

OUT!

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Wisconsin's Lesbian/Gay Newspaper

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Reader-Sponsored Newspaper—Please Subscribe!

Marion Namenwirth Case: Taking the Old Boy Network to Court

By Elaine Widner and Brooks Egerton

MADISON—For Marion Namenwirth, things got curiouser and curiouser.

Now embroiled in a landmark sex discrimination case against her old employer, the former UW-Madison zoologist recalls running into blatant sexism from the moment she walked through her department's door.

When she was first interviewing for a teaching post, she says one male professor told her that "The only reason you're being considered is because you're a woman."

Her life did not exactly get easier from there. She was hired as an assistant professor of zoology in 1971, but faced a nearly all-male work environment for the duration of her stay at the University.

Namenwirth has alleged before U.S. Magistrate William Gansner, who is trying her suit, that a "locker-room atmosphere" prevailed in a department laboratory, which "dis-

couraged [her] from engaging in collegial interactions." The professor who ran the lab, she says, told one worker that "the appropriate role for women is as homemakers."

Another professor is said to have "participated in a serious discussion of whether women should actually be creative scientists or whether they were only qualified to be technicians."

But Namenwirth endured. Given six years, according to University rules, to achieve tenure to be terminated, she went about her work of teaching and doing research on amphibian eggs. Also, she participated on a number of faculty committees.

It was not until the tenure process began to heat up in 1977 that Marion Namenwirth fully realized that her colleagues planned to get rid of her, using whatever means were at their disposal.

First Fight-Back

Namenwirth has charged the



Marion Namenwirth

Zoology Department with discriminating against her in the tenure process, and is seeking to be reinstated in a tenured position with back pay. She is the first person to take a

sex-discrimination claim against the UW all the way to federal court under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Her tenure proceedings, according to testimony given in court, were marked by unorthodox and arbitrary procedures.

Though none of her colleagues would speak on her behalf, the zoology faculty finally—after numerous votes and recounts—recommended her for tenure. But the folder they passed on to the executive committee of the biological sciences was "a total hatchet job," Namenwirth told OUT!

"As soon as I saw this document I knew that I'd been discriminated against. I really didn't understand it before," she said.

The executive committee voted overwhelmingly to deny tenure, citing poor "research performance." But

continued on page 5

Appointments Coming Soon But Earl Refuses to Meet With WLGN

By M. Ann Fleming

MADISON—According to Gov. Earl's director of appointments, Suelen Albrecht, official appointments to the volunteer Council on Lesbian and Gay Issues could be announced as early as April 1.

Originally, the Council was expected to be formed and functioning by the third week of March. Albrecht chalked up the delay to normal paperwork accompanying formation of any new advisory council. "As a matter of fact, it's probably going more smoothly than most appointments we make," Albrecht added.

But Sandra Lipke, co-director of the Wisconsin Lesbian/Gay Network (WLG), thinks the appointment process may be going so smoothly as to ignore community input. Lipke told OUT! that the governor had refused to meet with WLG members regarding the Council's makeup and the promised funding of salaries for a lesbian/gay liaison position.

Lipke wrote to Earl in late February to request the meeting.

"Suelen said 'we could meet with her,'" Lipke reported, "but what point there is to that I don't know."

"She [Albrecht] felt the governor knew of our concerns and that a meeting was unnecessary," Lipke said. Albrecht implied that "we should be thankful for what we're getting," the WLG director said.

To date, the governor's office has received approximately 30 resumes from individuals applying for membership on the Council. The applications come from around the state, though many are from Milwaukee residents.

Heading the list of applicants from Milwaukee are Mark Behar, Alyn Hess, Sue Burke and Miriam ben-Shalom, all of whom were selected by representatives of several Milwaukee organizations in late February.

Other applicants include Lipke and Louie Crew, both of Stevens Point; Norbert DeKuster Jr., of Racine; and attorney Shelley Gaylord, a Madison resident.

Governor Earl's office says it will attempt to appoint a Council bal-

anced according to gender, geographic location, and minority status. WLGN has expressed concern that lesbians and gay men living outside of Madison be fully represented.

Earl has asked that Council members consider such issues as employment discrimination, lesbian/gay health care, and domestic issues like child custody. Earl has also accepted WLG's suggestion that personal safety be a major issue for the Council to consider.

Gay Days Are Here Again

By Gregg Grista

MILWAUKEE—The Fifth Annual Gay Days celebration will take place here on Thursday, April 28 and Saturday, April 30. The Gay Community at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the UWM's lesbian/gay cultural organization, Lavender Commitment, are sponsoring the event.



Tom Wilson

"Building Community" is the subject of an address to be delivered by Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, at 7:30 Thursday evening. The event is free and open to the public. It will be held in the Wisconsin Room of the UWM Union, located at 2200 East Kenwood Blvd. in Milwaukee.

Apuzzo, in addition to directing NGTF, also heads the Fund of Human Dignity. She became executive director of NGTF in November 1982 after bitter organizational infighting culminated in the resignation of Lucia Valeska.

A college instructor and former nun, Apuzzo is especially concerned with gay religious and service organizations. She is also a major figure on the electoral political scene, having served as a delegate to the 1980 Democratic National Convention, where she worked to promote gay rights. She is known as a powerful and articulate speaker.

Board members of the Gay Community at UWM say they expect an audience of 100 to 150 people for

Apuzzo's talk. Although the majority of the audience will be from the Milwaukee area, Gay Community members also hope to draw people from Madison, Green Bay and Chicago.

The other planned Gay Days event is a concert by singers/songwriters Kathryn Jeffers and Tom Wilson. Jeffers, who serves as director of the UW-Stevens Point Women's Resources Center, is well known for her performances throughout the state; most recently, she has played in Stevens Point, Appleton and La Crosse.

Tom Wilson's *Gay Name Game* (1979) and *All American Boy*, (1982) have received critical acclaim. Wilson has performed at such recent functions as last fall's Gay Academic Union convention in Chicago, and currently is working on a musical.

The concert will be held on the first floor ballroom of the UWM Union. Tickets are \$4 for students and \$5 for the general public. For further information, contact the Gay Community at UWM at (414) 963-6555.

Think of the nightmares the gay must have . . . Does this man have too much imagination or not enough? State Sen. Marvin Rosshell (D-Chippewa Falls) told the Eau Claire *Leader-Telegram* in February that he opposed Wisconsin's gay rights law because it might prevent employers from establishing dress codes—thus gay men could show up at the office in women's clothes.

But when asked about the case of two male dancing partners who had filed discrimination complaints under the law after being evicted from Wagner's Down Under Disco, Rosshell lamented, "I just can't understand two men wanting to dance together."

A faithful house servant . . . One of the only survivors of last month's purge of White House interest-group liaisons was Dee Jepsen, liaison for women. From an interview she gave *Newsday*, we can get some ideas about why The Man decided to

Jepsen said she had refused to meet with representatives of the National Organization for Women because the group was loaded with Democrats and cared mostly about securing rights for prostitutes and lesbians. She also said women should be thankful for what they've got and shouldn't be so concerned about being paid for their work. "To have the heart of a servant is a very noble thing . . . and women are great at that."

God's own Phyllis Schlafly told *Newsday* that Jepsen was doing a great job, but even so moderate a voter as the League of Women Voters complained that the liaison for women "doesn't even listen to us." And Ann Lewis of the Democratic National Committee said, "Appointing Dee Jepsen was the political equivalent of giving us one of

"Learn to labor and to wait" . . . Schlafly assaulted Wisconsinites' ears directly last month via state public radio. Asked why women still only earned 59 cents for every man's dollar, she explained that women just haven't been in the workforce that long and haven't yet worked their way up the job ladder. Schlafly apparently has not seen recent figures released by Reagan's own Bureau of Labor Statistics showing that there are no job categories in which women and men are paid equally. That includes traditionally female occupations such as nursing, where women still constitute more than 90 percent of the workforce.

Straight from the horse's ass . . . Terry Kohler, after being buried in last fall's gubernatorial election, is still wallowing in slime. Asked recently to evaluate the Earl administration, he told reporters, "He promised to appoint queers and he has." Kohler called homosexuals "sick," but did not venture to discuss his own mental condition.

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"So he made a little error! No harm done! After all, boys will be boys!"

Turning the tables . . . If you thought gay men were the only folks getting busted for having under-age lovers, guess again. *Gay Community News* reports that a 28-year-old Massachusetts woman was shipped off to prison last year for having raped her 15-year-old boyfriend, who stands six feet tall and weighs 170 pounds. *GCN* said Deborah Pisciotta was the first woman in Massachusetts to be charged with the statutory rape of a male.

Authorities learned of the heinous crime from Pisciotta's ex-husband—who just happens to be fighting her for custody of their two children.

Variations on a theme . . . Through the grapevine, we heard a new version of a very old joke: How many Milwaukee cops does it take to change a light bulb? Six—one to change the bulb and five to beat the shit out of the witnesses.

"If I only had a brain" . . . If you like conspiracy theories, you'll love this one: A man accused of beating his wife to death has been let off the hook by a California district attorney—because the Los Angeles County coroner's office lost her brain. The woman allegedly died from a blow to the head, but pathologists say they lost the grey matter before completing an autopsy.

Boooooorrrrring . . . Why did the judge in Ontario acquit *The Body Politic's* publisher, Pink Triangle Press, of obscenity charges? A 1982 article on fist-fucking, seized by Toronto police, was not "calculated to titillate the senses or cater to prurient tastes," according to Judge Thomas Mercer. Plus, he said, it was "dull and boring."

Too beautiful for her own good . . . Closer to home, Carl Belesky was convicted in Waukesha last month of slaughtering his wife, though he maintained to the end that the whole thing was just an accident. He said that when he threatened to shoot himself with a revolver because of her infidelity, she struggled with him, causing the gun to go off and kill her.

Why, then, did he cut off her head, burn it in a wood stove, and dump her body in a cornfield? "Because I didn't want anybody to see her the way she was. She was such a beautiful person," Belesky testified.

Sex change as death . . . A judge in Ohio has ruled that the children of a man who changes his sex are legally entitled to a certificate listing their dad as deceased. *Chicago's Gay Life* reports that Judge Richard Metcalf did not go so far as to issue a death certificate in the case of Michael Bruce Neff, but did deny Neff the right to change his name to Michelle.

Green light for lavender fun . . . Though lesbians and gay men are now supposedly protected against discrimination in Wisconsin, it's still not OK for us to do all those things straight people are terrified of doing. But you may not have to wait much longer to have your fun. A bill to legalize sexual activity between consenting adults easily cleared the Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee last month, and may come to a floor vote in April. The measure, sponsored by Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison), failed by only one vote last year, and many observers predict that prudes will be outnumbered this time around, at last.

Copernicus comes to Madison . . .

Madison's many would-be radical politicians—lesbians and gay men included—are not the only ones in town having trouble seeing beyond the ends of their noses. *Milwaukee Journal* sports writer Michael Baumann relates how the UW-Madison athletic department, too, "functions with something of a skewed world view. You may think that the world knows your cross country or wrestling program is going well, when, in fact, it is mainly Dane County that knows . . . Contrary to popular belief here, Madison, Wis., is not the center of the solar system."

We don't get the joke . . .

Minnesota legislators recently introduced their own gay rights bill, only to see it floundered under the heading "fruit discrimination" by Commerce Clearing House, a national legislative reference service. The company disgraced itself in a notice of new bill introductions sent out to its subscribers in legal and business communities across the country. Minnesota state Rep. Karen Clark encourages you to drop Commerce Clearing House a line (no letter bombs, please), at 4025 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago 60646.

What price conviction . . .

By default, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled in March that evidence of a rape victim's virginity can be presented at trial. State law is supposed to prevent admission of evidence about a victim's sexual history—and the High Court agreed that in a case under review, such evidence had been improperly admitted by a lower court—but it passed off the mistake as harmless, since the defendant got convicted anyway. In other words, it's no skin off their backs if a woman gets raped a second time on the witness stand.

Frontiers of discrimination . . .

Stanford University officials say they'll probably reject an anonymous \$500 gift designated as a scholarship for an out gay male student. President Donald Kennedy reasoned that determination of the recipient's gayness would constitute invasion of privacy. (Was he afraid someone might lie about being gay in order to get the money?) He also said that having such a scholarship would violate the university's policy not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

—compiled by Francis Egerton

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Victim Witness Conference:

COSA Pushes Through Lesbian/Gay Inclusion

By Duane Allen

Over forceful objections, the 1982 Wisconsin Victim Witness Conference has included lesbians and gay men in their recommended list of crime victims with special needs. Lesbians and gays were included in the recommendations in large part because of the insistence of the Dane County/City of Madison Committee on Sexual Assault (COSA) and its coordinator, Judy Witt.

Beaudry, conference steering committee member from the Milwaukee District Attorney's office, deleted the recommendations that included lesbians and gay men from her conference report. Conference recommendations were to go to police, district attorneys, hospitals and advocates around the state.

Beaudry's deletion of the conference recommendations was then challenged by COSA in December. COSA chairperson Mary Rouse said in a letter to the steering committee that "conference participants and presenters were informed that all recommendations would be included in the final report. To do anything less than this would be in our minds a breach of faith."

Beaudry, along with Bobbi Moebius, also with the Milwaukee D.A.'s

office, argued in a letter written in January to the steering committee that "such an obvious effort to 'make everybody happy' by a strained inclusion of selected issues... detracts from the credibility we hope the report will enjoy among a varied and politically sophisticated audience." They specifically asked that the steering committee "vote against adding 'gays' as an additional category of victim."

Judy Witt, who is COSA coordinator as part of her work with the Sensitive Crimes Unit of the Dane County D.A.'s office, chaired the steering committee and was angered by the exclusion of gays. "What is politically sophisticated to one person, organization or community," she responded to Beaudry, "may be liberal and progressive, and to others,

more conservative." Witt reminded all steering committee members that "Wisconsin has a Gay Rights Bill."

When the vote was finally taken in late February, the decision to include gays carried seven to three. Beaudry and Moebius were joined by Lynn Copen of Kenosha in casting "no" votes.

COSA, which has been working in Dane County since 1979, added a lesbian/gay representative, Chi McNairy, to the new 20-member board in the fall of 1982. COSA has monitored sexual assaults on lesbians and gays as part of its study of all sexual assaults in Dane County; it has also demonstrated support for gays and lesbians through funding of a public information brochure on gay-directed assault, and through safe travel campaign.



Judy Witt

COSA was a co-sponsor of last September's Victim Witness Conference, held in Milwaukee; other co-sponsors included the Victim Witness Network (which serves 13 of Wisconsin's 72 counties), the Wisconsin Department of Justice and the Wisconsin Council on Criminal Justice. The conference was held to increase police and media awareness of the problems of victims of sexual crime.

Controversy about inclusion of lesbians and gay men in conference recommendations began when Jo

Heterosexuals Held in East Side Assaults

Queerbashing

By J. Fisengart

MADISON—After leaving a gay bar in the early morning hours of Feb. 28, a Madison man was brutally assaulted and robbed of \$6.

Thomas Metcalf, 34, was pulled from his car and beaten by four men whom he had driven to a near-East side address. "They were out to bash," he said.

In March, police filed armed robbery charges in the case against David G. Skinner, 20, and Daniel J. Thornton, 23. Cash bail for Skinner was set at \$10,000.

At press time, an arrest warrant had also been sworn out against Lennuel Smith, 50.

Metcalf told **OUT!** that at bar time on Feb. 28, he had offered seven men rides home. He said he dropped off two of the men, then took the other five to an address they had given him.

When he stopped, Metcalf said, one of the passengers fled, and the other four pulled him from the car. Skinner then beat Metcalf "so hard that he [broke] his brass knuckles," according to the police complaint.

After the assailants ran from the scene, the man who had fled earlier returned and drove Metcalf to the hospital, where he was treated for

deep cuts to his upper lip and a scratched corner.

Metcalf said that the police "have been excellent" in their handling of the case. Police investigated the address Metcalf had been given by his attackers, and found a set of brass knuckles and a letter addressed to Metcalf.

The criminal complaint against Skinner alleges that initiation into the Satan's Dragons motorcycle club, of which Skinner reportedly is a member, includes "orders to people that involved the commission of crimes."

The District Attorney's office will press charges against Skinner and the other men, with Metcalf serving as a witness.

Metcalf noted, however, that gay-directed assaults often don't result in prosecutions because of victim's fears—fears, for example, that people will find out that the victim had frequented a gay bar. "It can endanger one's job," Metcalf said.

Wil-Mar Rape

MADISON—A man accused of a mid-March rape at the Wil-Mar Center has been jailed on \$200,000 bond and ordered to stand trial.

The suspect was identified by his lawyer as Carlos Rojas Frizze, according to the Wisconsin State Journal. Legal officials had earlier been confused about the man's identity, since several names had been listed on the criminal complaint against him.

Wil-Mar officials and neighborhood residents were caught off guard by the rape; no assaults had been reported at the Center in the past 10 years. Center officials have pledged to work with the Rape Crisis Center and 6th District alderperson Billy Feilinger to improve their security measures.

Wil-Mar is located at 953 Jenifer St., in the heart of Madison's fashionable near-East side community. The neighborhood is generally thought to be home to much of the city's lesbian and gay population.

Presbyterians Back Rights Law

MILWAUKEE—An organization of southern Wisconsin's Presbyterian churches voted in late March to back the state gay rights law against the proposed repeal effort of Rep. Larry Swoboda (D-Luxemburg).

Meeting at the Southminster Presbyterian Church in Waukesha, the Southern Presbytery passed by a margin of two-and-one-half to one a resolution supporting the historic anti-discrimination legislation.

Some 150 people, representing 50 churches, attended the meeting. Jonathan Justice, who spoke as a representative of Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, said the discussion and vote on the resolution took "all of 10 minutes."

Wisconsin's two other presbyteries, representing the north and west regions of the state, apparently have not yet taken a stand on the gay rights law, according to Justice.

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Wisconsin Student Association will hold elections for the officer of Co-president, General Class officers, 2 UCA members, 2 Cardinal board members, and 9 Senate seats.

Dalen South 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Memorial Library noon - 9 p.m.
Memorial Union 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.	S.C. White Library noon - 9 p.m.
Steenbock Library noon - 9 p.m.	election Comm. Headquarters - special poll 9a.m. - 9 p.m.

Speaking OUT!

Power Together!

Even if the world should stop turning, we at **OUT!** could still count on one constant: No matter what we say, we will be sure to offend someone.

Every month, as **OUT!** hits the streets, complaints begin to filter in. Some men complain of excessive feminist or lesbian content; some women find too much material geared toward men.

Although our status as a lesbian and gay newspaper is no more noteworthy to some readers than our typesize, for others this policy is a major bone of contention. We recognize that the effort to produce a lesbian/gay community newspaper is a political statement in itself, and that is a statement we want very much to make.

We deal with issues pertinent to both women and men for a number of reasons:

- Our sexual/affectual orientations place us in similar positions outside the mainstream, offering similar vantage points on the "compulsory heterosexuality" (if we may borrow a phrase from Adrienne Rich) of our society.
- By learning more about both our similarities and differences, and by combining resources, lesbians and gay men can better begin to forge the coalitions necessary to overcome homophobia.

Letters to the Editors

Bad Faith

Editors:

I was dumbfounded by the March issue of **OUT!** that included five separate articles unqualifyingly promoting Christianity incorporating a lesbian/gay or feminist viewpoint.

The impression given is that the lesbian/gay community is breaking down the church doors to get in. Is this glib approach by the editors of **OUT!** assuming too much about this newspaper's readership? For many of us the quantum jump from the Inquisition Church to the "coming out" Church is too gaping a chasm to leap.

The Bible is explicit: The Judeo-Christian God declared (Lev. 18:22,20:13) male homosexuality is an abomination and punishable by death. And the Son of God precisely said (Math. 5:17-20) he sustained this

Mosaic law. No Christian hermeneutical headstands can usurp this "word of God" without writing off the Bible itself.

Secondly, Christianity historically has been the archenemy of homosexuals and all women (Christian sexism ironically ignores lesbians) from the Inquisition to our own Jerry Falwell. And we cannot forget the pink triangle and that Hitler who exterminated at least 220,000 gays (following the tradition lesbians were ignored), was a Christian and was never excommunicated by the Catholic Church.

Remembering this and more means that to maintain credibility **OUT!** writers must either: (a) argue polemically from square one to maintain or reject a Christian position; or (b) declare itself a Christian lesbian/gay publication; or (c) drop the Christian bias entirely. Until the editors of **OUT!** adopt one of the

Editorial Letters to the Editors

- Like it or not, we are considered one "homosexual" community to the outside world, and sometimes must present a unified front of information in order to influence that world.

We're doing our best to serve as many people as possible, and our policy is to offer a balance of lesbian and gay content. If this is offensive to you, we can offer no apologies.

More specialized publications may provide important information on a specific issue, but they may not provide a wider view of the community that is necessary when organizing or voting.

This is in no way meant to invalidate those publications; they all have their places and in fact, we often draw from them as news sources. **OUT!**, too, has its place. Every article may not be in line with every reader's politics, but the paper does provide an outlet and a forum for a lot of people around the state.

So I ask you to utilize this newspaper. This is not a plea for donations or subscriptions this time, but a request for input and aid—whether that be in the form of a letter, an article, or simply an open mind. Help us make the most of our limited resources.

—Molly Doane

Editorials reflect a consensus opinion of the **OUT!** staff. Unless otherwise noted, they are written by the editor in consultation with other staff members.

Apology

Editors:

I am writing to correct some misstatements made by me and quoted in your March issue, regarding Rep. David Clarenbach's reasons for supporting Joe Sensenbrenner's mayoral candidacy. My statements were based on the erroneous presumption that Rep. Clarenbach's mayoral preference was the product of his relationship with the Justice Department. He has advised me this is not so. I regret that I did not check with him first.

I also wish to apologize to Rep. Clarenbach for any embarrassment which my misstatements caused him, for any dispersions cast upon his integrity, and for any misimpressions caused concerning his mayoral endorsement. I should add that I was speaking only for myself and not the Reynolds campaign.

Sincerely,
Allan Beatty

above as policy, the readership will remain confused and many, I am sure, will be alienated.

Sincerely,
John Bayley

The editors respond: The last issue of **OUT!** did contain more positive references to Christianity than usual. That is because writers and editors came across an unusual number of news items pertaining to the subject—items we felt would be of interest to a significant portion of our diverse readership.

It is true that Christianity has been, and will continue to be used by some to justify homophobia and other oppressions. But Christianity can also be used toward more productive, even liberatory ends—witness, for example, the role of some clerics in Latin America today.

OUT! is open to a wide range of views on religion and most other subjects. Readers, by becoming writers, can ensure that we meet our goal of providing a diversity of content in these pages.

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OUT! Inc. is a non-profit corporation based in Madison, WI, for the lesbian and gay communities of Wisconsin and their friends. **OUT!**'s primary focus is to publish a monthly newspaper that is distributed free of charge.

OUT! is committed to providing a forum for the diversity of ideas and experiences emanating from and relevant to all parts of Wisconsin's lesbian and gay communities.

OUT! is financed solely by advertising, contributions and subscriptions. Display ad rates are \$5/column-inch; classifieds are \$75/line. Payment is due before printing. Subscription rates are \$10, \$12, and \$15/year (more if you can, less if you can't).

OUT! encourages letters to the editors; they should be typed and double-spaced. Signed letters, as well as articles with a byline, do not necessarily represent the views of the **OUT!** staff.

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Madison Mayoral Race: Home Stretch Yawning

By Brooks Egerton

As the Madison mayoral race entered the home stretch, candidates Tony Reynolds and Joe Sensenbrenner continued to appear almost indistinguishable from one another on substantive issues—lesbian/gay or otherwise—and the only news surrounding the contest involved the battle for endorsements.

In mid-March, Gov. Tony Earl shocked Reynolds's gay supporters—many of whom had worked in the Earl campaign—by pledging financial assistance to Sensenbrenner. Earl's press secretary, Ron McRae—who is backing Reynolds—told the *Wisconsin State Journal*, "I gather that Tony does not like to remain neutral in any political campaign."

Earl's move represents a significant departure from the past gubernatorial precedent of non-partisanship in local elections.

With both the *Capital Times* and

the *State Journal* having also come out in favor of Sensenbrenner, many Reynolds supporters were glum. "Tony's definitely the underdog now," said Earl Bricker, head of the United Political Action Committee (UPAC).

UPAC members, meeting after their mayoral forum last month, issued a dual endorsement of Reynolds and Sensenbrenner. "They agreed with each other on everything," Bricker said.

On perhaps the most controversial issue raised at the UPAC forum, both candidates reiterated their qualified support for "domestic partners" legislation.

The vote for a dual endorsement was quite close; several UPAC members favored endorsement of Reynolds alone. Nevertheless, even some members who personally have contributed to the Reynolds campaign voted for dual endorsement, feeling that both candidates had expressed equal degrees of support for UPAC issues.

Namenwirth Case

continued from page 1
Namenwirth has testified that the evidence upon which the judgment was based was falsified.

She told **OUT!** that during her UW career, every male assistant professor considered for tenure was granted it—including those whose research was not outstanding.

After the committee vote, Namenwirth recalled, a female colleague said to Prof. Richard Hanson, who had pleaded her case: "If she had been a man she would have gotten tenure." Namenwirth says Hanson agreed, though he has disputed the fact.

Namenwirth filed numerous appeals of the committee decision, to no avail. She also got "no real investigation" from the University's Affirmative Action office, she says.

When her appeals ran out in 1979, Namenwirth was dismissed. She is now a scientist at the University of Minnesota.

In 1980, a U.S. Labor Department investigator found that Namenwirth had been discriminated against because she was a woman, but a higher department official refused to take

punitive action against the University.

Stacked Deck

Marion Namenwirth was an underdog in her department not merely because of her sex. She was also Jewish, single, a feminist, and not slender. Many faculty assumed, additionally, that she was a lesbian, though she does not identify as such.

Namenwirth also faced a situation in which tenure for *anyone* appears to be harder and harder to achieve, due to projections of the future enrollment declines.

Women and minorities, many campus observers believe, are the first victims of the austere climate surrounding promotions.

"The department had a history of discriminating against the only woman faculty they ever had [Nellie Bilstad, who was tenured only in her last year before retiring, and was always paid significantly less than her male colleagues]," Namenwirth says.

"Then they got me in a period where it was no longer proper to discriminate out loud."

But just because discrimination became illegal, Namenwirth explains, "They didn't just flip, completely transform their opinions."

She says, philosophically, that she's "not very bitter" about the whole affair. "If she wins reinstatement, she says she'll be back and ready to work, and she expects many of the male faculty "to adjust."

Namenwirth acknowledges that she'll still face opposition from some, but: "Plenty of people have roadblocks. Black people have roadblocks. Poor people... gay people... I'll just have to work on my roadblock," she says.

But before she gets a chance to do that, she'll have to overcome a few hurdles in court. Lawyers for the UW will be presenting their defense in coming weeks—and since a Namenwirth victory would set (for them) a threatening precedent, they're likely to pull out all the stops in an effort to discredit her.

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Mom and Dad Come Out

By Duane Allen

Guilt, fear and anger are often feelings experienced by parents when they learn they have a lesbian daughter or gay son. And that's where Parents and Friends of Gays (PFOG) can help.

PFOG exists to support parents coming to grips with having a gay son or lesbian daughter. As one mother of a gay son put it, "I've been closeted, too—as the mother of a gay son I love very much. I need help coming out as much as my gay son did."

Providing support for parents of lesbians and gays is the central focus of, and original motive behind the organization. PFOG also acts as an educational tool in the community at large. "We see ourselves as a bridge between the gay and straight communities," says Roger Beyers, PFOG organizer and Milwaukee PFOG board member. "We're mainstream. We're non-threatening. We can reach people other organizations can't."

PFOG often acts as a place for lesbians and gays to come out. Beyers explains that in contacting a PFOG chapter, "You don't have to identify whether you're gay, or a parent, or a friend. So PFOG can be an early step in coming out."

Typically, about one-third of the members of a PFOG chapter will be lesbians and gays. "We don't want to talk about gays and lesbians," Beyers insists. "We have to hear from them."

Formed in New York City in 1974, PFOG is now an international organi-



Roger Beyers

zation with chapters in 112 cities in the U.S.; PFOG has chapters in Canada, Australia, England and countries in Western Europe. The first Wisconsin PFOG chapter was established in 1981 when Beyers and Verena Thony decided to formalize a group that had been meeting since 1980. The group had grown out of a workshop on lesbians and gays sponsored by the Family Life Center and held by Father Jim Arimond, then pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus in Milwaukee.

So far, PFOG has established chapters in Green Bay and (beginning this month) Madison, as well as Milwaukee. But Beyers' dream is "to see a chapter in every county in Wisconsin."



For now, anyone wishing to talk with a PFOG member may call Beyers at 931-2272 in Milwaukee. In the Janesville-Beloit area, call 868-3291. Green Bay area callers might try Tom Redmond at 497-2174.

The Milwaukee PFOG chapter, which also includes a group for spouses of gays and support for children of gays and lesbians, meets the fourth Saturday of every month.

Making New Friends in Green Bay

GREEN BAY—As the only gay support group in the area, The Parents and Friends of Gays chapter in this city is wide open. "It's for anyone—parents, friends, gays and anyone that listing misses. It's for anyone with questions and problems, anyone who needs support in this homophobic society," says Tom Redmond, the group's coordinator. Organized through the joint efforts of Redmond and Roger Beyers of Milwaukee's PFOG, the Green Bay chapter is now seven months old. Being so young, the group merely aims to meet once a month, and so far has achieved that goal.

PFOG-Green Bay has maintained an informal, grassroots structure. "There is now a name and a phone

number to call, where before there was nothing. That is enough for me," Redmond says.

Redmond speaks warmly of the friends who helped him come out: "I would not have made it without them. I want and need to offer that same support to others."

He foresees guest speakers and organized workshops at future meetings. But the most immediate consideration for PFOG-Green Bay is reaching new people. "People are dying out there, physically and spiritually," Redmond says. If we as gays and lesbians, as human beings, don't help each other, who the hell will?"

Contact Tom at 433-9622 for more information about PFOG-Green Bay

A One woman Show:

From Mabel Kane to Mary Magdalene

By Bob Tollefson

While you won't catch her promoting American Express on network TV, Mabel Kane certainly is carrying a lot of clout in Madison these days. Perhaps you'll catch her in local drag shows or—during daylight—as she zaps State Street, enjoying a Diet Pepsi at a deli and purchasing hand creams at the Soap Opera.

Cognoscenti will thrill to the news that Mabel, along with others of the newly formed Madison Gay Theater Project, will hit the stage on Good Friday at the Civic Center's Isthmus Playhouse for a two-day engagement of exhilarating laughs.

Those uninitiated to the charms of Mabel Kane—Darrell Wagner's bellicose creation, whom some compare to a bizarre displaced homemaker—have the opportunity to feast their eyes on an infamous phenomenon, in what may be her best performance to date.

The two-act event, billed as "A One woman Show," features first a revue of traditional gay burlesque. Mabel joins with other local talent in such drag classics as the love duet from "Pippin" and a Mae West-inspired rendition of Diana Ross's hit, "Man With Muscles." Rumor has it that B.J. will also be aboard as Marilyn Monroe, doing "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend." Patrick Linahan, with his peculiar commentary for proper Lenten leavening, is also slated to appear, along with a musician.

Next up is what may be the show stopper of the evening, Robert Patrick's *The Holy Hooker*, in which Mabel Kane solos as Mary Magdalene. It's an appropriately seasonal

monologue. Having caught a sneak preview, I assure you the lines are fantastic, and Mabel's delivery especially poignant. Patrick's Magdalene seems custom-made for Kane's cunning, wit and audacious behavior.

The production promises to be "moving"; certainly the Bible never told us Magdalene's side of the story. If mentioned at all, she seems barely a shadow amid the drama of retribution versus resurrection. Perhaps such an "interesting" though shady lady was feared somehow "politically incorrect."

Whatever, Mabel Kane, as the Scarlet Woman, will "tell all." So to shake off those Good Friday blues, or to forget any of those grody April Fool's Day pranks, treat yourself to an evening of fun and attend "A One woman Show."

"A One woman Show" plays April 1 and 2 at the Isthmus Playhouse. Tickets are available at the Civic Center box office.

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Fairy Tales:

Through the Looking Glass

So I'm kind of at a loss for what to say. But don't misunderstand, I'm really looking forward to seeing you, Virgil. (How in the world do you manage to con your boss out of the plane fare?) Do you realize it's been almost six months? We really have some catching up to do. Actually, I guess I'm already doing some of that, thinking of what you said in your letter about this unresolved sexual question between us...

I'm also thinking about what you said about Paul, do you really believe I don't think of him much anymore? I really love Paul. He has a laugh that comes deep from his guts and shakes his whole body. He's one of the gentlest men I've ever known. He can talk up a hurricane of words and ideas, a pastime I'm partial to, as you know. There are few people I've known who are so loving and giving and nurturing as he is. He's a huge man, but wherever he stands his 300-plus pounds are like an open space where fresh breezes and sunlight come through.

Yeah, 300-plus. Of fat. That's the rub—or rather—the lack of it. I love him but can't handle sex or too much physical contact, because I can't handle the fat. It's just not me. It's too bad I had to hurt him by drawing the line at sex. I wish I were turned on to him, but I can't... If only he looked different than he does.

Green Bay Theatre

GREEN BAY—A Company of Friends, this city's newly organized theatre company of gays and straights together, staged its first production over the last weekend in March. The Body Shop tavern opened its doors for Neil Simon's *God's Favorite*, a zany tale which pokes fun at a man who believes that everything that happens to him is God's will.

For information about their upcoming productions, contact A Company of Friends at P.O. Box 1285, Green Bay 54305.



Course, Dexter is another case. You know, there was a time when we saw each other through hell. We had a bond nothing could break—or so I thought. He's really a beautiful person, though he's so short and doesn't have much hair. I wish we could have added sex to our relationship, but I just couldn't handle it. I'm sorry I hurt him by drawing the line—but why couldn't he be satisfied with just the hugs and touching and physical closeness?

There's Rich, too. I was so surprised when he said he'd like to make love with me. I mean, he was a lot younger than me and so frail looking with his long stringy hair, and I always thought of us as a sort of older brother/younger brother thing—and we got so close clinging almost every day that summer.

I guess I was flattered he found me sexually attractive, too, but I don't

know, there's something about the young frail ones... I handled it badly, too, making light of his asking to add sex to what we already had. I wish now I'd gone ahead, but it's just not me to have sex with that type. Maybe I could—but hell, I don't know, I mean, you have to be what you are, act on what you really desire are, right?

I'm so glad I've got John. Great Mother, we have such hot sex together... and we really love each other. I'm so emotionally entwined with him it scares me when I let myself think about it. I mean, we've been through so much! What conflicts! And we've survived. I think the strong physical thing we have for each other gets us through, even when we see how different we are in values and hopes, even through times when I feel so restless with him...

You know, Willy just popped into my head. Now there's a character for you. What happens when we get together is so special for me. We get zany and crazy and set each other off on such high energy that we stay up all night, and even though I pay for it dragging through work the next day, I don't really mind 'cause I feel like I grow five years in one night with him.

I guess it's kind of funny we've never gotten sexual during those long nights. I think I've seen in his eyes that he's open to it, but he doesn't act on it—I guess because he knows I'm just not there for him in that way. It's kind of weird that such a together person could be in such a gangly body, as though all the parts don't fit together into a whole. I could probably get it on with him just because of the great energy we make together, but then I think, no, it's not good to make love if you're not really into it—I mean you've got to be honest with yourself about stuff like that, right?

I'm glad I'm so into sex with John, I mean he turns me on so much and those long nights of lovemaking mean so much to me...

Well, enough. What I really want to write more about the frustration I mentioned in my last letter to you. Virgil, I sometimes want to just curl up and cry (and sometimes I want to scream). I told you about Karl. We're still working together on the coalition project—even more these past two months. It means so much to me to be working with someone like him on this thing. He's so rare. I mean, how often do you work with someone who will give you backruns when the muscles tense and hold you when the pressure just gets too much—and who also asks for the same to be returned?

As when I find myself attracted to him sexually, too. The other night, for example, we had worked until three in the morning and both knew we had to do some massage to unwind before we could get to sleep. So we were lying on the big red carpet, and after an hour of this I wanted to bad to go on with the thing, to take off the few clothes we still had on and just pleasure each other into the precious oblivion of sleep.

But I could sense his withdrawal when I gave even a faint sexual massage and so I just turned over and felt so bad but of course I didn't say anything because I certainly don't want to pressure anyone to have sex if he's not into it 'cause I know that wouldn't be any good for them or me... But oh, how I felt the line being drawn and it hurt, and maybe even more than hurting it just felt ridiculous, absurd that the line gets in there. I felt so alone. Rejected, too, I guess.

I felt that line being drawn and it hurt, and maybe even more than hurting it just felt ridiculous

The old ironic smile pushed out my lips; it's all too familiar to me now. But then in the light of day I guess I understand that Karl just isn't there for me sexually in that way, I mean, I know that sexually his thing is the young boyish ones and, after all, we know how old I am (you, too, old pal), don't we?

Still, I couldn't sleep and I ended up lying there and then I thought of John (the other John, the ex-roommate) and all the partying and massage we'd done together and how I cuddled all night with him that time when he was so lonely and frustrated and horny... and there I was right next to him in bed—naked even—and there was no lovemaking that night and I know why, all I had to do was go into the bathroom and look into the mirror at these pigeon-toed feet and the big Jewish nose and...

You've heard this before, I know. It's just that it all seems so silly. And such a little thing. And still it hurts, even though I cackle with laughter at the absurdity of it all.

Sorry about rambling on so long. All I started out to say was that I'm really am looking forward to your visit here. You're a dear sweet friend, Virgil, and always will be. It's just that sometimes it is hard to be with you because of how I feel, and knowing how you feel. That line again. I'm sorry about that.

But yes, I want to get together when you're out here. I'm so excited about seeing you soon.

Well, let me gossip about some of the folks you know. Guess what happened at Carter's the other night—you won't believe this but...

Love,
Gerald

Gerald is the pseudonym for a well-known gay activist in Madison who feels guilty about drawing the line with men he loves and hurt when men he loves draw the line with him.



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Recommended Reading...

"I Thought People Like That Killed Themselves": Lesbians, Gay Men and Suicide, Eric E. Rofes, Grey Fox, \$7.95 paperback

Rofes' important new book covers the myths and facts of gay suicide from a number of perspectives, including substance abusers, activists, and youth. His use of personal stories takes the tragedy of lesbian and gay suicide out of the realm of statistics. Rofes concludes with work to be done on suicide intervention and prevention.

Icon: Second Series #1, Fall/Winter 1982-83, \$4.75

This issue marks the rebirth of the journal *Icon*, now focusing on work by women. With its motto of creative and change, this issue contains poetry and prose by Audre Lorde, Irene Klepfisz, Cherrie Moraga, Michelle Cliff and Blanche Wiesen Cook, among others.

Shadow Country, Paula Gunn Allen, American Indian Studies Center, U.C.L.A. \$7 paperback

Paula Gunn Allen is a Laguna Pueblo/Stoux-Lebanese American poet whose work has previously appeared in *Conditions*, *Sinister Wisdom*, and many anthologies. This is a beautifully produced book of her poetry, with black-and-white color art work by James Trujillo. Says Adrienne Rich, "This is a very large world, of abandoned pueblos and modern cities, dreams and desires, loneliness and tribal consciousness, held together by the mind of a prophetic and arresting poet."

The Terminal Bar, Larry Mitchell, Calamus Books, \$6 paperback

Writer Felice Picano says of this book, "I can't think of any novel that so happily combines the clear-eyed cynicism and infectious humor of New York gay life and attitudes. The characters in *The Terminal Bar* may be dancing on a volcano of crime, pollution, bureaucracy and madness, but they do so with the grace and charm of a painting by Matisse. I love this book."

and Listening...

Winds of Change, Mary Watkins, \$8.50

Mary Watkins, a jazz pianist and composer of considerable talent who has been part of the women's music scene for many years, recorded her long-awaited second album live in San Francisco. Backed by a superb women's orchestra and a small mixed combo, Watkins's compositions jump to life on this exciting and extremely well-produced record.

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To Be Black, Feminist,

By Miel

Barbara Smith was one of the participants in the seminars held during Black Women's History Week at the UW-Madison, March 16-18. Included in the informal workshops and panel discussions that week was a speech delivered by Smith entitled, "The Politics of Black Women's Studies." The editor and co-editor of several anthologies on Black feminism, Smith is currently working in Brooklyn, N.Y., with Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press.

Miel: You've said that you're concerned about "those who have no voice." Who is that, specifically?

Smith: Well, basically, it's us. I feel like Afro-American women don't really have a voice. I feel that we've been doing some organizing in recent years, and also did organizing even when we were slaves—rebellious, escaping to freedom. In truth, we're just invisible people here. I do feel it's important to understand that there are Afro-American women of different class backgrounds and of different material circumstances, so that a person like me, who has education and what have you, does get to manifest herself a little bit more. But in general, I feel like the work I've been involved in has been here for us—and not just for Black women, but Third World women also.

You were one of the founding sisters of Kitchen Table (KT) in 1980 in Boston. It was set up to publish works by Third World women, right?

Yes. That is, here in this country we're distributing works by Native American, Asian American, Latina and Black women. We have an international vision of doing translations of books that have the kind of perspective we feel will further the movement. And then, also, we plan to translate our own works into appropriate languages, so women of color can read them.

What I like is the idea of linking people. I mean, there are women in South America who, besides working against apartheid, are also concerned about the problem of rape. And they don't know that there are Black women in this country who are their counterparts, their allies, because the media—whatever feminist media there is—is really white-aimed.

We don't get to travel whenever they send somebody to some "developing" country; it's not Third World women, it's white women. Got to keep that imperialism going, you know?

Black women in other countries don't know that there are Black women in this country who are their counterparts, because the media—whatever feminist media there is—is really white-aimed.



From left to right, Nellie McKay, Barbara Christian, Barbara Smith, and Frances Foster.

What made the group decide on publishing books as opposed to, say, periodicals?

The majority of the people in the group wanted to do books, because we felt books had a kind of lasting impact—although I feel like there's a great need for a periodical of national Third World feminists—a newspaper or periodical that reaches a wide variety of people. But we just felt that books had a kind of lasting quality; books are used in classrooms; they have a shelf life; they don't go out of date. Take *Conditions 5*, which I co-edited along with Lorraine Bethel. It's still being sold and people kind of treat it as a book, because it had that kind of permanence and filled a gap. On the other hand, it is like a back issue of a magazine now.

What books does KT distribute?

Now we're distributing about 10 or 11 books. *Narratives*, by Cheryl Clark, a book of poetry forms in the tradition of Black women, is the first book that we're doing an exclusive distribution for, which means that KT is the only place you can get that title. Also, we do the publicity and promotion. Another book is *Cuentos: Stories by Latinas*, edited by Alma Gómez, Cherrie C. Moraga and Miriana Romo-Carmona. KT will publish it in June.

How do you determine which books you will distribute?

We have a policy that we're distributing small press books, because we feel like trade publishers have more means to get their work out. That policy might change in the future, particularly if we want to get into distributing the works of women in other countries—who very well might be published by trade publishers there, but the books still aren't available here.

Spe

I suppose the book you're most excited about that KT will distribute is your own Home Girls. Would you talk about it a bit?

Well, it's supposed to come out in May (knock on wood). It's my attempt to bring together as much Black feminist writing as I could. Originally, it was supposed to be a revised edition of *Conditions Five*—and in some ways it is, cause some of the material in it is from *Conditions*. But in *Home Girls*, I tried to get more political analysis and more fiction. One of the things in the book that people might be excited about is a dialogue of Black lesbian feminists organizing; I've never seen anything quite like that.



One thing I've noticed about the way straight Black women deal with their homophobic feelings: They never ask me a single personal thing about my life.

Lesbian, and a Writer:

There are so many Black women who are lesbians and are writers, and the word will not pass their lips . . . But if you go into a Black context and say you're a lesbian, you stand to get fried.

Barbara Smith Speaks Out

Another thing is that Bernice Reagon has an article in it called "Coalition Politics: Turn of the Century," based upon a presentation she gave at the West Coast Music Festival, I believe, in 1981. Also, Alice Walker has an article about nuclear issues called "Only Justice Can Stop a Curse." It's very "up." And then there's new fiction by writers who have never published before in a feminist context. There's an article by Gloria Hull on Toni Cade Bambara's *The Salt Eaters*. So I'm very excited about the book.

Was it hard getting people to submit material for the book?

Oh my goodness, no! *Home Girls* is going to be fairly long—about 400 pages—but I feel it would be very easy to do another book that size. There's so much writing that's going on! So much thinking!

Another reason for the need of having our own press is the amount of publishing that the women's presses can do and the fact that they do not always have the commitment to publishing our stuff. So we've got to have our own means of getting the word out . . . I feel very optimistic about the future. One of the reasons is that I travel a lot, so I get to see what people are doing in a number of different places; I see things happening. I know, for instance, that there's a Third World women's health clinic in Berkeley; I know that there are Black women organizing against violence against women in Washington, D.C.; I know there are Chicanas in Iowa City who are doing things. So that's the basis of my optimism.

Let's turn now to lesbianism. In your paper, "Notes for Yet Another Paper on Black Feminism," you spoke of the fear of having "come out" in print. Were those fears ever realized?

I don't think I've been that attacked for anything I've ever written. Well . . . *Conditions Five* did get one very hostile review from a Black woman; it was incredibly homophobic.

Maybe her fear was of herself?

Yes, that's the thing. The homophobia of Black women is really the fear of themselves. The thing about being "out" in print, I think, is also that you come out in your day-to-day life, and you become known as a lesbian. There are so many Black women who are lesbians and are writers, and the word will not pass their lips. They'll find any symbolic way of talking about what the fabric of their lives is actually composed of, and they think it protects them, but it doesn't. People's stories are known. I think it hampers their voice, their creativity. But if you go into a Black context and say you're a lesbian, you stand to get fried.

In Alice Walker's The Color Purple, she seemed to treat lesbianism like it was no big deal. But in another story a Black lesbian took her white lover home for Thanksgiving and the woman did get fried—royally so! So here are two views on lesbianism. What's the true one? What's real?

One of the things I believe to be true about *The Color Purple* is that it's very mythical, like a fable. Why didn't anyone say anything to these women in *The Color Purple*? It seems very unrealistic to us, lying in the 1980s in America. Then, there's another book called *The Women of Brewster Place* that has a very negative, violent response by a Black community to two Black women who are lesbians; this is in a contemporary setting.

Alice is not writing a very realistic story. The issues she was raising and the violence and misery were realistic. But the story is very mythical. On the real side of the book, though, I feel Alice is trying to say that this is normal; there have been Black lesbians in the Black community for eons, so why don't people get hip to the fact and deal with it? The book had a practical political message that has very real impact.

Do you think Black lesbians have made any progress in the real world?

Sometimes I wonder if we have made any progress at all, because of the fact that when I get hurt by another Black woman who's straight and homophobic, I say, "Oh, god, here we are, back at square one." One woman I was talking to said that she thinks people have a veneer of tolerance now, more than they had, say, 10 years ago. But, if you scratch the surface, homophobia is still just as deep.

One thing I've been noticing—and I've noticed it here in Madison—is the way the straight Black women deal with their homophobic feelings: They never ask me a single personal thing about my life. They never say, "And where do you live? What do you do?"—not a single kind of conversational thing. I'm not talking about anything heavy—just the way that you get to know someone. And, I feel like that's one of the classic manifestations. They don't ask; they don't want to know. It's really upsetting to me. They think we're so damned different from them.

It takes a lot of courage to be a lesbian because, for one thing, you're dealing with your female sexuality absolutely close up. I feel that if a Black woman—any woman—hasn't dealt with her sexuality, then the existence of lesbianism is a total, total freak-out.

It's interesting how if you're known to be a lesbian, then everything that you are, everything that you do becomes discredited. So, if you're capable of building houses or throwing pots or you're a medical doctor, all of a sudden, everything you are becomes invalidated. All of a sudden you are a stranger.

At the close of the interview, Miel noted, "It's quite appropriate that we've had this interview while sitting around the kitchen table." "Yes," Smith replied. "Our natural habitat, right?"

Kitchen Table books are available at A Room of One's Own. Or write: Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, Box 592 Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

AIDS Update:

Monkey Business May Help Humans

By Brooks Egerton

Researchers at two of the nation's seven federal primate research centers announced in March that several of their rhesus monkey subjects had succumbed to a disease that closely resembles Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

The baffling and often deadly disease—called SAIDS, with the "S" standing for "Simian"—has cropped up among monkeys at the California Primate Research Center at Davis and at the New England Primate Research Center at Southborough, Mass. Researchers at Davis have seen outbreaks of the disease several times since 1969, but only recently began to note its similarities to the immune deficiency syndrome that has now been diagnosed in nearly 1,000 humans.

SAIDS "looks very similar" to AIDS, according to John Wolf of the UW-Madison Primate Research Center. Wolf cautions, however, that the diseases are not necessarily related to one another. "Nobody's been able to define it [AIDS] exactly," he says—thus comparisons with other diseases are difficult.

But early SAIDS symptoms, such as fever, diarrhea, and enlarged lymph nodes, closely resemble those observed in humans. If SAIDS and AIDS can be linked, scientists could use monkeys "as models for the study of humans," Wolf says.

No SAIDS cases have ever been identified at the UW-Madison or the other four federal primate centers around the country. But primatologists now have their eyes peeled for signs of the disease. Pathologists at the UW center have examined the last six years' worth of primate death records and "will continue to go through the records," according to Wolf.

Scientists have no idea what causes AIDS or SAIDS, though they suspect that the syndrome in humans is transmitted sexually or through blood products. The method of transmission is unknown in monkeys, according to Wolf.

Most of the monkeys which have died from SAIDS were young, as are many human AIDS victims. But unlike human victims, most of whom are male, almost all primate victims have been female, according to Wolf. He points out, however, that the research colony at Davis in which the disease last flared up was almost exclusively female to begin with.

If SAIDS and AIDS can be linked, scientists could use monkeys as models to study humans.

In a separate development, a researcher at the George Washington School of Medicine in New Orleans has reported the discovery of a correlation between AIDS and abnormally high levels of a hormone, thymsin alpha-1, in the bloodstream.

Dr. Allan Goldstein announced the finding at a recent meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, but scientists in Wisconsin say they've heard few details about Goldstein's research. "It's certainly provocative," says state epidemiologist Dr. Jeff Davis.

If Goldstein's findings can be corroborated, a hormone test might eventually help doctors to diagnose AIDS. And it could give blood banks

a way to test for contaminated blood—a subject that's become increasingly controversial as evidence mounts that AIDS is transmissible through blood products.

Some organizations, notably the National Hemophilic Foundation, have advocated that sexually active gay men and other groups at high risk for contracting AIDS be barred from giving blood. But most other organizations in the blood banking community have simply called for voluntary measures, so that high risk groups would merely be advised of the facts—and speculations—about AIDS.

The Cardinal Bar will sponsor a community meeting to discuss how to take preventive action against AIDS in Madison's gay community. Come to the Cardinal Bar at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 10.

According to Gremminger

Roger Gremminger's interest in serving Milwaukee's lesbian/gay communities centers on—but doesn't end with—his interest in the STD and counseling services offered at "1240 East." In a recent interview, he spoke out on a number of health-related and other issues.

AIDS:

Two-thirds of gay men travel to the large gay meccas (on the East and West coasts) each year. I urge these men not to have sex there. I ask them to practice extreme discretion in their sexual experiences [while on these visits].

The implementation of AB 70 [the state gay rights law] has a direct bearing on AIDS. In societies in which there is repression of homosexuality, there is the highest incidence of homosexual behaviors. [This is because] bisexual men, if they are not allowed any type of expression of their homosexuality, will end up acting out in a compulsive, anonymous way. That kind of sexuality is the very thing, that is going to spread AIDS.

Problems in Milwaukee

[First], what is the repressive police force and other institutions. [Second], why is this community have paranoia about being fired and getting housing. This won't change until we see the [gay] city ordinance and AB 70 implemented.

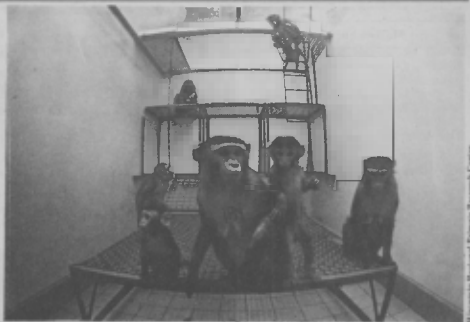
State support for 1240 East

We are almost assured of a grant from Gov. Tony Earl's administration to pay for a full-time administrative director for the [STD] clinic. We have also made a proposal to Earl for the counseling program.

Antagonism toward Madison

There are a great number of sincere and dedicated individuals in Milwaukee and we're working together. But it's even difficult for us to maintain our networking because we're all so busy. We've burned out a lot of leaders because of a lack of coordination.

Madison sits in the seat of government and has gotten lots of things that Milwaukee has not gotten. When I walk into the Blue Bus [Madison's STD clinic], I want to cry because the gay community has that available to them. The little clinic I have in Milwaukee was built and bought with



Immune system breakdown—now the monkeys have it.

Brady East Clinic: Caring for Our Own

By Duane Allen

It's popularly known not by name but by number: the 1240 Building. Located at 1240 East Brady in the center of Milwaukee's "apartment district," it has been the home of the Brady East STD Clinic since the summer of 1982.

In March, it also became the new home for Mandala Counseling Services (formerly Farwell Counseling Services). Both the STD clinic and Mandala are set up to serve the lesbian/gay communities of the greater Milwaukee area.



Roger Gremminger

a lot of hard work and virtually no help.

Lesbian/Gay Media

What is desperately needed in Milwaukee is a forum that is very responsive to Milwaukee's needs. There's a lot happening in Milwaukee but because there's no forum the left hand often doesn't know what the right hand is doing.

Another problem—which is a problem everywhere, not just in Milwaukee—is what I call the problem of "elective illiterates." These are the people who know how to read but just don't. [They'll] look at the pictures and read the big headlines but they do very little reading of text. So these people are going to be very hard to reach. And yet we have to reach them.

The clinic is staffed and supported in large part by volunteers. One of the strongest sources of support—in work hours and dollars—is Dr. Roger Gremminger. Gremminger became medical director in 1979; when the clinic was forced to move from its former locations on Farwell and then Booth Street, he purchased the 1240 Building so the clinic could have a stable and permanent home at last.

The STD clinic serves bisexuals and heterosexuals, as well as lesbians and gays; the clinic's policy is to serve anyone who walks in the door. Though suggested donations are listed for the various services, they don't begin to cover the costs of operating the clinic. Gremminger picks up the deficit. "In the hopes that [his] generosity will increase the generosity of others."

Mandala Counseling Service provides one-on-one counseling, couple and group counseling, and counseling for lesbian and gay parents and their children. Most counseling is short-term; clients who want long-term counseling are evaluated and referred to other services.

"Mandala aims at female/male parity in its counseling staff and administration," says Gremminger, who also serves on the service's nine-member board. "Training sessions for new counselors are always conducted by both a man and a woman."

The counseling service currently offers on-site counseling from 7 to 10 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays. Counseling is provided by some 35 volunteer professionals, and most are lesbian or gay; volunteer staff also includes several pastors. Mandala is also training paraprofessionals.

Another community service provided at "1240" is a crisis intervention hotline. Hours are 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and 6 p.m. to midnight on Sunday; these hours have been identified as containing the most crisis situations for gays and lesbians. During the rest of the week, hotline calls are forwarded to individuals connected with Mandala. ● Mandala's hotline number is 291-9463; the regular counseling number is 291-9446. ●

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From the United:

Dealing with Domestic Violence

Rich and poor, white and black, young and old, female and male—all of these population groups are involved in domestic violence. Within the lesbian community too, battering is a problem.

Both Dane County Advocates for Battered Women and The United have received crisis calls from women who identified as lesbians and either had abused a partner or had been abused by one. Actual statistics, however, do not exist to document the degree to which lesbian domestic violence is a problem in our community.

Violence is a learned behavior, a constantly reinforced lesson which is virtually impossible to miss. Women, like men, learn to use violence to maintain control over others, to get rid of anger, and to release stress in their lives. And intimate relationships seem to produce conditions under which battering—defined as emotional, physical or sexual abuse—can occur.

One of the major problems facing

those who wish to address the issue of lesbian domestic violence is denial. Violence is generally thought of as exclusively a men's issue, something that involves women only when they become victims.

It may be difficult for us to acknowledge that abuse can occur between women—plus we face the external threat of "dyke-baiting" from the straight community. Yet if we are to change the realities of battering in our lives, we must face the issue squarely.

The United and Dane County Advocates for Battered Women are now co-sponsoring a support group for battered lesbians. For more information, call Janet Wright at 251-1237.

The United is also sponsoring an anger-control group for lesbians who want to change their behavior. It is not necessary to be involved in therapy or counseling to become a member of either of these groups. Call Betty Livingstone at 255-8582, if you want more information.

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UPAC

The United Political Action Committee (UPAC) has endorsed the following candidates for city office:

Mayor

Robert "Toby" Reynolds
Joseph Sensenbrenner

Common Council

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| District 2: Paul Wrzeski | District 9: Nicole Gotthelf |
| District 4: Douglas Kratsch | District 10: Eve Galanter |
| District 5: Walter B. Kley | District 11: Judith Olson |
| District 6: Bill Feitlinger | District 13: Bonnie Gruber |
| District 8: Anne Munks | District 16: Henry Lufler |

The endorsements were made on the basis of past performance and/or answers to questions concerning issues of concern to Madison's Lesbian-Gay community. It is hoped that members of the community will consider this when voting on:

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

The United Political Action Committee (UPAC) is the political arm of The United. Through UPAC, established in 1979, we work in electoral politics: for and with City, County, and other candidates who support the Lesbian/Gay movement, providing ongoing support to maintain previous achievements, and identifying new areas where gains can be made. UPAC is composed of politically concerned volunteers who want to provide resources—time, money, issue development, endorsement, etc.—to candidates who will be supportive of Gay and Lesbian issues.

Our continued effectiveness depends on you. Your monetary contributions will be graciously accepted and can be sent to: Bruce Stark, Treasurer, 137 E. Gorham, Apt. 5, Madison, WI 53703. Such donations are tax deductible up to \$100.00.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, April 5

Authorized and paid for by the United Political Action Committee, Bruce Stark, Treasurer

From WLGN:

A Call for Communication

Beginning in April, the Wisconsin Lesbian/Gay Network (WLGN) will have a regular column in **OUT!**. We will use this space to share what we're up to and discuss timely issues and events we think important to the lesbian/gay community. This month, we'll introduce ourselves.

Incorporated for more than a year, WLGN will host its fourth annual state conference this summer. During the past three years, the Network has progressed steadily toward its goals. Our purpose is to build a comprehensive communication network throughout Wisconsin by:

- Facilitating the exchange of information and ideas within the Wisconsin lesbian/gay community and throughout the state's population at large.

- Acting as a clearinghouse for the collection and distribution of information pertaining to the lesbian/gay community to provide greater awareness of lesbian/gay issues.

- Coordinating efforts to be carried out statewide for lesbian and gay men in all aspects of citizenship, public service, employment, education, and family life to improve the quality of life of all lesbians and gay men in Wisconsin.

These goals are becoming realities. When phone calls to the governor were needed to ensure the passage of AB 7, the Network contacted its members, resulting in phone calls from all across the state. The Network helped arrange for the appearances at our statewide conference last summer of some of the candidates running for governor.

Currently, we're very concerned with the issue of the paid liaison for the lesbian/gay community in Governor Earl's administration. In February we brought together gay men and lesbians from all over the state to discuss our dissatisfaction with a volunteer task force in lieu of the paid

liaison position Earl tempted us with during his campaign.

Expecting the whole meal, we were offered crumbs when the election was over. WLGN will continue to push for a paid liaison for the lesbian/gay community. (For a complete text of the letter WLGN sent Gov. Earl regarding this matter, see the March issue of **OUT!**)

Soon WLGN will sponsor a speakers' bureau to provide organizations in Wisconsin with knowledgeable lesbian and gay speakers who can

address a variety of issues and topics pertinent to our community. And once again we will host our annual statewide conference, in July 1983. Keynote speakers will be Barbara Grier from Matad Press and Dr. Louie Crew from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

The conference is a great place for lesbians and gays from all over the state to meet, exchange ideas and experiences, and design a strategy for the coming year. It's a time to renew contacts, build friendships, learn, teach and have a good time in a welcoming atmosphere.

Wisconsin is fortunate to have a statewide organization devoted exclusively to lesbian and gay issues. We

are lucky to have the dedicated leadership and regional representation that will make this organization viable and effective for years to come.

We welcome new members and fresh energy. Membership in the Network is open to anyone over 18 who subscribes to the purpose of WLGN. With membership, you will receive a free subscription to **OUT!**—so you can benefit yourself and both organizations at the same time.

For more information, write to: WLGN, Inc., P.O. Box 851, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481. And watch for our monthly column in **OUT!** Your feedback is welcome. ●

Rape Crisis Center:

The Momentum of Angry Women

By Deb P.

MADISON—Women looking to each other with anger and strength provided the momentum—momentum that brought the national anti-rape movement of the early 1970s home to Wisconsin with the formation of the Madison Rape Crisis Center (RCC).

Over the past 10 years, RCC has developed such services as crisis intervention, legal advocacy, counseling, and public education about sexual assault. And in recent months the organization has embarked upon two new endeavors: the South Madison Project and the Lesbian Caucus.

Judith Feaster Strasma, an RCC staff member, currently is working on a one-year outreach effort in South Madison—one of the city's older and poorer neighborhoods—with black women as the target population.

Strasma says that nationally, the anti-rape movement is just beginning to grapple with the question of race.

Looking at rape historically, Strasma states that "black women, slave women, women that are being kept down by dominant society, apparently can still be raped with impunity." The sexual assault of women of color, she says, has been termed everything but rape, and victims have been accused of having "loose morals."

At this moment, Strasma says, "Perhaps the feminist anti-rape movement doesn't have enough power to change the rape/race reality, but I do think we have an obligation to name it, to try to understand it, and to strategize for confronting it."

Believing that women of color have concerns about rape that are different from the concerns of white women, the project's long-term goal is to design an alternative counseling crisis line to be staffed primarily by black

women from the South Madison area.

Expanding in another new direction, the Crisis Center recently announced the formation of a Lesbian Caucus. The group formed in response to RCC members' requests to address lesbian issues within the Center. The caucus aims to provide support and education for RCC members and to act as a community resource for women who may be using Crisis Center services.

The momentum of women taking back power continues at the Rape Crisis Center!

The Rape Crisis Center phone line is open every night from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., providing confidential support, information and assistance to victims of sexual assault and to their families and friends. The daytime office provides the same services from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Call 251-RAPE. ●

GAY SUPPORT GROUP

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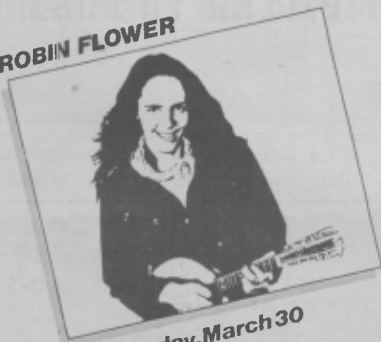
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and the CLUB de WASH 636 W. WASHINGTON

Calendar

April

1 & 2—Friday & Saturday
les hommes. Theater: "The One woman Show" at the Isthmus Playhouse, Madison Civic Center, 55, 8 p.m. Tickets on sale at box office or Ticketron.

1—Friday
Wisconsin Women's Land Benefit Dinner at the Wil-Mar Center, \$4.50 includes veggie lasagna, salad, garlic bread, beverage and a slide show of D.O.E. farm 6:30-12:30.

2—Saturday
Older Lizards Meeting: Info. at A Room of One's Own Bookstore.
Small Objections: work by Wendy Ashman Mukluk at Survival Graphics, 853 Williamson St. Opening, 8 p.m.; through April 30.

3—Sunday
Women's Spirituality Group at the Lesbian Center, 953 Jennifer St., 5 p.m.

4—Monday
"We don't care, we don't have to." Attend a public hearing to protest Wisconsin Telephone's proposed 49% rate increase, 7 p.m. at the Hill Farms State Office Building, 4802 Shesboygan Ave. Rm. 426. Join the Lesbian Gay Ad Hoc Committee to Expose the Phone Company!

6—Wednesday
3rd Annual Women's Film Series: "Lesbian Issues," *Suzanna, Great's Girls, A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts, and I'm Not One of 'em*, 7 p.m., Wisconsin Union Theater, Free.
Gay Eucharist Service: Sponsored by Integrity/Dignity (I/D), at the University Catholic Center, 723 State Street 7:30 p.m.

7—Thursday
Marge Piercy: Great Hall, Memorial Union, 7:30 p.m.

8—Friday
Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert at the People's Church in Chicago, 7:30 & 10:30. Tickets: (608) 362-3222.
Intercultural Forum potluck. Women of S. E. Asia and E. Asia, at the Eagle Heights Community Center. Call 263-4703 for time and directions. Shared specialty food and discussion.

10—Sunday
Womyn's Spirituality Group: at the Lesbian Center, 5 p.m.
Lesbian Center meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Community Meeting to discuss the problem of AIDS and how to take preventive action in Madison. Cardinal Bar, 1:30 p.m. All WELCOME.

UW Student Cuffhouse, sponsored by The United and the 10% Society, at the Green Lantern, 306 N. Brooks, open to anyone; no cover, 2-5 p.m.
Gay Men's Choral Spring Concert: at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, 8 p.m. Free admission, reception following.

12—Tuesday
Lesbian Mom's Group at 6 p.m. Call 249-5315 for info.

13—Wednesday
"Rosa Luxemburg, Women's Liberation and Marx's Philosophy of Revolution." A talk by Ray Duncanson, 7:30 p.m., Wisconsin Center Aud., 702 Langdon.

3rd Annual Women's Film Series: "Images of Women," *Bevy Tells Her Own Story, and Killing Us Softly*, 7 p.m., Wisconsin Union Theater, Free.

15—Friday
"Women in the Arts" film series at the YWCA Women's Resource Center, 101 E. Mifflin St. *Georgia O'Keefe and Spirit Catcher—The Art of Betsy Saar*, 5 p.m., free.

Lesbians in the Legal Professions group. Call 244-2886 for info.

Women's Studies Colloquium, 209 N. Brooks St., 3:30 p.m. Maggie McAdden: "Feminist Theory in Western Europe; Some Trends and Tendencies."
VD Screenings at Sam's 1206 Regent St., sponsored by Blue Bus, free, 9 p.m. - midnight.

16—Saturday
Womonsong Spring Concert & Dance, 7:30-midnight, Wil-Mar Center. Child-care will be provided, \$3 donation.
VD Screening at Rod's 636 W. Washington, starts at 7 p.m.

17—Sunday
Womyn's Spirituality Group, Lesbian Center, 5:00 p.m.

Gay Film Showing, sponsored by I/D, at 1001 University Ave. Films include *Who Happen to Be Gay?* Will be shown, 7:30 p.m. Free.
VD Screening at Rod's 636 W. Washington, starts at 7 p.m.

20—Wednesday
Adrienne Rich, 7:30 p.m. Wisconsin Center Auditorium.

23—Saturday
3rd Annual Women's Film Series, a sub-titled film from Japan: *Sundakan* 8. 7 p.m., Wisconsin Union Theater.

24—Sunday
UW Student Cuffhouse at the Green Lantern, 306 N. Brooks, 2-5 p.m. Free.

29—Friday
Gayte Marie at Marquette University, Milwaukee. Show starts at 8 p.m.
Women's Studies Colloquium at 209 N. Brooks St., 8:30 p.m. Debarati Sapir, "Health Education for 3rd World Women."

Women in the Arts Film Series: A *Colored Girl—Nizozake Shanzand Loranne Hansberry: The Black Experience in Creation of Drama*, 5.1 & 7 p.m.: 101 E. Mifflin St.

Regular Features

Sundays
Benefit the United at the Cardinal Bar, 418 E. Wilson, \$1 donation.

Tuesdays
Women's Studies gathering for all interested graduate students, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at 209 N. Brooks.
Gay Men's Choral: See "Today in the Memorial Union" for room, 6-8 p.m.

Thursdays
Glad to be Gay on Cable 4, 8:30 p.m.

Fridays
Nothing to Hide on Cable 4, 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays
The 10% Society: a lesbian/gay group on the UW-Madison campus open to students, faculty and members of the university community, 3-5 p.m. Check "Today in the Memorial Union" for room.

Milwaukee
Black and White Men Together meets every 3rd Saturday of each month. Call Alan, 449-2454; Richard, 962-2998.

Madison calendar listings are compiled by Cindy (256-3761) and Larry (257-7573). We encourage free listings of events held throughout Wisconsin. Please send info. to O.U.T., P.O. Box 148, Madison, WI 53701, by the last Friday of each month.

Classifieds are \$75/line, 30 characters/line. Deadline is the Friday before the first of each month. Payment due before printing, O.U.T., P.O. Box 148, Madison, WI 53701. (608) 251-0698.

CLASSIFIEDS

Photographer is doing a project of portraits of couples, and wants subjects, if interested, call Marty at 238-6493.

The Network: Counseling, support groups, dating service for gay, lesbians and TV's. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187. (414) 542-5735.

Gay Roommate Wanted: On Madison's east side, 3BR ranch with well-equipped kitchen, rec. room, w/bar, workshop, shaded backyard, \$175 incl. all utilities, many extras. Available May 1st. 244-8690 (eves), 241-4471 ext. 367 (days), Larry.

Contact/Withdrawal, 5th on a series of training sessions for professionals in the helping fields and others interested in these skills. Presented by the Moon Tree feminist therapy collective, 2203 Regent St., on Sat., April 16, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$30-550, limited to 12 participants. Call 213-9339 for details.

Education/Outreach Coordinator for services directed predominantly to university

gay and lesbian community. Applicant should have knowledge of community needs and issues with demonstrated experience in administration, direct service, volunteer coordination, and grant writing. Background in human services, non-profit organizations and crisis intervention is preferred. Three-quarter time. Salary: \$11,789 FTE. Submit resumes by April 9 to The United, 306 N. Brooks, Madison, WI 53715. No phone inquiries please. An equal opportunity employer.

OUT! needs an answering machine. We also are seeking donated office space. Please call 251-0698, 256-7952.

To Gilly 3 & 5 in Green Bay: Greetings from Gilly 1 in Madison.

Activist
 Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin (CUB), a statewide grass-roots membership organization dedicated to creating safe and affordable energy and challenging corporate energy policies and practices, seeks committed, articulate people to work on grass roots fundraiser/organizing efforts. Full & part-time positions available. Advancement.
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Benefit Dance Party for Toby Reynolds
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April 12
Tony Brown in a Very Special Solo Performance
 9:30 p.m. \$2

April 13

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9:30 pm \$2

Keep your ears to the grapevine regarding the Cardinal's closing. We promise to go out on a high note!

Show: Sunday April 17 9 p.m.

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