis. DJ John Murges. What else do you need? 9 p.m. until close. 819 S. 2nd St. FMI: (414) 645-8330.

Club 5 (Madison): Karaoke from 8-11 p.m. Male dancers at 11 p.m. No cover. 5 Applegate Court. FMI: (608) 277-9700.

Chip and Py's (Mequon): Live Jazz Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m. Reservations. 1340 W. Towne Square Rd. (I-43 at Mequon Rd.) Call (414) 241-9589.

Thursday, December 20

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Karaoke Night, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. 231 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 291-9600.

Club 5 (Madison): Gay TV Night with "Will & Grace" and "Queer as Folk." 5 Applegate Court. FMI: (608) 277-9700.

Friday, December 21

Shamrock Bar (Madison): Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Group Happy Hour. The group meets at 6 p.m. for cocktails every Friday. Decides where to dine at 7 p.m. 117 W. Main St. FMI: (608) 274-5959.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Strippers - Enjoy Local Boyz! 11:30 p.m. No cover. 231 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 291-9600.

Saturday, December 22

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Female Impersonators with Britney! 11:30 p.m. No cover. 231 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 291-9600.

Sunday, December 23

Off the Tracks (Milw.): Packers vs. Cleveland ~ the best place to watch the game! Free shots for Packer TDs, snacks, Bloody Marys \$2. Open at 11 a.m., 1534 W. Grant. FMI: (414) 384-5980.

Wednesday, December 26

Club 5 (Madison): Karaoke from 8-11 p.m. Male dancers at 11 p.m. No cover. 5 Applegate Court. FMI: (608) 277-9700.

Chip and Py's (Mequon): Live Jazz Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m. Reservations. 1340 W. Towne Square Rd. (I-43 at Mequon Rd.) Call (414) 241-9589.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

(Please read carefully. Some meetings occur the same day weekly, others the same day bi-weekly or monthly.)

THURSDAYS:

AIDS Network (Madison): Meditation and Wellness, 6-7:30 p.m., 300 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 252-6540, ext. 26.

Disabilities Support Group (Milw.): Support group for LGBTs with disabilities meets final Thursday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 201, Independence First, 600 W. Virginia St. Contact is Leslie Myers. FMI: V/TTY - (414) 291-7520, ext. 325.

Diversity G/L Resource Center (Rockford, IL): Located at 610 E State St. Open from 4 to 9 p.m. Teen Drop-in Hours. FMI call (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA ~ "Living Sober" (Milw.): Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA - Open Meetings (Appleton & Green Bay): There are five open AA Meetings for the gay and lesbian community each week in Appleton and Green Bay. FMI & Locations call (920) 336-2868 or (920) 954-9169.

Gay AA/Gay Al-Anon - 12-Step Meetings (Kenosha): These recovery groups meet every Thursday at St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th Ave., at 7:30 p.m. FMI call Bill or Art at (414) 694-0115.

Gay/Lesbian AA Closed Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 1609 University Ave. FMI call (608) 222-8989.

HIV/AIDS Support Group & Hotline (Upper Peninsula, MI): These projects serve Dickinson, Iron, & Menominee Counties. For information on the support group in Iron Mountain, Michigan on the first Thursday of each month, call the HIV/AIDS Hotline at (906) 779-2904.

HIV Self-Help Group - Monthly meeting (Baraboo): This group sponsored by persons living with HIV, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital & the AIDS Network meets every 3rd Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Baraboo. Refreshments are served, transportation assistance is available. FMI: (608) 643-7241 or (608) 643-7583.

Lavender Salon (Fox Valley): Reading and discussion group for gays and lesbians in the Fox Valley area, meets 3rd Thursday of each month, locations vary between Appleton, Green Bay and Oshkosh. Call for details. FMI: (920) 738-0497.

LGBT Community Center - Lesbian Singles Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Ongoing discussion about unique challenges and rewards of being single, open to all lesbians. The group picks a different topic each month. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center - Rainbow U Lecture Series (Milw.): Every 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. Series encourages awareness, discussion of issues important to the LGBT Community. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Campus Center - Boy-Oh-Bay Gay/Bi Men's Group (Madison): This weekly group provides outlet for gay/bi students at UWM. Social outings, great discussion. Hosted by University Health Services and Sex-Out Loud, Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m., LGBT Campus Center, second floor, UW-Madison Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St.

Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital (Baraboo): HIV/AIDS support group meets third Thursdays in Baraboo area. FMI (toll-free): (877) 744-0677.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting every Thursday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 299-0755.

South Madison Health & Family Center (Madison): Free, anonymous walk-in HIV testing from 5 to 7:45 p.m. at 2202 South Park St. FMI call (608) 261-9270.

Triangle Coalition - LGB Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meet to establish and explore friendships & relationships. Discuss a variety of topics every Thursdays at 8 p.m. FMI call (319) 583-1834.

Wisconsin Gender Organization (statewide): A support, education, and activism network whose primary function is to help Transsexual individuals to succeed and grow before, during, and after their gender transition. Meets the fourth Saturday of each month. For location and more information: www.wisgen.org.

Women's Consciousness Raising Group (Madison): Meets weekly at 5:30 p.m. at 122 State St. Suite 403. FMI call (608) 250-6775.

Unitarian Universalist Church - Lesbian Support/Discussion Group (Rockford, IL): The group meets weekly from 7-8 p.m. at 4848 Turner Rd. FMI call (815) 636-7298.

FRIDAYS:

Frontiers Dining Out (Madison): Madison-area Gay/Bi men meet at the Shamrock Bar around 6 p.m. Decide where to go to eat. FMI: (608) 274-5821.

Gay AA (Milw.): Sixty Minutes Group, topic meeting. Meets every Friday at 5:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

High Tea & Talk - Men's Group (Madison): High Tea & Talk is an opportunity for men of all ages, who enjoy the company of other men, to chat and graze at Monty's Blue Plate Diner, 3 p.m., 2089 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 257-9751.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. and Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Drop-in nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Youth Group - Meeting (Kenosha): This group meets the first & third Fridays of the month from 7 to 10 p.m. at the ARCW Offices, 1212 - 57th St. FMI call 800-924-6601.

MGLO & MGLPO - Red Light Night (Marshfield): Every Friday night from 10:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m., 130 S. Central Ave., above the Thimbleberry Bookstore. Meet local LGBT people, enjoy Videos and Dancing. Everyone is welcome. FMI: Jim (715) 384-6731 or Vic (715) 387-2068.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Weekly HIV/AIDS Social Group (Duluth, MN): The group meets from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple opera Block, Suite 309. An opportunity for men with HIV/AIDS to socialize and find support. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

Madison Transgender Group - Support Group (Madison): A support and advocacy group for Transsexuals (M-TF and F-TM), Cross-dressers and their friends, families and significant others. It meets the third Friday of the month from 7-9 p.m. at the Outreach offices, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-8582.

SAGE, Senior Action in a Gay Environment (Milw.): For older gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transsexuals. Offers alternating game nights, movie nights, guest speakers and discussions every Friday, 6:30 p.m., LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 271-0378.

True Colors LGBT Youth Coffee Chats (Milw.): 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7-9 p.m. Open discussion and free beverages. Call for location. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

SATURDAYS:

AIDS Network - HIV/AIDS Support Group (Madison): Meets from 10 a.m. to noon at UW Hospital, 600 Highland Ave. in K6/Rm. 280, 2nd floor. FMI: (608) 252-6540 or 1-800-486-6276.

BESTD Clinic - Positively Social (Milw.): Drop-in HIV+ men's gathering: no structure! No preaching! Videos and music, refreshments but no alcohol please. 8 p.m. to midnight, last Saturdays of the month, 1240 E. Brady St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Black & White Men Together (Milw.): Meetings are the third Saturday of the month, 7-9 p.m., at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: Milw4BWMTO@aol.com.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 1094, topic meeting. Meets every Saturday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

GLB AA - Open Meeting (Madison): Every Saturday at 6 p.m. at Out-Reach, 14 W. Mifflin, Suite 103. FMI call (608) 255-8582.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Social Night (Duluth, MN): Meets every Saturday. Activities include games, videos and other social events from 6 -9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple Opera Block, Suite 309. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

Potluck/Social Gathering (Sheboygan): For gays and lesbians in the Sheboygan area, second Saturday of the month. Call for location and more information: (920) 208-8695.

SUNDAYS:

AA Rainbow Group (Kenosha): Meets at 7 p.m. every Sunday at St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th St. (west entrance). FMI: (262) 694-8951.

AA for GLBTs (Fond du Lac): 6:30 p.m., Fond du Lac County Health Care Center, 459 E. 1st St. FMI: Gay AA Hotline at (888) 492-3439.

Angels of Hope MCC - Religious Services (Allouez and Appleton): Services are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. at 3607 Libal St. in Allouez, and 5 p.m. at 815 N. Richmond St. in Appleton. FMI: (920) 991-0128.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 394, step/topic meeting. Meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 1394, Big Book meeting. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay Al-Anon (Milw.): Papillon group, topic meeting. Meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay Men's Discussion Group - Monthly Meeting (Milw.): The group meets at the Counseling Center of Milw., 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., every second Sunday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Topics range from relationships, dating and HIV/AIDS to spirituality and mental health. FMI: Bill Hanel at (414) 271-2565.

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church - Worship Service (Madison): Services at 9 and 11 a.m. at 2146 E. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 242-8887.

LGBT Catholics (Milw.): Monthly discussion group for LGBT Catholics meets from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at Holy Trinity/Guadalupe School, 613 S. 4th St. FMI: (414) 481-8543.

Seeking Sobriety - Non-Religious Recovery Group (Milw.): This recovery group meets at 6 p.m. every Sunday at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St. (use side door). FMI: Danny at (414) 540-0961 or Richard at (414) 442-1132.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting every Sunday at 6 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 299-0755.

Silver Space - Older Lesbian Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets on the third Sunday of the month at the Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., from 6 to 8 p.m. \$3 donation. FMI: (414) 271-2565.

University Congregational Church - Worship Service (Madison): Weekly services are at 10 a.m. at 1127 University Ave. FMI (608) 256-2353.

MONDAYS:

BGLASS - Weekly Meeting (Appleton): The Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Society meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 109 of Coleman Hall at Lawrence University Memorial Union, 615 E. College Ave. FMI: Irene (920) 722-7572 or Bernie (920) 982-0220.

Gay AA (Milw.): "Come to Believe" group ~ spirituality in the AA program Meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA/Gay Al-Anon - 12-Step Meetings (Racine): These recovery groups meet every Monday at 625 College Ave. at 8 p.m. FMI: Art at (414) 694-0115.

Gay/Bi Men's AA - Closed Meeting (Madison): Meets at 8 p.m. at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave. FMI: (608) 222-8989.

LGBT Youth Pride Support Group - New Meeting (Green Bay): This group will be available to youth every Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Counseling Center, 311 Jefferson St. FMI: (920) 437-4325.

True Colors LGBT Youth Activity Nights (Milw.): 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave., 1st Floor Conference room. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

Two Spirit Society (Milw.): Cultural and social support group for indigenous LGBT people, with tribal origins from North, Central and South America. Meets third Monday of each month at 7 p.m., LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 483-4710.

WISH - Generic AA 12-Step Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 6 p.m. at the Atwood Community Ctr., 2425 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 249-5096.

UWM Rainbow Alliance (Milw.): University LGBT group meets at 7:30 p.m. in Student Union Room E307. FMI: (414) 229-6555.

TUESDAYS:

Gay AA (Milw.): The Over and Under 40 group. Topic meeting, everyone is welcome. Meets every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay Narcotics Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting. Basic Text. Meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

HIV/AIDS Support Group - Fox Cities (Menasha): Free, confidential and open to any person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Family Resource Assn. of Fox Valley, Midway Rd., 1488 Kenwood Drive. FMI: (920) 739-4226 or Sylvia at 1-800-675-9400.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. Drop-in nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Madison Community Health Ctr. - HIV Testing (Madison): Free, anonymous, walk-in HIV testing from 3 to 5:45 p.m. at 1133 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-0704.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Open Discussion Group (Duluth, MN): Meets weekly from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple Opera Block, Suite 309. Topics include coming out issues, support & resources. No age limits. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

OUTCARE Sexual-Health Clinic (satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood) inside the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee. Walk-ins Thursday and Tuesday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370.

PFLAG-Milw. - Open Office (Milw.): A representative of Milwaukee PFLAG will be available to speak to parents, youth or anyone who wants to stop and say hello each Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting. "The Blue Group" meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Sober Seniors - AA Meeting (Milw.): This meeting is focused on the unique recovery needs of elders, and meets every Tuesday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 3200 W. Highland Blvd. FMI: ElderLink (414) 289-6874.

UHS Counseling & Consultation Services - Sex Out Loud (Madison): This discussion group for Gay/Bi students meets in the Memorial Union at 12 Noon every Tuesday. FMI: (608) 265-4901.

Womansong - Rehearsal (Madison) This women's chorale meets at the Beth Israel Center at 7 p.m. FMI: (608) 222-2987.

Yoga Spirit - Free Classes (Milw.): Every Tuesday there are free classes for all people living with HIV. Among other things you can reduce stress and ease neuropathy & joint pain. Classes are held at 301 N. Water St., Suite 410 at 3:30 p.m. FMI: (414) 289-9560.

WEDNESDAYS:

Diversity G/L Resource Ctr - Coming Out Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meets every Wednesday at 610 E. State St. from 7 to 8 p.m. FMI: (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 494, 12 Steps/12 Traditions. Meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay/Bi Men's Al Anon Group (Madison): Meets at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave., every Wednesday at 6 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-4107 or (608) 846-2860.

HIV/AIDS Support Group (Milw.): Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon and 7-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave.

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Minneapolis-St. Paul

**The queer-friendly Twin Cities
are a winter bargain**

By Chris Ott

With Wisconsin weather taking its annual turn for the worse, your first instinct might be to wonder why human beings ever decided to settle this part of North America in the first place. Did it never occur to them that they could stick to milder climates? We're all living in the aftermath of their highly questionable decision-making.

If this is the effect that winter has on your outlook, it's understandable that heading even further north for a vacation might not be the first thing on your mind. But here's the thing: enough people think the same way that something happens. The Twin Cities—our wintry but quite queer-friendly cousins to the northwest—become a real bargain. Forget about following the sun: there are actually good reasons you might want to throw some mittens in a suitcase and head for Minnesota instead. I'm serious.

The Twin Cities — Minneapolis in particular — have a large native queer community which offers plenty to entertain visitors as well. There are fun bars and clubs, great restaurants, and even weekend "romance" packages in large downtown hotels that have same-sex couples in mind.

Of course, gay venues in Minneapolis aren't quite as abundant as they are in cities like Chicago, but there are at least as many options here as there are in Milwaukee, and definitely more than other Wisconsin cities. Not only that, but it can be hard to find a better deal in Minneapolis—or some other major cities—than what you can get here over the next few months.

Gay-Friendly

In many ways, the axis of gay Minneapolis (at least for visitors) is a downtown street called Hennepin, where many of the city's bars and other queer establishments have set up shop. One of the best is Boom, a bright, roomy, and stylishly designed bar that opened last year. Boom was the first gay and lesbian bar in the Twin Cities to have windows on the street (an out-and-proud innovation that still eludes too many Wisconsin establishments), and it's located in the trendy new NeHe (North Hennepin) neighborhood.

Even newer is Jetset, an upscale lounge and cocktail bar that opened in June 2001. Jetset is attracting both men and women, and its main strength is a conversational atmosphere and sophisticated drinks. They keep the mellow music low enough for talking, and there are no TVs, no dance floor, and no smoking.

For a more conventional bar experience, you can always head to traditional favorites like the Saloon, which is spacious but gets absolutely packed anyways on Friday and Saturday nights. A little further down the street, the Gay 90s is sort of like a food court, with different rooms for different tastes. Over the past few years, the 90s has become a lot less gay, but still, you won't feel out of place. For instance, there's a men's bar that you actually have to pass through the men's restroom to get into, and once you're there, it's pretty clear that this is not the place for straight boys to hang out. Also downtown, there's the Eagle, the only exclusively leather bar in Minneapolis.

St. Paul is a little quieter, but there are choices here as well. The Town House, a popular bar for both men and women, really fills up on weekends. Club Metro originally opened as a mixed (gay and lesbian) dance bar, but the women took over and made it their own. Men are in short supply most nights but certainly won't be run out of town, and they show up in somewhat larger numbers on weekends.

Dining & Entertainment

Minneapolis is also home to some terrific restaurants.

One of the best is the Oddfellows bistro, which serves delicious and beautifully prepared dishes like semolina gnocchia with tomato succotash and lemon basil, or beef tenderloin with a wild mushroom ragout. Conveniently, it's in the same building as Boom. You could do happy hour at Boom, go to dinner at Oddfellows, then head elsewhere to enjoy the rest of the evening.

It's also worth checking out the lively, trendy Chino Latino. The specialty here is "street food from the hot zones," which means reasonably priced dishes from equatorial countries. Choices include tempura shrimp lollipops, and a satay bar with chicken, beef, scallops, and portobello mushrooms, all prepared in spicy marinades and then char-grilled. Readers of the Twin Cities' LGBT magazine Lavender picked Chino Latino as the best fine-dining restaurant in 2001. And if Chino Latino's not your style, you're sure to find something on iEat Street, a 17-block stretch of Nicollet St. from around 13th St. to 30th St. that has loads of restaurants, everything from Greek, Chinese, and Latin American to New York pizza.



There's also plenty to do around town in the daytime or early evening. Definitely worth a visit is the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden. The first piece to catch your eye will probably be the playful Spoonbridge and Cherry — a giant spoon with a big bright-red piece of fruit — but this is said to be the most important outdoor sculpture collection in the country, so stroll around and see the other, more subtle pieces as well. To head indoors, just cross the street and visit the Walker Art Center, which has a survey of contemporary art in all media.

Other events in town this winter include a New Years' Eve fireworks display, the St. Paul Winter Carnival (Jan. 25-Feb. 3; www.winter-carnival.com), and a run of the ABBA-inspired musical Mamma Mia!, through Dec. 23 at the Orpheum Theatre (www.mamma-mia.com).

There's also the view of Saint Anthony Falls on the Mississippi River. The Twin Cities largely owe their existence to the mills that took advantage of these falls for power. You can also explore nearby Riverplace's string of cafes and shops.

Speaking of shopping, there's plenty of it downtown along the Nicollet Mall (and you can move from shop to shop without stepping outside thanks to a pedestrian skyway), or of course in the supersized Mall of America. In addition to just about every store imaginable, there's an indoor theme park, complete with Snoopy roller-coaster (St. Paul was the home of Charles Schulz, so the Peanuts theme abounds). The Mall of America is a 20-25 minute ride from downtown by car or bus (number 180 from the Nicollet Mall, \$2).

Over in St. Paul, it's truly worth a visit to the St. Paul City Hall. This Depression-era landmark looks unexceptional from the outside, but the elaborate Art Deco interior is home to a 60-ton, 36-foot statue of a Native American god of peace that was carved from Mexican onyx. They don't make public buildings like this anymore—it's truly stunning. Also in St. Paul, you can catch a live broadcast (when the show's not on tour) of Garrison Keillor's folksy Midwestern wisdom while recording his weekly Prairie Home Companion radio show from the downtown Fitzgerald Theater.

Getting there, and places to stay

If driving to Minnesota seems like a dicey proposi-

tion in December, January, and February, you might be able to get good deals on flights this time of year, especially with the airlines on hard times. There's another down-to-earth option as well, however: take the train. Amtrak's daily Empire Builder takes about six and a half hours and is somewhat prone to delays, but the train is sometimes more reliable in bad weather than either driving or flying. It gets dark too early in winter to see much on the way to the Twin Cities, but on the way back, the train travels through a surprisingly beautiful selection of Wisconsin and Minnesota countryside. Round-trip fare from Milwaukee starts around \$110. The Twin Cities' train station is in St. Paul.

Speaking of trains, one of Minneapolis' more interesting new lodging options is The Depot, a Marriott hotel that opened in July 2001 at a renovated Milwaukee Road station. Standard rooms, which are located in a new annex to the original train depot, are modern and comfortable. There are also basic fitness facilities, a water park with a locomotive theme, and year-round ice-skating at a rink built over what used to be the platforms where the trains pulled in. The hotel is also about a 15-20 minute walk from the city's largest cluster of gay bars and other attractions, or it's an easy cab ride.

The Depot and other upscale hotels in Minneapolis are a real bargain in winter, offering rates that can be more than 50 percent off their regular prices, with many around \$70-90 a night. Cities like Chicago, where hotels in and around Boystown can run you \$150 a night even in the depths of winter, can be found near gay attractions in Minneapolis for close to half that.

Nearby the Depot there's the Hyatt Whitney, a mill that has been turned into a 96-room deluxe hotel. It's close to downtown and also offers a new Partners Package for romantic getaways. The package includes champagne, strawberries, and a credit in the hotel dining room. A similar offer, called the Rainbow Romance Package is offered by the Radisson Plaza Hotel Minneapolis. It includes champagne and breakfast via room service or in the hotel dining room.

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, which also markets itself to gay and lesbian travelers, has amenities including swimming pool and a separate full-service health club available to guests for \$9.35 a day. There's also the Embassy Suites, another large downtown hotel with the hotel's (quite good) restaurant in the center of a kind of enclosed courtyard which several stories of rooms all wrap around and look down upon.

For LGBT travelers on a tighter budget, there's the Hotel Amsterdam a gay-owned and operated budget hotel in the downtown district, located above the Saloon. It offers no-frills service (shared but lockable bathrooms, and no in-room phones, or TVs), but it's clean, inexpensive, and well-positioned for those who want to hit the town.

When it comes to winter weather, Minnesota might not be the first idea that comes to mind for a getaway, but if you're looking for place that's both affordable and still has the advantages of a major city, the Twin Cities might just be the place.

For information about other hotels and winter deals and information, call Minneapolis Tourism at (888) 676-6757 or see www.minneapolis.org.

Arsenic and Old Lace

Review by Carl M Szatmary

There are really too few plays that focus on a theatre critic. There is of course Tom Stoppard's brilliant "The Real Inspector Hound," a marvelously wicked send up of self-righteous critics. And self-righteous would certainly describe Addison DeWitt, the caustic critic portrayed by George Sanders in the classic film, "All About Eve."

Theatre critics don't get off much easier in Joseph Kesselring's wacky screwball comedy, "Arsenic and Old Lace," currently in performance at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre's Quadracci Powerhouse Theatre.

Curiously, Kesselring actually offers Mortimer Brewster (Brian Vaughn), the theatre critic in question, as the only bastion of normalcy in residence within the Brewster household. Still, he is a reluctant critic, seeing the profession as nothing short of risible, willing to write his review on the way to the theatre, staying for the first act only if he must.

This would seem to be the appropriate time to note that this reviewer did stay for the entire performance.

The most reality-challenged Brewster would appear to be Teddy (Torrey Hanson) who imagines himself to actually be his presidential namesake, Teddy Roosevelt, happily content to charge up to his second floor bedroom via San Juan Hill or venture down to his basement Panama to dig another lock for the canal. Conversely, Aunts Abby (Laurie Birmingham) and Martha (Rose Pickering) appear the embodiment of stability, two caring, sharing spinsters always willing to lend a helping hand.

The longish first act painstakingly sets up Kesselring's delightfully convoluted

plotting, introducing a fairly large scorecard of wacky characters, presenting the requisite romance, gleefully placing a dead body into the window-seat. Just as the first act curtain is about to fall, Kesselring tosses in the final piece of this madcap lunacy, the return of the prodigal son, Jonathan Brewster (Jonathan Smoots), an insane murderer of many faces, currently a very unhappy Boris Karloff look-a-like. He brings in tow his own plastic surgeon, Dr. Einstein (Lee E. Ernst).

The current Rep Resident Acting Company is again shown to be a first-rate ensemble, as fine performances all around lift this popular choice for high school productions into a thoroughly enjoyable evening of theatre.

Rose Pickering and especially Laurie Birmingham are spot on as the lovable murderesses, eliciting our sympathy at every turn. Although she's just revealed to Aunt Martha that another poor gentleman lies dead in the window-seat, Birmingham's Abby portrays such simple pleasure and excitement, that her joy is absurdly infectious. Equally standout is Ernst's engaging Dr. Einstein, a master at conveying facial expressions and body language - he seems to literally shrink before our very eyes when berated by Smoot's Jonathan.

If there is a weak link amongst the cast, it is Brian Vaughn's reluctant reviewer, Mortimer. Vaughn never manages to convey the necessary warmth to make the audience care whether or not the topsy-turvy Brewster world will act as barrier in his romance with fiancée Elaine (Dana Sharp).

Perhaps because "Arsenic and Old Lace" is such a familiar work, we in the audience are likely to already know each narrative twist Kesselring has next up his sleeve. Thus any current production is obliged to really keep up the pace. Although director James Pickering's winning production reaches a thoroughly satisfying conclusion, one wishes this theatrical flight of fancy took off a bit sooner.



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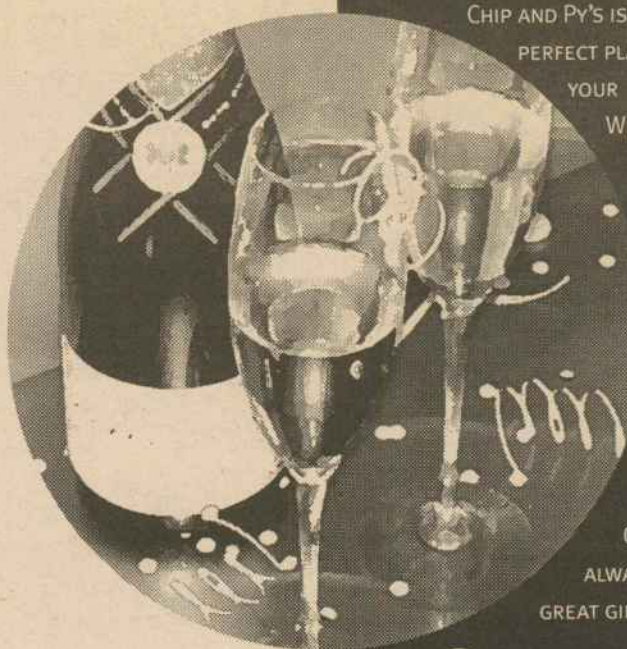
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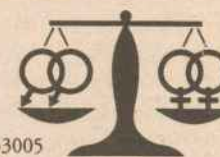
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Stage



Michael Flanigan, Jack Wilson, and Doug Mancheski in "Guys on Ice." Photo: Brent Nicastro

"Guys on Ice" is Cool

By Kathryn Kingsbury

The idea of fishing through a hole in the ice is probably comical enough for folks who live outside the upper Midwest. But for those of us from Wisconsin, we need "Guys on Ice" to bring out the full humor of one of the state's quintessential winter pastimes.

A musical by James Kaplan and the late Fred Alley, "Guys on Ice" lets the audience spend a day in a Door County fishing shanty with old friends Marvin (Doug Mancheski) and Lloyd (Michael Flanigan). Lloyd is having some marital problems, in part because he told his wife that he is going to spend their anniversary at Lambeau Field rather than with her. After all, he explains, his relationship with the Packers goes back to his childhood, while his marriage only started a few years ago.

The single Marvin, on the other hand, is pining for a cashier at the local Pick 'n' Save. He thinks that his scheduled appearance on a cable TV fishing show and a striking — well, that's what he thinks — resemblance to Elvis Presley are sure to win her over. Mancheski's star moment comes when he transforms himself into an Elvis impersonator to sing "what Elvis was to rock-n-roll, I'm with the ice fishing pole."

Ernie the Moocher (Jack Forbes Wilson) makes several unexpected appearances in the shanty, stopping by for bait, jerky and beer as well as to scare the fish away with some accordion solos. Wilson is hilarious throughout, but really shines in the post-intermission "half-time show." This feature, unique to the Madison Repertory Theatre production, allows audience members the chance to win staples of Midwestern cuisine by correctly answering multiple choice questions about Wisconsin culture.

The Rep's production of "Guys on Ice" boasts three new songs to round out the anglers' repertoire of odes to snowmobile suits, Leinenkugels, love and, of course, fish.

The set design by James Maronek and Frank Schneeberger provides the perfect backdrop for the play. No details were overlooked in the assembly of the fishing shanty, which boasts anthropologically authentic decorations including an old Spaghetti-Os label, a team photo of the Green Bay Packers and Michigan license plates.

Alley, who wrote the script and lyrics for "Guys on Ice," obviously knew north-

ern Wisconsin. Although based in Mount Horeb, just miles outside of Madison, he spent his summers in Door County working for American Folklore Theatre. His unexpected death this past May was a loss for Wisconsin theater, but his refreshing sense of humor lives on "Guys on Ice."

"Guys on Ice" runs Wednesdays through Sundays until December 23 at the University of Wisconsin's Mitchell Theatre, 821 University Avenue, Madison. Ticket reservations are available at the Madison Civic Center Ticket Office or by calling (608) 266-9055.

Naughty Santa: "The Reindeer Monologues"

By Kathryn Kingsbury

Santa Claus is a sex criminal. That's the premise of "The Eight: Reindeer Monologues," a comedy — of sorts — by Jeff Goode that succeeds more at making audience members squirm in their seats than fall out of them laughing.

That's not the fault of the actors, who take turns talking about St. Nick's most recent devious deed through the voices of his eight flying reindeer.

Jeffrey Brunnbauer steals the show with his fun and flippant gay Cupid, and Beth Shippert does a great job of playing Prancer, a frustrated actress who prefers to go by the name "Hollywood" and, needless to say, hates that clay-mation Rudolph movie that hits the airwaves every winter.

The onus for the play's lack of good laughs lies on the shoulders of the playwright, who fails to negotiate the fine line between humorous and horrifying, and perhaps also on Stage Q's pre-show publicity, which hints only that "something scandalous happened at the North Pole."

As every adult knows, scandal comes in varying degrees. It encompasses everything from the titillating but harmless, like the old rumors about Melissa Etheridge and Helen Hunt, to the Dahmeresque appalling.

Initially, Santa's deviance seems to be little more than an affinity for metal-studded leather. (So that's why the reindeer pull his sleigh wearing nothing but harnesses and jingle bells!)

But the audience slowly discovers that Santa's sex scandal is not akin to George Michael masturbating in a men's room. When ultra-feminist Blitzen (Shoshanna

Hill) calls Father Christmas a "pervert," it becomes clear that the scandal is not about healthy sexual proclivities. Dear old St. Nick is a predator.

Women, children, animals — even genderless elves — are all considered suitable victims when Santa decides to use his "jolly old elf" as a weapon.

"The Eight" delves into Santa's most recent violations with more detail than most people outside of a court of law would ever want to know. That might work if the play were a drama, but it is a little too much for even a dark comedy.

Kent Walker does an excellent job as Donner, a reindeer who sells his soul — and that of his child — to join the prestigious flying corps. And Stephanie Monday's portrayal of Vixen, a victim turned into villain by media and the courts, is compelling.

But the script itself never fleshes these characters out into anything more than skimpy stereotypes. Thus, "The Eight"

never goes beyond disturbing to become illuminating.

Stage Q's "The Eight" runs Thursdays through Saturdays until December 22 at the Bartell Community Theatre, 113 East Mifflin St., Madison. Tickets are \$12. Reservations available by calling (608) 204-0306.

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Classies

ADVERTISING

DEADLINE: Don't miss the next issue of Wisconsin IN Step. Display ad deadline is Dec. 22 for the issue appearing, Dec. 28. Make your ad reservation today! IN Step's offices are located at 1661 N. Water Street, Suite 411. We are open every week day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call our advertising Hotline at (414) 278-7840.

HOUSING

Wilson Park Area: Quiet neighborhood, clean, 3bedroom upper, Carpeted, central air, 1 car garage with auto opener. All appliances included. In apt. washer/dryer. \$750 per month includes water. No pets, security deposit. Call (414) 281-6561.

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Share Bay View Upper with GWM, \$325 per month includes utilities, washer/dryer. On street parking, and on bus line. Prefer non-smoker. (414) 483-1667 (9:30am-1:30pm)

Seeking Roommate to share large 2 bedroom apartment in friendly building on Martin Drive. Great space, leaded glass windows in living room and dining room. Crown Molding, natural wood floors. I am 30-something, gwm, smoker. Available Jan. 1. \$300 per month includes heat/parking. Gene: (414) 933-5905.

3154 S. Clement Ave: 2 bedroom upper with dining room, carpet, fresh paint, tons of storage and built-in China Cabinets. Off street parking. Rent: \$600. Call Sara at (414) 491-0776.

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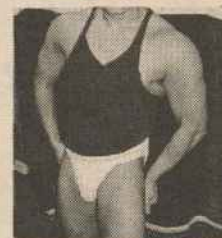
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Mail, Deliver or FAX (for Charge Cards only) to: IN Step
1661 N. Water Street, Suite 411, Milwaukee, WI 53202
Phone: 414.278.7840, FAX: 414.278.5868

Dear Ruthie



"Pearl? Where did you put those bourbon cough drops I got from Larry Flynt?" Oh, dear. Where is that gal?

Well, I made it through another Thanksgiving. Usually a trailer full of ex-husbands, a couple of ex-mother-in-laws and a handful of trailer trash neighbors is simply a pain in my ass, but this year I got a nasty cold as well.

"Pearl, where are you? I'm dying here!" Anyway, I got this cold because I let my housekeeper (or is that "trailerkeeper"?) fly home for the holiday — a big mistake.

Spatula was barely out the door when the orphanage called to say that I couldn't invite the children over this Thanksgiving if I was going to use them as cheap labor again. Well, thanks for nothing you ingrates! Those little bastards barely got the food out on time last year, their attempts at making souffles were marginal, and they couldn't mix a good martini if their lives depended on it.

As such, had no choice but to run to the Piggly Wiggly and pick up some side dishes. In my haste, I forgot to wear a coat.

"Pearl, these aren't my cough drops they're my birth control pills. What do you mean do I still take them? Just forget it. Make yourself useful and pour another bottle of poppers in the vaporizer, would ya?" Now where was I? Oh, yes, Thanksgiving. Well I had just coated the turkey with a golden glaze of Cheese Whiz when Spatula called from the airport.

She couldn't get through customs because the hip replacement I gave her last year for Christmas was setting off the metal detectors. She needed me to come to the airport with papers from her doctor verifying the hip's existence. Again, I rushed to the airport, not wearing a coat.

I got Spatula through security, strapped her suitcase to her back and unfolded her walker for her — gee, you'd think I was the hired help! Afterwards, I met a good-looking pilot in the parking lot who had a van. One thing led to another and that rotten bastard passed this cold on to me! That damn Spatula! It's all her fault. Why does she insist on seeing her family every five years? It's crazy!

"Pearl, ask Harriet to bring over some of those prescription drugs she's always

got laying around. No, not the laxatives." I can tell this is going to be a long week.

Dear Ruthie—

My sister is a total bitch. She completely ruined Thanksgiving by throwing a tantrum at the dinner table. Crying and sobbing, for reasons unknown to the family, she grabbed her coat and headed out the door.

I think she is uncomfortable with the relationship I have with my same-sex lover — even though we've been together for 10 years. She seems to throw these fits because she can't handle that the rest of the family accepts and values the relationship I have with my partner.

It angers me that she ruins holidays for my parents, siblings and other family members. What should I do now that Christmas is upon us?

(Signed) Pissed-Off Elf

Dear Elf—

Tell your sister to shove it — but do it quietly and to yourself. Get your frustrations out by venting to friends (not family members).

Then calmly discuss your feelings with her. If that isn't an option, consider making other holiday plans this year, spending time with the rest of your family a day or two after the 25. Or, host the Christmas celebration at your place. Your sister is less likely to have a fit if she's in your home.

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Keepin' IN Step

Laid Off

By Jamie Taylor

As suspected, I have been permanently laid off from Skylab. I can tell you that after 10 years I was getting to the point of burn-out anyway. The lay off was no surprise. I knew cutbacks were on their way and to be honest with you, I was paid way more than anyone else in the industry. Now that I am unemployed, I have lots of time on my hands. I've been looking in the paper for other jobs but I am not ready to work for somebody else for half what I was making. I would rather take my chances with JME Services. With all this time on my hands I get a chance to catch some daytime TV. Most of day-time advertisers are attorneys and people trying to give high credit risk people cars and phones. There are a few shows that caught my eye one of which is The Other Half. This is the men's version of The View. Hosts are Mario Lopez, Danny Bounadicci, Dick Clark and Dr. Jan. The gist of the show is a woman's world through the eyes of men. My favorite show was when Danny kissed Mario. They were talking about sweeps week and how many shows put 2 woman kissing to boost ratings. Mario wasn't expecting it but Danny swung around a laid one on Mario. It was pretty funny not to mention a bit erotic. I was wishing I was Danny at that point. Mario sure has grown up to be a handsome young man. A few weeks back a me, Josh, Jesse and Andy headed down to Chicago for a taping of Jerry Springer. Yes, I did bash his show in a past issue of In Step but I thought it would be a fun experience to see the studio in person. It was a lot of waiting but turned out to be lots of fun. Andy was such a slut he got a phone number from another audience member before we left the studio. We now call him the Springer Whore.

Moving on... These past few weeks were filled with lots of events to tell you about. The **Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA Pageant** was held at the Historic West Theatre in Green Bay. I placed a call to **Kelli Jo Klein** for the details. A whopping 22 contestants showed up to compete for the coveted 2002 title. Featured guests were **Miss Gay USofA, Erica Norwell, Miss Gay America, Sabrina Delight, Miss Gay WI USofA 2001, C.C. Domino**, with MC's **DuWanna Moore** and **Kelli Jo Klein**. I was told the pageant went pretty well considering the amount of contestants. And the winners are: **Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA 2002 Miss Dee Dee Winters** with runner up **Chantal** from Kenosha. Congrats to both girls and the rest of the contestants! The annual **Miss Club 219** pageant rolled around again with 5 contestants. This pageant also went on without a hitch. The girls looked great and the tension was high. In the end, **Miss Desire Triumph** took home the title. The 1st runner up was **Corona Royale** and 2nd runner up **Nannette Medved**. Speaking of 219, did you happen to catch the **HIT** party? Jeeze, the party gets better every year. It is the most camp I have seen in ages. The **HIT** bowlers were welcomed all over town. **The Ball Game, Woody's, Switch** and **M&M** all put together great parties for the rowdy and very thirsty **HIT** bowlers. Thanksgiving

day also brought out the masses. **Triangle, Fluid** and **Harbor Room** had pretty decent crowds. I also stopped in at the **1100 Club** for their famous Thanksgiving dinner. I was a bit too late for the dinner but I was told it was "better than mom's cooking." As long as we're talking about great dinners, **M&M** hosted a Pig Roast benefit dinner for the **HIT** bowlers. After the pig roast the fabulous **Singsationals** brought out the best in the musical talents of anyone who wanted to belt out a tune. No, yours truly did not take up the mic. I was over at **South Water Street Docks** helping them celebrate their 7th year anniversary. They put out a great Christmas buffet and of course, plenty of drink specials. They held a crowd for much of the night. Hats off to the crew over there, they've been doing a great job for 7 years and I suspect they will for another 7. Up in Green Bay the Christmas parties have also started. **Sass** hosted the Toys for Tots Christmas Show December 8. **Kelli Jo Klein** hosted the show. The toys collected that night went to the Salvation Army Toys for Tots program.

Coming up... You guessed it, there are plenty of Christmas parties to attend. **Fluid's Ho-Ho-Homo** party will be December 11th with great food and even gifts for all who attend. **Club 5** out in Madison will throw their Holiday and Anniversary Celebration December 13. There will be a buffet dinner, male dancers and drink special. They will also be hosting the **Simply Divine Christmas Show** December 16. This is a benefit for the Transitional Housing Inc. If you wanna sit on Santa's lap, get over to **Harbor Room** for the **Milwaukee Knights Holiday Beer Bust. Switch** will hold their Christmas Party on the 16th. Free food and prizes and — an appearance by Santa! The **Cream City Chorus** will be at the **Plymouth Church** December 16 with their Ice Crystals Through Winters Window show. For details, call 414-276-8787. **Triangle** will throw a holiday bash December 18th with drink specials free shots and other goodies. December 22nd is when the **Rainbow Room** in Madison will host their Christmas show. I'm told there will be "plenty of drink specials and a few surprises." The **Miss Rainbow Room 2002** will be held January 9th. After a call to **M&M** I was told their Christmas Party/Customer Appreciation party is slated for December 23. Might wanna call before you head down there to make sure the date hasn't changed.

That's all I have for this issue. I wish I could have told you about the trip to Austin but that never happened. I'm hoping to be able to tell about a trip soon. Hell, as long as I have the time off I might as well take advantage. Maybe Toronto? Anyway, make sure you have a safe holiday and as always, slower traffic keep right.

The Guide

Listings in Wisconsin IN Step's Guide are FREE of Charge. e-mail them to:
guide@instepnews.com

STATEWIDE

Action Wisconsin: Congress for Human Rights, Inc.
PO Box 342, Madison 53701-0342(608) 283-3251
E-mail: info@actionwisconsin.org
Web Site: www.actionwisconsin.org

AIDS Action Wisconsin
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202(414) 225-1597
marksla@execpc.com(800) 359-9272

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202(414) 273-1991
.....(800) 359-9272

BiNet USA (Nat'l bisexual political organization)
(http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/binet.html)
.....(202) 882-4384

Division of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Program
1 W. Wilson St., Rm. 318
P.O. Box 2659, Madison 53701-2659(608) 267-5287
Drug Reimbursement Program(800) 991-5532

Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline (Fri/Sat Eves 7pm-11pm)
.....(866) GAY-YOUTH

Milwaukee Metro(414) 272-TEEN

Great Lakes Harley Riders
(International contact for gay and bi Harley men)
PO Box 341611, Milw, 53234-1611
http://homepage.interaccess.com/~hridrider/home.sht

IN Step (Wisconsin's LGBT Community Newspaper)
1661 N. Water St., Suite 411, Milwaukee, 53202
Phone:(414) 278-7840
FAX only(414) 278-5868
Web: www.instepnews.com

Log Cabin Republicans/Wisconsin(414) 299-9443
P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201

New Beginnings PENPALS (Mo. newsletter)
Box 25, Westby 54667

Pride in Wisconsin Government (LGBT public employees)
c/o OutReach, P.O. Box 310
Madison, WI 53701(608) 255-8582

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

TAG Team Productions
(WI-USofA Pageants)(414) 432-2517

Top HAT Productions
(Continental System)(414) 671-6711

Wisconsin AIDS Library(414) 225-1539
arcwlib@execpc.com(800) 359-9272

Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous)(414) 273-AIDS
.....(800) 334-AIDS

WI Conference of Churches
(AIDS Caring Community)(608) 244-0894

Wisconsin Boot Men (contact service for men into boots)
P.O. Box 94, Francis Creek, 54214
E-mail: Boot4Sale@aol.com

WI Legislative Hotline(800) 362-WISC

APPLETON (920)

BARS

Rascals Bar & Grill (MW, F)
702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton 54911954-9262

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals)731-4331

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
120 N. Morrison St., Suite 201, 54911920-733-2068
.....800-733-2068

Angel of Hope (MCC Church)
110 S. Locust Street, 54914991-0128

HIV+ Support Group Appleton739-4226

Lavender Reading Salon (Book Club)832-6184
2611 N. Summit St., 54914-2120

Lawrence University Pride (Student Group)832-7051
.....www.lawrence.edu/sorg/pride

PFLAG Fox Cities
Box 75, Little Chute, 54140749-1629

Rainbow Over Wisconsin
703 E. Wisconsin Ave., 54911-4830

GREEN BAY (920)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Chanticleer Guest House
4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234746-0334

BlackSmith Inn (Bed & Breakfast)
Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202839-9222

BARS

Brandys II (Mw, L/L)
1126 Main Street, Green Bay, 543041-800-311-3197

Buddies (MW)437-9256

1264 Main Street, Green Bay, 54304
Napalese Lounge (MW, DJ)
515 S. Broadway 54303432-9646

MEDICAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
824 S. Broadway, 54304920-437-7400
.....800-675-9400

HIV+ Support Support
Green Bay437-4325

Independent Assessment & Counseling (Kenneth Sahn)
130 E. Walnut, #406 54301438-8141

HIV+ Support Support
Green Bay437-4325

Marriage and Family Therapy Center (Gerald Wellens)
130 E. Walnut, #406, 54301432-8777

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals)731-4331

Angel of Hope (MCC Church)
3607 Libal Street, 54301983-7453

Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club)
PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305

Entertainers Against AIDS (Paul)437-7400

Gay/Lesbian Support at UW-GB465-2343

Genesis Project (Transgender)
.....e-mail: stephaniebocho@hotmail.com

GLBT Partnership (Youth)731-4847

Parents & Friends of G/L Green Bay432-0830

Positive Voice (Gay and Lesbian Support)
P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305435-4404

Rainbow Alliance @ SNC
(St. Norbert's College Student Group)403-3963

Straight & Gay Alliance @ UW-GB
(Brian)465-2343
.....www.uwgb.edu/tenpcent

Union Congregational Church-UCC
716 S. Madison St, Green Bay 54301437-9266

Youth Pride
(Patti or Sharon)465-8230

MADISON (608)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Prairie Garden B&B
W13172 Hwy 188, Lodi, 53555(800) 380-8427

MEDICAL

AIDS Network
HIV/AIDS Service Organization
600 Williamson St, 53701252-6540
FAX252-6559

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
222 State St., 53701258-9103
.....800/518-9910

Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday)
1552 University Avenue 53705262-7330

Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital (HIV Counseling/Testing)
80 1st St., Prairie du Sac, 53578643-7583

BARS

CE's (Wm)
2415 Winnebago St., 53704241-5042

Club 5 (MW, Food)
5 Applegate Court, 53713277-9700

Fox Hole (W)
5 Applegate Ct., 53713277-9700

3 Shamrock (GS, MW, F, D)
117 W. Main St. 53703255-5029

5 Ray's (MW, DJ)
3052 E Washington, 53704241-9335

Greenbush (G/S, M/W, F)
914 Regent, 53715257-BUSH

3 Rainbow Room (MW)
121 West Main St., 53703251-1030

Planet Q (MW, D, V)
5 Applegate Court, 53713277-9700

The Barracks (Mw, L/L)
5 Applegate Court, 53713277-8700

ORGANIZATIONS

Briarpatch
512 E. Washington St. 53703257-0394
www.brpatch.org

Brew City Bears
P.O. Box 8815, 53708-8815, Milw.299-0401
E-mail: bcbears@aol.com

Campus Womens Center
710 University Ave., #202, 53715262-8093

Different Spokes G/L/B Bicycling Club241-8184

18-21 Yr Old Social Group256-2667

Flaming Dykasaurus (Improv, comedy group)241-7020
E-mail: dykasaur@aol.com

Frontiers (Gay/Bi Mens Activities Organ.)274-5959

Gay/Bi Father's Group
600 Williamson St, 53703255-8582

Gay/Lesbian Information Recording
(ask for tape #3333)263-3100

Gay Mens Video Club
PO Box 8234, 53708244-8675

GLBT Phone Line (Outreach's Out-line)255-4297

Jewish Lesbians256-8883
E-mail: catherine-odette@juno.com

Kissing Girls Productions (Lesbian Events)266-9997
E-Mail: kgpgirlz@hotmail.com

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 Group251-1126
(Briarpatch & Picada) or246-7606

Lesbian, Gay and Bi Law Student Union
UW Law School, Bascom Mall, Madison 53706

Lesbian Health Issues Task Force242-6256
E-mail: sievert@co.dane.wi.us

Lizzards (Lesbians 30 and over)586-4499
E-mail: cannon@magis.net

Madison Area Gay/Lesbian History Society839-4060
E-mail: dbergren@faststaff.wisc.edu

Mad City Bears225-8582
c/o OutReach, 600 Williamson, Madison 53706

Madison LGBT Business Alliance245-1611
www.lgbtalliance.org

Madison Volleyball Group (Jeff)251-8716

Madison Wrestling Club
PO Box 8234, 53708244-8675

MAGIC Picnic Committee c/o Outreach255-8582

Mens Alanon255-8582

New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation)
PO Box 1786, 53701

OutReach, Inc.
600 Williamson St, 53703255-8582
email: outreachinc.com, web: www.outreachinc.com

Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
PO Box 1722, 53701

Perfect Harmony Chorus831-3609
P.O. Box 14706, 53714-4706

Rainbow Community Collective (L/G/B/T Social Org)
Wil-Mar Neighborhood Ctr. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
953 Jenifer Street (Lira)608/238-9150

Rural Dykes Association (social)767-3150

SAGE/Madison-Dane255-8582

Scrawl (Women's Open Mic, Music)245-9681
http://www.checkpages.com/brainiacs/allgirlscrawl

Shake It Up! (L/G/B/T Social Org)240-0504
http://www.aplaceforus.org/shakeitup.htm

Stage Q (Theater Group)663-6463
http://www.stageq.com

10% Society (student organization)
http://tps.storg.wisc.edu, e-mail: execs@tps.storg.wisc.edu

Unicorns of Madison (L/L club)
PO Box 536, 53701

UW LesBiGay Alumni Council262-2551

Womansong (Woman's Choral Group)246-2681

RELIGIOUS

Affirmation (L/G United Methodists)
University Church, 1127 Univ. Ave, 53705256-2353

Church of the Holy Spirit (Inclusive)
2144 E. Johnson St., (meeting at James Reeb)661-4462

Coming Out, Coming Together (Interfaith)249-1537
E-mail: cwolfe@mailbag.com

First Congregational UCC Church233-9751
1609 University Ave., 53705
.....www.firstcongmadison.org

Integrity/Dignity
Box 730, 53701836-8886

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church
2146 E Johnson, 53704242-8887

SERVICES

Victoria Hewett Cazel (Attorney)
6701 Seybold Rd., Suite 103270-1709

KMA Systems of Madison (Computer Consultants)
4702 Dutch Mill Road #14222-9128

RETAIL

Border's Books
3416 University Ave., 53705232-2600

Rubin's
317 E. Wilson St. 53704255-8998

MILWAUKEE (414)

ORGANIZATIONS

Aeon Group (Interactive Fiction Gaming)
P.O. Box 93953, 53203-0953291-0530

Alcoholics Anonymous
(Request gay meetings)771-9119

Beer Town Badgers, P.O. Box 840, 53201

Bi Definition (Bisexual community events)
315 W. Court St., Suite 101299-9612
E-mail: bidef@hotmail.com

Brew City Bears299-0401
P.O. Box 1035, 53201
E-mail: brewcitybears@aol.com, www.brewcitybears.org

BWMT-Milwaukee461-4586, ext 3

P.O. Box 100608, Milwaukee, 53210

Castaways M.C. (Levi/Leather club), P.O. Box 1697, 53202

Counseling Center (LGB support & discussion groups)
2038 N. Bartlett, 53202271-2565

Cream City Chorus
315 W. Court, 53212276-8787

Cream City Foundation (CCF)
315 W. Court, 53212225-0244

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

DAMES (Dykes Against Minority Erotic Suppression)
P.O. Box 1272, Milwaukee, 53201278-0323

Fest City Singers (gay choral group)
P.O. Box 11428, 53211961-0713

Firebirds (L/L group), P.O. Box 159, 53201-0159

Front Runners (running group)332-1527

Galano Club (chemical free recovery club)
315 W. Court St., 53212276-6936

GAMMA (sports/outdoors/recreation/social)
E-mail: mkegamma@execpc.com
Web: www.execpc.com/~mkegamma
P.O. Box 1900, 53201365-3453

Membership Info358-2111

Gay Father's Group
1240 E. Brady St., 53202372-8008

Gay Lesbian Education Employees of Metro Milw.
(GLEEMM), Larry462-8404

Gay/Lesbian Studies UWM229-6402

Gay & Lesbian Tavern Guild
209 E. National Ave., 53204

Gay People's Union
P.O. Box 208, 53201645-0585

Gay Youth Milwaukee (peer group meetings)
P.O. Box 090441, 53209265-8500

Gay Men's Discussion/Support Group
(Bill)276-7626

Gemini Gender Group (TV/TS/TG support/social)
P.O. Box 44211, 53214297-9328

Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee
P.O. Box 862, 53201-0862

GLEAM/SPECTRUM (GLBT Employees of Ameritech)
P.O. Box 254, 53201482-4310

G/L Community Center Trust Fund
P.O. Box 1686, 53201643-1652

Great Lakes Harley Riders, P.O. Box 341611, 53234-1611

Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event)
P.O. Box 899, 53201

Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support)
P.O. Box 27041, West Allis, 53227548-4344

LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee)
315 W. Court, 53212272-9442

LOC/Women of Color
P.O. Box 93594, 53203263-1631

Log Cabin Republicans (Gay Republicans)
P.O. Box 199, 53201299-9443

MGALA (Marquette U. GL Alumni)
P.O. Box 92722, 53202

Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance
Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233288-6873

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Scott)543-9643

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center271-2656
315 W. Court, 53212
.....www.mkelgibt.org

Milwaukee Symphony Chorus
Auditions/Info414-559-9330
.....www.milwaukeekeetsymphony.org

Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.)800-711-6375

Orgullo Latino/a Latin Pride
(c/o Murguila) 1532 N. Astor St. 53202276-8546

Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group963-9833

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
315 W. Court, 53212299-9198

Pathfinders (youth counseling, shelter)
1614 E. Kane Place, 53202271-1560

PrideFest (annual Pride festival)
907 S. 1st St., 53204
Web Site: www.pridefest.com645-FEST

Project Q (Youth Program of the Milwaukee LGBT Center)
315 W. Court, 53212
www.projectq.org223-3220

The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)
PO Box 090441, 53209265-8500

Rainbow Alliance at UWM
Box 122, 2200 E. Kenwood 53211229-6555
.....www.uwm.edu/studentorg/glibc/

Riverwest Rainbow Association
1001 E. Keefe Ave., 53212225-1645

SAGE Milwaukee (for older LGBTs)
P.O. Box 510492, 53203-0091271-0378

Saturday SoftBall League (SSBL)
P.O. Box 92605, 53203-0091454-9204

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA)299-0755

Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc.
P.O. Box 76115, 53216873-1849

Shoreline (country dancing, instruction)
P.O. Box 510283, 53203-0051747-0388

Silver Space (for older lesbians)
c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett271-2565

Wisconsin Leather Men's Assoc. Inc.
P.O. Box 897, 53201-0897

Wisconsin Outdoor Women (outdoor sporting events)
P.O. Box 94, Hales Corners, 53130427-2082

RELIGIOUS

All Saints' Episcopal Church
818 E. Juneau Ave., 53202271-7719
.....www.ascatherdal.org

ARCW Spiritual Care
P.O. Box 92487, 53202225-1565

Central United Method Church
639 N. 25th St., 53233

Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
1821 N. 16th St., 53205344-1746

Dignity (G/L Catholic Church)	
P.O. Box 597, 53201	873-9591
First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist)	
1342 N. Astor St., 53202	273-5257
Lake Park Lutheran Church	
2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211	962-9190
Lutherans Concerned	
P.O. Box 1676, 53201	372-9663
Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church (U/MCC)	
1239 W. Mineral St., 53204	
Adm. Office: 170 S. 2nd St., 53204	383-1100
Pentecost Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)	
5226 W. Burleigh St., 53210	445-2696
Plymouth Church-UCC (Open & Affirming)	
2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211	964-1513
The Sanctuary (Ecumenical, nondenominational)	
1636 W. National Ave., 53204	672-4434
St. Ann's Church	
5933 W. National Ave., 53214	259-1229
St. James Episcopal Church	
833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233	271-1340
Village Church (Reconciled in Christ)	
130 E. Juneau Ave., 53202	273-7617

MEDICAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)	
820 Plankinton Ave., 53203	273-1991
	(800) 359-9272
Mark Behar, PA-C (Family/ Primary Care)	
Family Care Center, 1834 W. W., 53233	933-3600
BESTD (Brady East STD Clinic) (STD/HIV diagnosis/treatment)	
www.bestd.org; bestd@execpc.org	
1240 E. Brady St., 53202	272-2144
Health Options (Holistic Health Services)	
823 N. 2nd Street, #811, 53202	225-9303
Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms)	
4311 W. Vliet, 53208	342-4333
Positive Health Clinic	
Medical Center Specialties Clinic	
945 N. 12, 53233	219-7908
STD Specialties Clinic	
3251 N. Holton, 53212	264-8800

BARS

1 Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F)	
196 S. 2nd St., 53204	273-7474
2 Boot Camp (M, L/L)	
209 E. National Ave., 53204	643-6900
3 C'est La Vie (Mw, D)	
231 S. 2nd St., 53204	291-9600
4 Club Boom (Mw, D, V)	
625 S. 2nd St., 53204	277-5040
3 Club 219 (Mw, DJ, V)	
219 S. 2nd St., 53204	271-3732
3 Dish (Wm, DJ)	
235 S. 2nd St., 53204	273-DISH
Emeralds	
801 E. Hadley, 53206	265-7325
17 1100 Club (Mw, L/L, DJ, F)	
1100 S. 1st St., 53204	647-9950
5 Fannie's (Wm, D, F)	
200 E. Washington St., 53204	649-9003
6 Fluid (Mw)	
819 S. 2nd St., 53204	645-8330
6 Harbor Room (L/L, Mw)	

117 E. Greenfield Ave., 53204	672-7988
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 St., 53204	383-8330
10 M&M Club (MW, F)	
124 N. Water 53202	347-1962
13 South Water Street Docks	
354 E. National Ave., 53204	225-9676
20 Off The Tracks (Wm, D)	
1534 W. Grant 53215	384-5680
14 Switch (Mw)	
124 W. National Ave., 53204	220-4340
15 This Is It (M)	
418 E. Wells 53202	278-9192
16 Triangle (M, V)	
135 E. National 53204	383-9412
31 Woody's (Mw, D)	
1579 S. 2nd St., 53204	672-0806
32 Walker's Pint (Wm)	
818 S. 2nd St., 53204	643-7468

COFFEE HOUSES and RESTAURANTS

Azteca	
816 South 5th St., 53204	383-8816
Bella's Cafe (Coffee House)	
189 N. Milwaukee St., 53204	273-5620
Big Mamma's Cafe (10am-after hours)	
1106 S. 1st St. 53204	831-0186
Cafe Knickerbocker	
1030 East Juneau, 53202	272-0011
Cempazuchi	
1205 E. Brady St., 53202	291-5233
Chip and Pys	
1340 W. Towne Square Rd., Mequon,	241-9589
Cielito Lindo	
733 South 2nd St., 53204	649-0401
Harry's Bar and Grill	
3539 N. Oakland Ave., 53211	694-6800
10 M&M/Glass Menagerie (lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch)	
124 N. Water 53202	347-1962
North Shore Bistro	
Riverpoint Village, I-43 & Brown Deer	351-6100
Silver Dollar Cafe	
831 South 16th Street, 53204	645-8860

HELP LINES

The Force	
(referrals to GBLT counselors)	276-8487
Gay People's Union	645-0585
Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline (Fri/Sat Eves 7pm-11pm)	
	(866) GAY-YOUTH
Milwaukee Metro	(414) 272-TEEN
Helpline (Crisis Counseling)	271-3123
Pathfinders (24-hour youth counseling)	271-1560
Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous)	(414) 273-AIDS
	(800) 334-AIDS

SERVICES

Able Amazon (Home Repair)	447-0251
Affiliated Mortgage	453-6700
1233 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, 53218	
A&J Promotions (Promotional Products)	
aandjpromotions@aol.com	
Bay Tax Service, Paul Rathjen	332-9584

Frank J. Berger, (Real Estate)	(414) 213-5842
B&G Construction	405-7843
Sean Buckley (Individual Psychotherapy)	562-2403
Bill Buresh (Real Estate)	529-0500
Calyx Counseling Center (Kate Weishaar, Ph.D.)	
1840 N. Farwell Ave. Ave.	276-4664
Carnival Travel, 611 E. Wells St.	276-3388
Clarity (Writing and Research)	276-6935
Creative Home Concepts (Home/Remodel)	766-1066
Downtown Autobody (Car Repair)	
3425 N. Holton Ave.	964-7170
Roland E. Daneau, CPA (Accountant)	962-1400
Discovery & Recovery Clinic (Counseling)	
6510 W. Layton Ave., 53215	282-6160
Dykeman Family Heating (heating/cooling)	
1023 E. Brady St., 53202	273-7500
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	
The Garden Room (Garden Design)	
Michael Davis	963-1657
GLINN Network One (Internet Access, www.gn1.net)	
1618 N. Jackson, 53202	289-8640
Hairys Hair Bar	
2385 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.	486-9299
Horizon Travel (Member IGTA)	
N81 W15028 Appleton, Men. Falls 53051	255-0704
Hume, Attorney Kathleen	
5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners, 53130	529-2129
Bill Hanel, msw (Counseling, Psychotherapy)	276-7626
Denis Jackson, PhD. (Relational training, hypnosis, HIV & Vocational Counseling)	276-8669
Klaus & Meyers (attorneys)	
5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners 53130	529-2800
C.A. Klein (Accounting Services)	384-1640
Landmark Plumbing	224-8008
Linda Jo Martin (Psychotherapist)	276-8676
Randy Mickelson, (Ernie Von Schledorn, auto sales)	
Saukville/Port Washington	800-648-6789
Scott Perkins (Realtor)	476-9070, ext. 461
	cell: 801-1356
Red Tail Painting & Restoration	607-1180
e-mail: redtail@execpc.com	
Reiki Master/Wm Jacobs	
(energy balancing)	668-8860
Side by Side (performers)	961-2135
Diane Bloom/Sandy Lewis	
Jeanie Simpkins, (MS), (counseling)	282-6160
Jack Smith (Realtor)	962-4413
home/voice mail	224-1452
Special Touch Massage	536-8232
Streff Advertising/Sandy Lewis	771-8300
7600 Harwood Ave., Wauwatosa, 53213	
The Right Angle (carpentry)	390-0909
Third Coast Courier (delivery)	562-0935
Travel Directions (Travel Agency)	
515 Glenview, Wauwatosa, 53213	774-2174
Travel Experience (Travel Agency)	744-6020
Wauker Photography (Portraits, Commitments)	
by appointment only	383-0740
Wells Ink, Advertising & Design (Advertising, PR)	
1661 N. Water St., Suite 411, 53202	272-2116

RETAIL

2Burn (Ventless Fireplaces, Gifts)	
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11708 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa	607-7000
Absolute Furniture	
5520 W. North Ave.	875-8326
Adambomb Gallerie (tattoos, jewelry)	
524 S. 2nd St., 53204	276-BOMB
Avante Garde (Body Piercing, Tattoos)	
7219 W. Greenfield, Ave.	607-4068
Body Ritual (Body Piercing, Jewelry, Gifts)	
2010 N. Farwell Ave., 53202	273-3777
Clinton Street Antiques	
1110 South First Street	647-1773
Changin' Times	
932 E. Brady St., 53202	281-7473
Constant Reader Bookshop	
1627 E. Irving Pl., 53202	291-0452
Eclectic i (art/gifts)	
411 E. Silver Spring, Whitefish Bay, 53217	906-0665
Forever Yours (flowers, fresh cut, dried)	
2201 E. Capital Dr., 53211	963-1006
Genesis (custom jeweler, goldsmith)	
6011 W. Layton Ave.	281-1022
Frank Gentile (Auto Dealer)	
Hwy 20, Racine	886-5111
Grava Gallery (framing)	
1209 E. Brady St., 53202	277-8228
Mega Discount Nursery	
1901 E. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek 53154	571-6565
Miss Groove (gifts)	
1225 E. Brady St., 53202	298-9185
Out of Solitude Jewelry	
918 E. Brady St., 53202	223-3101
Outpost Natural Foods	
100 E. Capital Dr., 53212	964-7789
exchange@execpc.com	
Outwards (LGBT Books and espresso bar)	
2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211	963-9089
exchange@execpc.com	
Popular News (adult books, videos)	
225 N. Water St., 53202	278-0636
Rosebud Cinema and Drafthouse	
6833 W. North Ave.	607-9672
Rubin's	
224 E. Chicago St. 53202	278-8100
Sportland 2 (motorcycles)	
7221 S. 13th St.	764-2800
Video Adventures (video/dvd sales/rentals)	
1418 E. Brady St., 53202	272-6768
Wishful Things (Antiques)	
207 E. Buffalo, 53202	964-9799

Spa/Health Clubs

Midtowne Spa (Gay Health and Recreational Facility)	
315 S. Water St., 53204	278-8989

CENTRAL (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin	
1105 Grand Ave., #3, Schellfield, 54476	(800) 551-3311
Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance	
P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54481	
	(715) 592-6245, ext. 5920200
Joseph T. Chojacki, PH.D. (Psychologist)	
Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449	387-5442
The Edgewater — Inn & Resort	
Engle River, 54521	1-888-334-3987
http://www.edgeinn.com	
G&L Society/Wausau	848-0608
UWSP 10% Society	
Campus Activities Complex, Box 68	
UWSP, Stevens Point, 54481	346-4366
LDS Brotherhood (Gay Mormons)	
PO Box 152, Wausau, 54402	848-0343
Oz (MW, DJ, V)	
320 Washington, Wausau 54401	842-3225
HIV/AIDS Spiritual Support & Education	
2108 4th Ave, Stevens Point 54481	345-6500
Marshfield Gay Lesbian Organ. (MGLO)	
c/o 130 S. Central Ave., #3 Marshfield, 54449	
Vic: (715) 387-2068 Jim	(715) 384-6731
Prince Edward B&B	
203 W 5th, Shawano 54166	526-2805
Wausau Narcotics Anonymous	
(ask for Gay meetings)	536-LIFE
Women's Resource Center UWSP	
336 Nelson Hall, Stevens Pt. 54481	346-4851

NORTH CENT. (715)

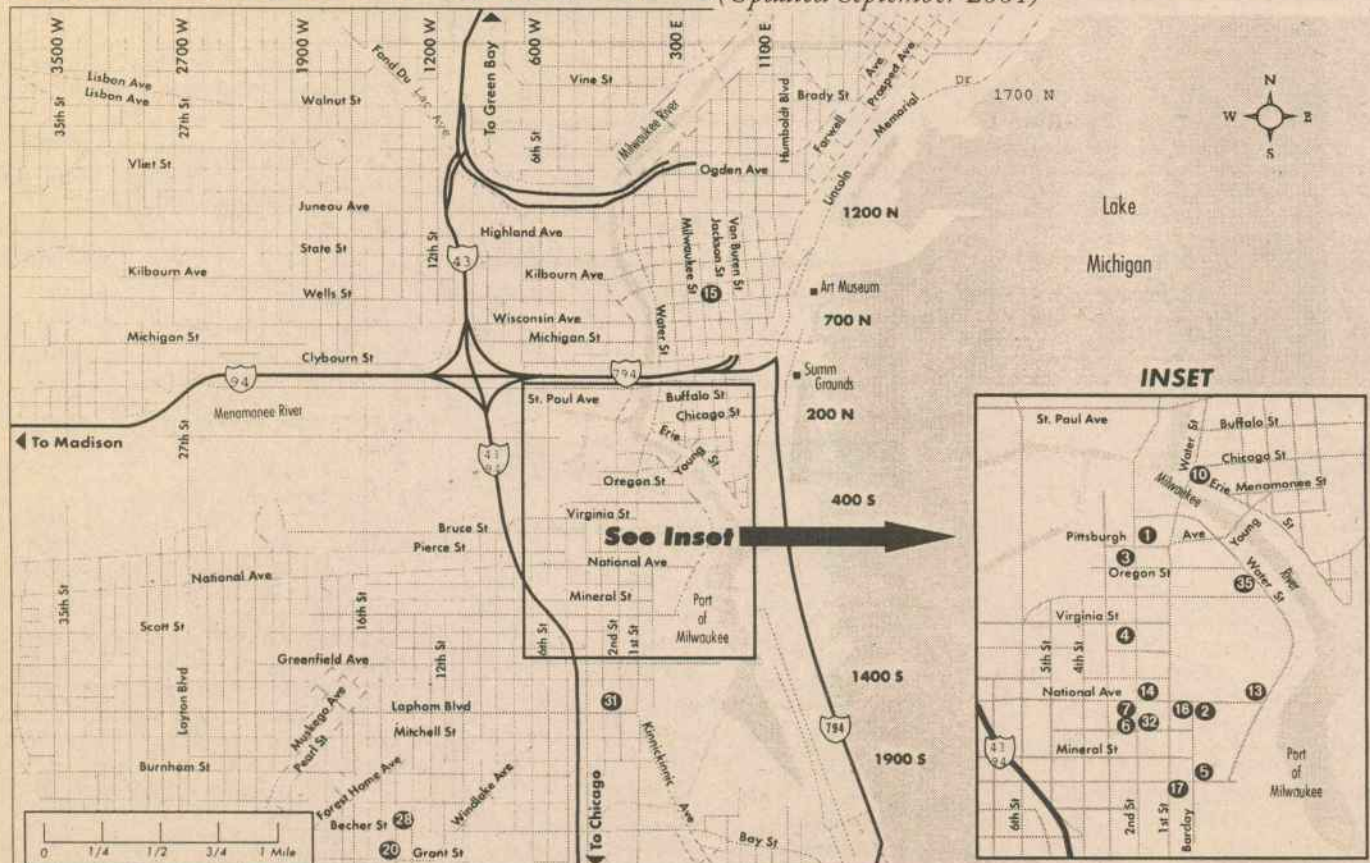
Gay/Lesbian Support Group	
Box 247A, 1411 Ellis Ave. Ashland 54806	
Northern WI Lambda Society	
PO Box 802, Rhinelander 54501	362-4242
SHEM (Support, Heal, Educate) for Parents, Family, Friends of	
Gay/Lesbians/Bi's	359-7432
Out Up North (G/L Social/Info/Network)	
PO Box 695, Washburn, 54891	682-2890

SHEBOYGAN (920)

Blue Lite (Mw) 1029 N. 8th, 53081	457-1636
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians	
Shirley: 458-2506 Carolyn: 467-0422	
Sheboygan Antiques	
336 Superior Avenue 53081	452-6757
Wesley United Methodist Church (Reconciling Congregation)	
823 Union Avenue, Sheboygan	458-4889

RACINE/KENOSHA

MILWAUKEE (Updated September 2001)



AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin 1212 57th St., Kenosha, 53140	657-6644 (800) 924-6601
Club 94 (MW, DJ) 9001 120th Ave (Hwy C& I-94) Kenosha 53140	857-9958
Doggie Style (Pet Grooming) 6828 Sheridan Road, Kenosha 53143	657-5667
Frank Gentile (Auto Dealer) Hwy 20 Racine 53403	886-5111
JoDee's (MW, DJ) 2139 Racine St (Hwy 32) Racine 53403	634-9804
What About Me? (WM) 600 6th St. Racine 53403	632-0171
Gay AA (Group 294 Meeting) Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine 625 College, Racine 53403	554-6611 634-0659
UW-Parkside G/L Organization 900 Wood Rd., Box 200, Kenosha 53141	595-2244
PFLAG Kenosha/Racine (c/o St. Mary's Lutheran Church) 2001 80th St., Kenosha 53143	658-3555
UW-Whitewater G/L Student Union 309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190	472-5738
Diamond Hill Inn B&B W1375 Hwy 11, Spring Prairie	63-4421
Wychwalde (Jewelry & Gifts) 8321 Antioch Rd (Hwy 83), Salem 53168	843-4209

SOUTH CENT. (715)

AIDS Network Satellite Office (AIDS Info) P.O. Box 8486, Jonesville 53545	756-2550
Chase on the Hill (Bed and Breakfast) 11624 St. Rd 26, Milton, 53563	868-6646
Cathron House (B&B) Mineral Point	987-2612

NORTHWEST (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin—Eau Claire (www.arcw.org) 505 Dewey Street S., Suite 107 Eau Claire 54701	836-7710 (800) 750-2437
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin—Superior (www.arcw.org) 1507 Tower Ave., Suite 230, Superior 54880	394-4009 (877) 242-0282
Backwoods Bears (For Bear Men) PO Box 264, Superior 54880	
Different Strokes BBS (Computer Bulletin Board) PO Box 152, Wausau 54402	842-1377
Do-Ri-Chi (Bed & Breakfast) 33 E. Spruce St., Chippewa Falls	723-0943
Eagle Cave B&B (eglcave@comcast.net) W4387 120th Avenue, Maiden Rock, 54750	448-4302
GLOBE (Campus Lesbian/Gay group) 105 Garfield, 132 Davies Ctr, Eau Claire 54701	
JP Creations (WEB Design) LGBT Community Center of Chippewa Valley (gaycenter@hotmail.com) www.geocities.com/glbtcmmunitycenter/ PO Box 383, Eau Claire, 54702	477-8802 (715) 559-5751
The Trading Company (MW, DJ) 304 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701	838-9494
The Main Club (MW, DJ) 1217 Tower Ave., Superior 54880	392-1756
Northland Gay Men's Center 8 N. 2nd Ave. E., Ste. 309 Duluth, MN 55802	(218) 722-8585
Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) Greater Chippewa Valley PO Box 11, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0011	
Q2 (Social/support for LGBT youth) P.O. Box 11, Eau Claire, WI 54702	836-7710
Scooter's (MW) 411 Galloway St., Eau Claire, 54703	835-9959
Trio (WM) 820 Tower, Superior, 54880	392-5373
Twin Ports Pride P.O. Box 3198, Duluth, MN 55803	(218) 728-5825
UW Stout 10% Society c/o 153 C Harvey Hall, UW-S Menomonee, 54751 UW Eau Claire Variations on Spring (Gifts, Collectibles) 22 West Spring, Chippewa Falls 54729	723-8490

S. WEST & CENTRAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org) Grandview Center, 1707 Main St., #420 La Crosse, WI 54601	(608) 785-9866 (800) 947-3353
The Alliance (LesBiGay Social Group) PO Box 131, Plattville 53818 e-mail: ALLIANCE@uwplatt.edu	348-5596
Cavalier Lounge (MW, D) 114 N. 5th St., LaCrosse 54601	782-9061
Chela and Rose's B&B and Forest Retreat GALAXY (Gay Alliance of La Crosse Area Youth) 3219 Commerce St., La Crosse, 54603	735-4829 781-2783
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Box 131, Plattville, 53818	
My Place (MW J) 3201 South Ave., LaCrosse 54601	788-9073
LaCrosse L/G Support Group c/o Campus Ministry Center Looping La Crosse News Box 932, LaCrosse 54602	784-7600
LaCrosse Parents & Friends of Gays Rainbow's End (G/S, WM), 417 Jay St., La Crosse 54601	782-6082 782-9802
Under the Rainbow (Alternative Books) 122 5th Ave S, LaCrosse 54601	796-0383
Rainbow Ridge Farms Bed & Breakfast Pioneers (Southwest WI Rural G/L Alliance) Code 4419, e-mail to pioneersw@comcast.net PO Box 53, Richland Center, 53581 Players (MW DJ)	783-8181 800-484-8131

By Michael Johnston

To paraphrase Kurt Weill "the days are dwindling down to a precious few" and soon we will be saying adieu to 2001. But, in the meanwhile, what better way than in a social whirl!

Yes, the party season is once again in full gallop and it's wonderful to see a full calendar.

The best way I know to get into the mood of the Season is through music. I attended the premiere concert of **Men's Voices Milwaukee** (MVM) Dec. 1. While the entertainment on stage was enthralling, as expected, I always have more fun before, during intermission and after the show – and I'll tell you why ...

It was a virtual "Christmas Card" of Milwaukee, people I haven't seen since The Make A Promise Dinner, PrideFest or Wisconsin AIDS Walk. Of course the weather couldn't have been better.

Besides the thirty-something on stage, in the mix making the debut as dashing as it was, were: The Community's "Fairy Godmother" **Brigitte Vojsik** of PFLAG, ARCW's **Stephanie Hume** — who has some fascinating ideas/plans for 2002, **Jim Schlieff** — straight from The Faces of AIDS Photo Exhibit along with **Bill**, the always en vogue **Polly Daeger** taking time out from her amazing jewelry creations, **Bjorn Nasett** nee **B.J. Daniels** celebrating his new status as a home owner — his salon **Beauty** is doing better than ever. When he isn't too exhausted from Beauty-fying Milwaukee, he is doing fashion styling and layout on the newest city read, Info Milwaukee (more on that later).

The **Switch**-master himself **Craig** was in sight with **Billy**, and also there was the Boot Camp Saloon's own **Si. Patrick Farrell**, a fan of the Arts and artist with many a fan, was on hand (currently, you can take in a view of some of his incredible works at the Tori Folliard Gallery). **James Schroeder, Aric, Michael Jonas** of The Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee with his mother, **Theresa**, "Dame" **David Howser, Ginger, Aunt Bee, Anita, Miss Belle Starr, Boom Boom Gurwitz, David and Chad**, the designing **Jim Bartelt** and **Patrick Huberty** of the **M&M Club, Barney, Tod, Jim and Roger**, our fave honeymooners **David & Ron, Carmen Murguia**, HIT's very own **Mark Horan**, Transformation's **Michael McKinley & Kerry Shannon**, Hairys Hair Bar's very own **Scott Roman**, arts fund-raiser extraordinaire **Brad Taylor & Paul**. Great seeing **Ray Schaefer** up and about and looking totally terrific after his Amsterdam adventure. **Chad** you looked pretty swell yourself. These are just some of the names that made for a near capacity crowd.

Might I add the volunteers could fill yet another volume of Milwaukee's makers & shakers: The bar was manned mightily by **Joey A.** and **Chris CoCo Chanel** from the **M&M Club** and **La Cage**. The product furnished by the marvelous many at Miller Brewing Company. Mark & Mark were on hand to make sure the singers were stage-ready, **Bob Stocki** served as videographer and tape specialist — to make sure this show, like Rudolph, will go down in history...

The auction was executed by the flawless foursome of: **Debi Vance, Cindy O.** and the Legendary **Legs & Susan Q.** The tantalizing treasures brought a Queen's ransom!

Among the enthusiastic elves who ran the ticket booth, programs, and ushering

were **Richard, Terri, Gus & Jim**, and the rest of the crew making sure everything ran smoothly.

Naturally, the night didn't end there... there was a wonderful post-concert party upstairs at The M's. An exquisite buffet, cocktails with **Keith** imported from Key West for the Holiday. The Chorines had a chance to bask in their well deserved success. The main room of The M's looked like Grand Central Station. I don't know how **BooBoo** does it! He claims he has a twin. In this century I thought it was a clone...

The decor is quite festive, you must take it in. **Rona** did another glittering motif. And as of this typing, is pre-Holiday-ing in his beloved Acapulco with Holly — no surprise there, Trixi and his folks and the marvy Martina.

Running the bar on the night the party never ended were: **Rita**, aka **Jeff**, and **Lenore**, aka **Larry**, who was celebrating his 10th year with the establishment. Speaking of anniversaries, he has a special one with **Dan** from **Sanford**, number nine! Congrats!

I had quite the time chatting it up with the Skylight Opera Theater's **Logan Brown**. Besides being into/of the arts, he happens to be partners with **Bill Schumacher**, executive director of MVM. Of course, Logan had his own reason for "putting on his Sunday clothes" — "Hello Dolly," the SkyLight's Holiday show, is taking our town by storm.

Thank you, to all you sweet people asking if I was singing, or disappointed because I wasn't — you flatter me! At this point in my career, I guess I'm enjoying the reflection of the flood lights from the other side of the stage.

HIT (Holiday Invitational Tournament) held quite the fund raiser at the M&M Club on Saturday, Dec. 8: "A Hawaiian Christmas Pig Roast."

Later that day **Ray Schaefer & Chad** opened their doors to smashing seasonal gathering. People from as far as Germany were in the spirited mix. Great seeing **Andy & Brian, Mark Hagen & Todd Richards, Tony, Roy, David & Tom, Dennis, Robbin & Coreena, Tim & Michael, Jerry Gin & Tonic** — or whatever he's drinking these days.

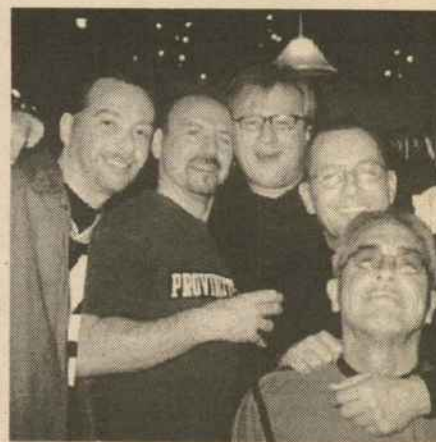
And after that it was back to the M&M Club for Singsational Productions' Holiday songfest. **Evilene & Peter** were our hosts, it was great seeing **Bob Schmidt** having a time of it, **Bobby** from **The Pasta Tree** with **James** from The Four Seasons NYC, **Jeff** and so many others. **Courageous Corliss** did an awesome rendition of "This Christmas" a capella. "Santa Baby" was performed with perfection by **Passion Patty**, while her mother **Bev** beamed. The entire group closed the set with the most romantic carol of all — "Merry Christmas, Darling." Fun was had by one and all!

Parties to put on your calendars: **Jerry Grillo** will be doing a seasonal gig at **The Cork & Clever Lounge** in The Clarion Hotel Friday, Dec. 14. He will ring in the New Year on Monday, Dec. 31, at The Wisconsin Club's Ballroom.

Club Boom will hold its final "Underwear Party" for 2001 on Saturday, Dec. 15. I hope it stays warm, and there won't be any shrinkage problem...

Switch's "Christmas Party" is Sunday, Dec. 16, starting with the winning Green Bay Packers at 3 p.m. There will be food, prizes, surprises, specials and a mystery guest with the initials S.C. Got to see their red, white and blue salute!

Cordially Yours



Michael Johnston (center) and some of his adoring fans.

The **Harbor Room** will be holding its "Noel Gala" the same evening, so seeing as you're out and about, drop by for a little season's beatings...

That day, I'll be starting out early by attending the **Wisconsin Cream City Chorus's** concert program "Crystals" at 3 p.m. at Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire St. This is their 15th annual salute to the Season.

On Thursday, Dec. 20, **Club Boom** will hold their "Christmas Party" with **Lee, David & Tim** offering 2-4-1 from 8 p.m. - close.

The **M&M Club** will hold a "Customer Appreciation Party" on Sunday, Dec. 23, with a buffet, drink specials and the return of **Tammi & Carl** to lead us all in a Holiday Sing-A-Long!

The new "rag" on the streets that has the city a-buzz is "Info Milwaukee," a slick pocket-sized catalog of places of interest: dining/cafes, nightlife, shopping, hair, hotels, galleries and the arts. The photo work and layout are totally state of the art. Quite hip and happening, all they need is a cordial columnist ...

I had the chance to catch one of my all-time favorite musicals ever, "Hello Dolly," the Skylight show I mentioned earlier... I must mention the outstanding **Tony Clements**. The best match of the night was his Cornelius and the audience. The next time someone mounts "Dolly" might I suggest, In Step's very own "Dear Ruthie"?

Like "Dolly," the Milwaukee Rep's production of "Arsenic & Old Lace" is guaranteed to put a smile on your face. It's a great escape during these troubling times. **Laurie Birmingham** and **Rose Pickering** bring those Brewster sisters back to life, to take lives — in such a charming way. What a way to go! Years ago, a dear friend suggested Charlotte Lorraine and I should do this vehicle. Of course, I got stuck with the old lace...

"Dolly" will be with us until Dec. 23 and "Old Lace" until Dec. 30. Both are wonderful gifts to our community.

Rod Stewart recently played BrewTown and prior to his Concert you will never guess where he made a quick stop... A Bar? A Restaurant? A Fish Fry? A Gym? My Home? No — the Cathedral, where he took a few minutes to reflect and prepare. A sign of the times?

Looking to get that Holiday photo for that special someone? **Photos By Gary** has just opened for you! To make appointments or if you have questions, call **Gary Meinen** at: (414) 327-4955. You will be ready for your close-up, picture perfect!

Remember it's the glamour, not the grammar — Yes Virginia, it's all true, and I shall remain "Cordially yours,"

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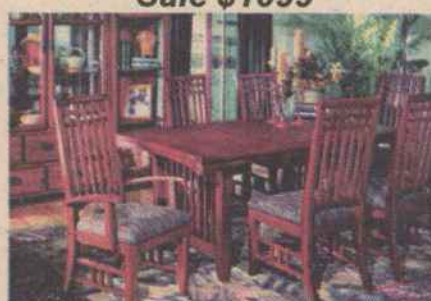
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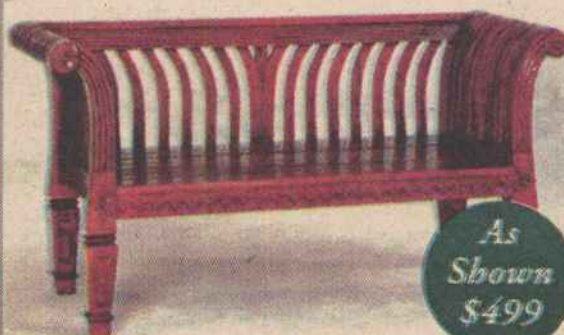


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