

United funding cut

MADISON—The United, Madison's only gay and lesbian advocacy agency, has had its 1988 funding cut by the city of Madison by \$3,000.

In a July 20 City Human Resources Hearing, Pam Davis, Treasurer of the Board of the Directors; Kate Nolan, co-President of the Board; and Cindy Desch, United coordinator, spoke

Society, that he had increased his support for the lesbian and gay community every year he had been in office and, that if he were re-elected, he would continue that commitment.

In a July 15 letter explaining the funding cuts, Lynn Haanen, Chair of the Community Services Commission, said that the "Commission's recommendations are directed toward services responding to areas of major concern identified during the past year and with the potential for the greatest impact in meeting critical needs with the limited funds available."

Davis countered at the hearing that "gays and lesbians fit your categories of major concerns by their sheer numbers and—since we have relatively few laws banning discrimination against us—I submit that our need for advocacy services is a critical one."

"The United takes cases that the Equal Opportunities Commission won't touch. Our clients are often closeted for fear of discrimination. These are people who slip through the cracks. The system is inaccessible to them without an advocate... I would ask the members of the panel to consider whether 20,000 oppressed people constitute a 'major concern'?" Haanen cited in her letter to The United that Human Resources funding proposals for 1988 constituted a 52% increase over 1987 funding. Available funds for allocation this



Pam Davis

against the funding cuts.

For 1988, The United requested \$17,500 from the City and received \$13,000, \$5,000 to be used for advocacy and \$8,000 to be used for counseling. For 1987, The United had received \$16,000 from the City, to be equally divided between advocacy and counseling.

At the hearing, Davis cited Mayor Sensesbrenner's statement, made at an April 1 mayoral candidates' debate sponsored by the Ten Percent



The Madison AIDS Support Network new Board of Directors and officers for 1987-1988: front, Marjorie Hurie, vice-president; Bob Enghagen, president; Bob Doornek, treasurer; back, Tim Tillotson; Doug Fleisch; Kelley Balliet; Terence Gilles; and Tim Holthaus, treasurer.

year totaled \$824,860.

Haanen applauded the discussions occurring between The United and the Gay/Lesbian Resource Center regarding a merger (a move which subsequently failed, though discussions are still underway regarding a merger of counseling services). Haanen wrote that the "Commission believes that the agency [The United] has greater potential for supporting its services through private fundraising."

Since 1986, The United's funding has diminished from 56% by the city to 40% in 1988. In 1986 it received \$17,100 from the City and \$13,570 in

other funding. For 1988, it will have \$19,200 in other funding, combined with the City's allocation, for a total budget of \$32,200.

Davis said that The United has not gotten an offer to change the proposed allocation, though the Commission could change its recommendation at a later date. Davis, however, added, "I am not optimistic that such a change will be made."

She said that members of the board of The United will be talking with Mayor Sensesbrenner or his aides in the near future.

Gene Thomas is co-President of The United's Board of Directors. ●

Will UW end ROTC discrimination?

MADISON—An ad hoc committee appointed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Faculty Senate is moving closer to approving a document which would call for termination of the university's ROTC contracts if it continues to discriminate against gays and lesbians.

The committee, formally known as the "Ad Hoc Committee on Relationship between the University of Wisconsin-Madison and ROTC Programs in regard to University Non-discrimination Policies," was appointed last year and is expected to reach its final conclusions in August.

According to committee member Rick Villaseor, the committee will make three recommendations, all of which have been approved on straw ballots in recent meetings.

The recommendations, according to a draft of the final report, call for the Faculty Senate and UW-Madison administration to challenge the legal basis for exclusion based on sexual orientation; to pursue vigorously, by political means, a change in prohibitive statutes based on sexual orientation and/or conduct, since they violate University of Wisconsin-Madison

policy as well as the intent of state law; and, if political and legal changes fail, to discontinue the university's affiliation with the ROTC Programs.

As a land grant university, UW-Madison is required to offer ROTC or a substitute program.

Villaseor said he expects the committee's final vote on the above recommendations to pass, probably by a 6-2 vote.

Professor Gordon Baldwin, ROTC's official representative on the committee, has already written drafts of a minority opinion.

Baldwin is a professor of law as well as director of ROTC Officer Education on the Madison campus. In a recent interview with *Isthmus*, Baldwin described his politics as probably more conservative than U.S. Supreme Court justice nominee Robert Bork.

In his minority report, Baldwin cites traditional arguments for the exclusions of gays: "Members of the military often live in close and confined quarters—on ships, submarines, in crowded barracks, etc. We have enough difficulty coping with

the majority with heterosexual preferences. It is hardly irrational to conclude that one more set of problems can be avoided by the exclusion of gays."

Baldwin also cites last year's Supreme Court decision of the Bowers vs. Hardwick case, in which the court



Rick Villaseor

upheld Georgia's right to its sodomy laws. Baldwin writes, "Some of our military bases are in Georgia

... [and] it is surely rational to decide not to send people to a jurisdiction where their conduct is likely to violate a law that is constitutional."

As to AIDS-related concerns, the majority report cites that, since screening for the HIV infection is already done, this is a more effective way of controlling health problems, for "it also excludes infected individuals who are not gay."

Villaseor has sought the help of Wisconsin Senator William Proxmire. Proxmire wrote that, in regard to changing policies at a national level, "there is no likelihood that the current ROTC policy on sexual orientation will be changed... not with this Administration." Proxmire urged that the issue be decided "locally by the University and student body."

The committee's recommendations will go to the Faculty Senate this fall.

Villaseor said that he hoped the Faculty Senate would take "a fair and enlightened view" of the report, but acknowledged that "we'll have to fight against the homophobic and blindly pro-military forces in our midst." ●

Milwaukee mayoral profiles: Dennis Conta

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of profiles/interviews with Milwaukee mayoral candidates on gay/lesbian rights in Milwaukee and Wisconsin. This project has been funded by a grant to SPEAK ITS NAME from the Wisconsin Community Fund.

SPEAK ITS NAME

MILWAUKEE—Dennis J. Conta's office in Milwaukee's Germania Building has large windows that offer a good view of City Hall. Conta looks and hopes that one day soon he will reside there as Mayor of the Cream City. He has had that dream since

1980 when he ran against the current Mayor, Henry Maier. That time Conta lost. Now, in 1987, he is running again, believing, as he says, that Milwaukee is ready for a change after 28 years of Maier.

Conta was born and raised in the Bayview section of Southside Milwaukee. He attended Ripon College. He went on to Harvard's Kennedy

School, from which he received a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He holds also a Master's in Social Work from UW-Milwaukee. He served eight years as a Democrat in the Wisconsin Assembly.

(The mayoral election is to be held in April, 1988, is non-partisan.)

In his campaign, Conta is actively *continued on page 3*

"Homo" Least Offensive—In the wake of a crackdown by the FCC on broadcast obscenity, *Variety* reported the results of a survey of 92 radio stations. According to *Philadelphia Gay News*, 48% put "bitch" in the "can't use" or "probably can't use" category; 43% nixed "bastard," but only 31% found "homo" to be offensive to prevailing community standards. The words "boobs" and "crotch" received almost 100% acceptance.

Dildos for Illinois—A bill which would have outlawed over-the-counter sales of "artificial human sexual organs," such as dildos and latex vaginas, has been defeated in a state senate committee in Springfield, Illinois. The bill had earlier passed the Illinois House by a 98-10 vote and was believed to have a good chance of succeeding in the Senate, had it gotten through the committee, according to the *Windy City Times*.

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In a Nutshell

Beastly Beastie Boys Pay Up—After Beastie Boys member Adam Horowitz said in a magazine interview that he "hates faggots," believes gays are psychologically ill and are child molesters, a New York gay radio program exposed the bigotry and called up CBS Records to complain. According to *News of the Columbia Gay and Lesbian Community*, when the CBS executive asked what was wanted in reparation, they got the answer: a donation to the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) reported that within a few days, a donation of \$2,000 was received from CBS Records.

Airborne Earring Allowed—A Toronto court has ruled that a male flight attendant may wear a gold stud earring at work, according to *Chicago Outlines*. Attendant Robert Elder's employer, Wardair, had claimed it would loose custom-

ers because passengers would think Elder gay and associate him with AIDS. Elder's attorneys and the Canadian Union of Public Employees countered that Wardair was unreasonably restricting Elder's personal freedom.

Michael Jackson Too Effeminate for Pepsi?—After Michael Jackson's latest cosmetic surgery, it seems that the Coca Cola company found more to rejoice about than did Pepsi, for whom Jackson does commercials. Jackson's new look—new nose, new chin and new "image"—reportedly received boos from Pepsi executives who previewed it, according to *Philadelphia Gay News*. Said one Coke executive who also saw the preview, "He [Jackson] is so totally effeminate, they [the Pepsi folks] couldn't handle it."



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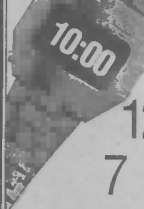
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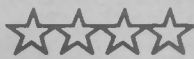
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Fired substitute teacher continues suit

MILWAUKEE—Bruce R. Davies, a gay male resident of Milwaukee, is continuing his discrimination suit against the Milwaukee County school district of Brown Deer and Greenfield, where he served as a substitute teacher in 1986.

In a complaint filed on September 8, 1986 with the Equal Rights Division (ERD) of the Wisconsin Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations, Davies charged that he had been discharged by Brown Deer "because he was gay and had touched a student."

In a similar complaint filed on December 19, 1986 with the ERD, Davies charged that he had been refused reemployment by the Greenfield district "because of sexual orientation in regard to conditions of employment."

In both cases, Davies admitted that he had told his students that he was

gay and that he had "touched" or "hugged" one or more of his students.

In a statement filed with the ERD, Davies explained that "a student asked whether or not I was married and so not to create an assumption about my sexual/affective preference. . . I stated to her that I am gay."

In the same statement, Davies told Brown Deer Middle School Principal Charles Radke and School District Superintendent, Kenneth Moe that "I had never used those words [I am gay] . . . in class or to anyone in the class ever."

Davies admitted also to Moe and Radke that he "had touched a male student" but had not "consciously" thought of who he was touching until he was later questioned about the incident by Radke and Moe. Davies maintained that it was his belief that

"my touching anyone would have been important much less" had they (Brown Deer School District officials) not known that he was gay.

Davies said in the statement that the student in question had a "behavior problem" and that he was trying to keep order. "I feel that if I had not used a physical form of reprimand, a touch on the back, perhaps, I couldn't have been as effective in my teaching."

In his complaint filed against Greenfield Middle School, Davies alleged that he had been given a class of "emotionally disturbed students" with whose problems he was not familiar. He said in his statement to the ERD that there was fighting and that the students would not respond to "verbal warnings." He said his touching and hugging was an effort to preserve order, as was his allowing them to play the radio.

"My dancing for a few brief seconds could not have disturbed them, as I do not even think all of them probably even know what was proper school behavior."

In the initial determination of Davies' case against Brown Deer filed December 10, 1986, Ambrosio Rosario, Equal Rights Officer of the ERD found no "probable cause" to believe that the school district had discriminated against Davies "because of sexual orientation."

In a similar document filed April 24, 1987 on Davies' complaint against Greenfield by ERD Equal Rights Officer, Katherine Kehoe, the same

conclusion was reached. Noting that Greenfield had in the past removed others from the substitute teaching list for poor job performance, she concluded that Davies had been removed for the same reasons. The document cited reports of complaints received by Principal Gene Sheldon from the regular teacher and other teachers having near-by classes of Davies' "inability to control" his class. Also cited was Davies' failure to follow the lesson plan he was given "and hugging some of the students."

In his statement to the ERD, Davies said, "I think any teacher should have the prerogative of touching or hugging or holding a child if they find that it helps to create the kind of learning environment they feel is necessary."

On January 6, 1987, Davies filed a notice of appeal on the Brown Deer case with the ERD. A similar notification of appeal was filed with the ERD on May 28, 1987 on the Greenfield case. Both appeals are pending.

In March, 1987, Davies wrote to the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin requesting legal aid with his appeal against the Brown Deer decision. The ACLU, in a letter dated March 17, 1987, turned him down. Davies was informed that it was the policy of the ACLU in such cases not to consider aid until "you have exhausted your administrative remedies."

Davies told OUT! that in the appeals cases he will act as his own attorney. ●

Milwaukee plans for Labor Day MAP-Fest

MILWAUKEE—Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) spokesperson, Tom Boll, has announced the upcoming MAP-Fest, to be held September 7, Labor Day, from 2:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the block between South 2nd and National Avenues.

As in the past, all proceeds will go to MAP for the benefit of AIDS research.

Boll said that a variety of organizations will have one or more booths offering games and food. These include The Cream City Business Association, the YP Softball Team, IceStop, The Cream City Chorus, the Fest City Singers, The Holiday Invitational Tournament Bowling League and others.

As last year, there will be a raffle. While the prize has yet to be officially announced, a spokesperson for MAP told OUT! that it will be a color TV. This year's MAP-Fest will see a stage show with eight hours of non-stop entertainment. This will include bands such as "Dame" and "Touch," singers such as Terry Lee Waters and female impersonators such as the popular Bonnie Bitch.

La Cage's "Battle of the DJs" will also be held with DJs from all over Wisconsin participating.

Boll told OUT! that this year MAP-Fest "will be bigger and better than ever. Last year 1200 people participated. This year we fully expect 2000." ●

CCF gives \$3,000 to Tri-Cable Network

MILWAUKEE—Tri-Cable Network, which will present a monthly TV series on Milwaukee's gay and lesbian community, has received an initial grant of \$3,000 from the Cream City Foundation.

The grant is expected to fund the first six shows, which will begin in August or September. The shows will focus on a variety of community activities, especially non-bar activities of an athletic, social and educational nature, of which many gays and lesbians may not be aware. There are over 30 active gay/lesbian organizations in Milwaukee.

"It will take some experimentation to settle on the proper format and to

find the right time slot to gain maximum viewership," said Tri-Cable co-producer Bryce Clark.

CCF already has plans underway to continue its funding to Tri-Cable.

"We feel that the idea of regular programming is so important that beyond the [initial] grant, the Board has voted to find ways and means to keep the programs going," said Don Schwamb, CCF President.

Co-producer of Tri-Cable Network is Mark Behar.

CCF, founded in 1982, raises monies in the gay and lesbian community and disburses the funds to non-profit gay organizations to build community through new outreach programs. ●

Conta would support gays, lesbians

continued from page 1

seeking the support of Milwaukee's gay/lesbian community. He told OUT! that the reason for this is that he wants the backing of any group "who has been denied its civil rights."

Asked if he would appoint an openly gay or lesbian person to a position in his administration, Conta said that he would not do so "formally." He added that "gays and lesbians would find numerous opportunities" on his staff. Conta said that he would not establish a gay/lesbian council of any kind as had former Governor Earl. He said that, in his opinion, that had "carried with it a backlash" that had contributed to Earl's defeat in 1986.

Conta, however, is not concerned



Dennis J. Conta

about a possible backlash arising from his active solicitation of gay/lesbian support. He told OUT! that "I wouldn't be surprised if (a backlash) surfaced but, I don't fear

it." He said that "those who would be concerned about it (gay/lesbian support) would be concerned about other parts of my values later."

On several occasions throughout the interview, Conta made it clear that support from and for such groups as the gay/lesbian community was "a vital principle" that he "could not in any way compromise." He said that it is his "strong belief" that it is "the fundamental character of Wisconsin to support equal opportunity and equal access for all regardless of, among other things, sexual orientation." Several times he stressed that "this is one of my most firmly held principles."

Asked for his views on the Rawhide Amendment, Conta stated that "sexual orientation ought not to be considered for employment in any

form."

Concerning mandatory AIDS testing, Conta said that while he was "not closed-minded about mandatory testing, we should be very cautious. He added that "the jury is still out," but "my personal preference at the moment is to place heavy emphasis on education and voluntary testing."

Unlike the usually omnipresent Mayor Maier who turned down several invitations to address the Cream City Business Association, Milwaukee's lesbian/gay business group, Conta, when asked if he would accept such an invitation as Mayor, replied, "Heavens, yes."

The Mayor, he said, has the clear obligation to represent all the people of Milwaukee. "That includes gays and lesbians." ●

Wisconsin AIDS Digest

AIDS statistics

MADISON—Wisconsin has had 131 resident cases of AIDS as of July 1, 1987, according to the state Division of Health. In addition, there have been 57 PWAs residing in Wisconsin, whose diagnosis was elsewhere.

Resident cases are determined by the county and state of diagnosis.

Of the resident non-resident total of 188, 117 have died. One year ago, Wisconsin had had 88 cases of AIDS and 56 deaths.

Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha counties accounted for 87 of the 131 resident cases. Dane County has reported 17 resident cases, and Brown and Winnebago counties, a total of 15.

Gay and bisexual men make up 103 of the resident cases; intravenous drug users, 5 cases; those contracting AIDS through blood transfusions, 6; and heterosexual contact, 1. The origin of the remaining cases is unknown.

Of the state's 131 cases, 107 PWAs are white, 22 black and 2 Hispanic. 123 are men and 8 are women.

AIDS criminalization for Wisconsin?

MADISON—Governor Tommy Thompson has said that he supports the criminalization of AIDS for those who knowingly transmit the disease. Thompson cited the case of an HIV-positive Green Bay Correctional Institution inmate who was charged with scratching and biting a guard in May. (See "Wisconsin AIDS Digest," OUT!, July issue.) Thompson said he believed the legislature would promptly follow his recommendation and enact "severe penalties" for knowingly transmitting the disease.

Meanwhile, Thompson has again flopped on mandatory HIV testing for inmates in the state's correctional institutions. After saying in June that he supported the measure, he changed his mind, saying he would support testing only for "assuasive" inmates. In July Thompson said that he was reconsidering his opposition to mandatory testing for all inmates. ●

Speaking Out

Letters to the
Editor

Support alternative families

Editor:

An important issue which will soon come before the City Council is the recognition of alternative families, a movement which has been led by the Madison Institute for Social Legislation (MISL). It is important for the lesbian and gay community to be familiar with the proposed Alternative Families Ordinance in order to participate in the debate and the decision-making.

The proposed ordinance will be introduced in the City Council by Alderpersons Jim McFarland and Joe Swajia, and other council members who wish to be co-sponsors. It defines an alternative family as a voluntary relationship built on mutual support, caring and commitment. This family must register with the City Clerk and may consist of an extended or inter-generational family in which the adults may or may not be blood relatives; a disabled person and attendant; or a heterosexual, lesbian or gay male couple and any children or dependents.

The proposed ordinance seeks to eliminate some of the inequities faced by alternative families. It would expand the Madison equal opportunities ordinance to include "alternative families status" as a

basis on which discrimination is prohibited. This would give alternative families the same benefits currently enjoyed only by traditional families in the areas of health insurance and other benefits in the public and some private sectors. It would also address the problems of discrimination in the areas of finance, parenting and family memberships.

It is time to end the notion that only married heterosexual couples deserve social approbation and legal recognition. Gay and lesbian couples, as well as other types of alternative families, deserve equal benefits and opportunities. The lesbian and gay community should be actively supporting the proposed ordinance. One can be sure that some homophobes will be active in their opposition to the "sanctioning of immorality." We must work with community organizations, labor groups and others to advocate the ordinance. However, the ordinance will not pass unless we call or write our alderpersons and show them that there are voters in their district who support alternative families.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the proposed ordinance, contact MISL at (608) 256-6475. If you are a Madison resident, you can contact the City Clerk's office to find out your alderperson on the City Council.
Rick Villaseñor
Madison



"On behalf of the US Olympic Committee, I would just like to say how proud we are to lend our name to your illustrious competition..."

This month's cartoon comes from Larry Bastian, of La Crosse.

OUT! wishes to thank our volunteer photographer, Eva Schlesinger, for all her work for the August issue. With her departure from Madison, however, OUT! could use a replacement. Volunteers? Call (608) 256-7664.

OUT! welcomes letters to the editor on all topics. If possible, letters should be typed double-spaced and limited to 500 words. All letters are subject to editing. For identification purposes, they must be signed and include an address or phone number. If you so request, your name will be withheld from publication.

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THE TEN PERCENT SOCIETY CALENDAR

Aug. 5 Madison March on Washington
Organizational meeting for the October 11 National Lesbian/Gay Rights March. 7:00 P.M. Memorial Union. Check "Today in the Union" for the room.

Aug. 28 The Registration Week Dance
8:00 PM - 1:00 AM, Great Hall - Memorial Union DJ, Cash Bar, \$2.00 at the door.

Sept. 2 Fall Membership Meeting
First regular meeting of the fall semester. Check "Today in the Union" for the room.

THE TEN PERCENT SOCIETY holds meetings every Wednesday at 8:00pm. in the Memorial Union.
Check "Today in the Union" for the room.

THE TEN PERCENT SOCIETY is UW-Madison's Lesbian/Gay Student Group

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The Madison Midwest Invitational Gay Volleyball Tournament, held July 25-26, was won by Minneapolis Gamma A. Finishing fourth out of 12 teams, Madison's Shamrock Cardinals, pictured above, include: Terence Gilles, in front; back, left to right, Jeff Pintor; Frank Wegner; John Fernsler; Steve Richter; Ed Hall; and Jeff Stout. Other Wisconsin teams participating were Milwaukee's M & M Club, winner of the consolation bracket, and Madison Three, which placed sixth in the consolation bracket.



International Mr. Leather, held in June in Chicago, is won by Thomas Karasch, of Hamburg, West Germany.



Washington Hotel float



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER



"Proud, Strong, United"

The National Association of Black and White Men Together held this year's annual convention in Milwaukee at the end of June. Among featured speakers was Joseph Beam (left), editor of the recent *In The Life: A Black Gay Anthology*, who stirred up the crowd by advocating "Black-on-Black" relationships. As part of its business, NABWMT rejected a national name change to Men of All Colors Together.

The annual M.A.G.I.C. picnic, held July 25 in Madison



Entertainment by Womansong



Worthy causes



Food

According to Andra-Gene



Dear Andra-Gene:

Bradley and I have been together for over ten years, and we're still fighting about the same thing: the "in-laws." When we visit his folks, everything's cool. When we visit mine, things are less so, but tolerable! The problem is when mine come to visit us! As a professional man with—I like to think—good taste, propriety and a sense of the finer things in life (like Bradley, for example), I'm annoyed at the way Mother gripes about Bradley: His clothes, the bedroom furniture (he decorated it), his cooking, his family (they're nice, wholesome people whom I love dearly), in short, his everything. I don't want to make Ma mad, but I'm beginning to feel like I have to protect him from her, to the point of straining our relationship. Do you have any advice?

Heckpedd

Dear Heckpedd:

Jeez! Has A-G. been down this road before! I figured out what to do about it, and it was Mummy herself who taught me! When I was younger, my sweetie and I used to visit the folks. Mother always insisted we sleep in separate beds (we weren't "married," you know), get up in time for breakfast, be present at all family gatherings and come home "on time." It was the pits. But, she argues, "when you're in our house, you play by our rules." Sound familiar? What I didn't know until later is that it works both ways. When next you are threatened by a visit you expect will be less than satisfactory, put mother on notice. Tell her you and Bradley share your life and your house or apartment and your possessions, and she's off-base to come onto your turf and criticize your lover or your lifestyle. If that doesn't wash, the yellow pages under "Motels" should do just fine.

Confidential to "T":

I am honoring your request not to print your letter, but I feel compelled to give you a response. "Melissa" is not alone in her fixation on the method rather than the person. And, you're not the first person who's been hurt by what A-G. calls the "Meli-tease." You are to be commended for your "gentlemanly" behavior, and you're lucky to be a romantic rather than a rover. The pain and frustration are perhaps greater, but they will be mollified because of your integrity. Why not be honest and up-front? Tell her what you've told me: you're not into games and you don't like the tease. Remember that what's at stake is not whether she's a lesbian or not; rather it's her infringement of your rights. Melissa sounds like she wants something—maybe a one-time fling. On the other hand, she could be fishing for a very strong woman. You should think about whether you want to take her on. Putting all your energy into worrying about betraying her trust, methinks, is too passive.

Laurea Hobson penned the following line, which, paraphrased, sums up my advice: "if she began to imagine that [she] would be grateful for any understanding she gave [her], she would launch herself on the long stony road of disappointment."

Good luck, and be hopeful.

A-G.

WRITE ANDRA-GENE! SEND TO: ACCORDING TO ANDRA-GENE, C/O OUT!, P.O. Box 148, MADISON, WI 53701. ALL LETTERS RECEIVED WILL BE SUBJECT TO PUBLICATION. IF ALSO DESIRED, SEND A SASE FOR A CONFIDENTIAL REPLY.

Community notes

The Evergreen Chronicles, a quarterly journal of gay and lesbian writers, poets, dramatists and visual art. Submit four copies of written work with name on each page. Include SASE if you want work returned. For prose, submit up to three typed, double-spaced stories, maximum length 15 pp. each. For poetry: submit typed, single-spaced poems, up to 10 pp. For black & white graphics: submit black, reducible copy up to 8 1/2 x 11". Black and white photos should be 5 x 7" minimum. Send to *Evergreen Chronicles*, P.O. Box 6260, Minnehaha Station, Minneapolis, MN 55406.

Naiad Press is seeking an editor for an anthology to be published entitled *There's Something I've Been Meaning to Tell You*. The editor should be a lesbian woman (birth- or co-parent) who has experienced or expects to experience coming out to the child or children. The anthology is envisioned as a book of personal reminiscences of lesbians and gay men who are natural, adoptive or co-parents who have been or will be faced with explaining their sexual orientation to their children. Contact Barbara Grier at 904-539-3232. Naiad is also seeking full-length lesbian science fiction novels. For manuscript submission instructions, contact Grier at the above number or write to The Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL

32302. Do not mail manuscripts without preliminary contact.

Allyn Publications will be bringing out an anthology of gay male fiction next year and is seeking potential contributors. It will highlight, but not be limited to, previously unpublished writers. Inquiries and submissions, accompanied by SASE may be sent to the editor of the volume: Charles Jurrist, 40 E. 12th St., New York, NY 10003.

And for short fiction, poetry and graphics, don't forget **The James White Review**, a gay male quarterly. Send submissions to P.O. Box 3356, Traffic Station, Minneapolis, MN 55403. Best submissions deadline is November 1. Congratulations to Madison poet **Robert Tollefson**, whose poetry appears in the current issue of *JWR*.

If you're not a writer, but like to read gay/lesbian works, the **Gay/Lesbian Bookstore Center** is forming a group to discuss literature, primarily fiction, that explores differing perceptions of men and women of themselves and each other. The group will tentatively meet on the second Sunday evening of each month for at least six months and be followed by an opportunity for socializing. If you are interested in participating, please contact MG/LRC, P.O. Box 1722, Madison, WI 53701.

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Among Friends

Gay/Lesbian Resources for Rural Wisconsin
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Directory for Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, South North Dakota, Missouri, Kansas, and Wisconsin. Guide to National listings included. \$5.00, CK or MO.

Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center

1127 University Ave., Rm B104.
P.O. Box 1722
Madison, WI 53701
(608) 257-7575

Peer-counseling and Support • Library • Housing Board • Monthly Calendar • Societal • Workshops • Support Groups (coming out, men over 30, gay fathers, AIDS Support Network)

Spirituality

University United Methodist Church
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For more information call (608) 256-2353
Pastor: Thomas O. Garhart
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MILWAUKEE

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Calendar

MADISON

5-Wed.
Nothing to Hide cable ch. 4, 9:30 p.m., Chicago's Windy City Men's Show with special guest Glenn Clearman.

7-9-Fri-Sun
8th Annual Gay Campout at North Wood County Park, Yellow River. Call 244-8690 for info.

10-Mon.
A Room of One's Own, reading by Louise Rafkin, editor of *Different Daughters: A Book By Mothers of Lesbians*, 6:30 p.m., 317 W. Johnson, fee.

12-Wed.
Nothing to Hide, 9:30 p.m., cable ch. 4, Perspective on Nicaragua, Sonja Garcia.
New Bar Bingo, 8:10 p.m., MASH benefit, 636 W. Washington, 256-8765.

13-Thurs.
Birthday Party for Leo, Rod's Bar, 636 W. Washington, 256-8765.

14-16-Fri-Sun.
Mr. Rod Weekend, Rod's Bar, 636 W. Washington, 256-8765.

16-Sun.
American Players Theatre, Spring Green, Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, potluck picnic performance at 6 p.m. Tickets: \$14. Call 244-8690 for info.

19-Wed.
Nothing to Hide, cable ch. 4, African Studies Silver Anniversary, part #3, Sanctions in South Africa: Are They Productive? 9:30 p.m.

22-Sat.
Music Hair, Max, Jackie Allen, & Julie Shapiro, 8 p.m., fundraiser for Gay Men's Chorus, \$5.

20-23 Thurs-Sun.
Chequamegon National Forest & Apostle Islands retreat, Lake Owen camping, hiking North Country Trail, sailing around Apostle Islands. Call 244-8690 for info.

26-Wed.
Madison Committee organizing for the March on Washington, meeting, 7 p.m., Memorial Union, 255-8582 for info.
Nothing to Hide, cable ch. 4, 9:30 p.m., Monthly Women's Show, Alex Freeman.
MASH Benefit Bingo, New Bar, 8:10 p.m., 636 W. Washington, 256-8765.

28-Sun.
Ten Percent Society, Dance in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union, 9 p.m.

MILWAUKEE

7-Fri.
GAMMA Annual Inquest Boat Cruise leaves dock at 6:50 sharp. For tickets call 332-1527.
Ann Muller, author of *Parents Matter—Parents' Relationships with Lesbian Daughters and Gay Sons*, will speak at St. James Episcopal Church, 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., at 7 p.m.

7-8-Fri-Sun.
Gay Bicycling Network sponsors overnight camping trip near the Marshfield area. Call Bob at (414) 963-9833 for more information.

11-Tues.
Candlelight session at 7 p.m. at MAP office, 1010 N. 9th St.

15-Sat.
Gay Bicycling Network rides across the Hoan Bridge from the East Side to Grant Park. Bob at (414) 963-9833 for more information.

Gay Bicyclists hold "Sunday in Waukesha" Bob at (414) 963-9833

22-Sat.
Gay Bicyclists peddle Kettle Moraine. Bob at (414) 963-9833.
Emerald Isle Cruise of the harbor. Board at 8, depart at 8:30 and return by 10:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 available at People's Books & Crafts or The Beer Garden.

Classifieds

Employment

MADISON

Progressive labor union seeks half time office worker. Must work well with little or no supervision, have excellent organizational skills, and bookkeeping experience or knowledge of accounting principles. Experience with PC-DOS/MS-DOS, financial software and Dbase3 or Rase is desirable. \$9hr.; includes benefit package with health insurance and retirement. We are an equal opportunities employer. Women and minorities encouraged to apply. Have letter of interest and resume to address below by 4 p.m. August 17. AFSCME Local 171, 306 N. Brooks, Madison, WI 53715.

The United, a Social Service/Advocacy Agency serving primarily lesbian/gay clientele, seeks an Administrative Coordinator to begin immediately.

Principal duties: overseeing operation of telephone crisis and information phone line; training, supervision, evaluation, and recognition of phone line volunteers; coordinating advocacy cases designed to overcome discrimination based on sexual orientation; and overseeing finances and annual budget.

Qualifications: Degree preferred in human services. Strong counseling and administrative skills; volunteer training, supervision, and social or political work. Familiarity with computers and Wisconsin anti-discrimination laws desirable.

Starting salary: \$1,210 per month, plus fringe benefits. Raise after a six month probationary period.

Send resume, references, and a detailed statement of professional interests to Board of Directors, The United, P.O. Box 310, Madison, WI 53701. Application deadline is August 5 or until suitable candidate is found.

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OUT! Deadlines	
Editorial	August 19
Calendar	August 25
Community Notes	August 24
Advertising	August 24

The second annual lesbian variety show, "I Got This Way From Kissing Girls Two" is looking for a variety of lesbian entertainment and art. If you have a creation you want to perform/show, we have the audience for you! Write to: LVS, P.O. Box 14043, Madison, WI 53714-0943 for more info.

MADISON

Dane County Advocates for Battered Women is actively seeking women to work on the crisis line! If you're interested or would like additional information, contact Anne or Teri at 251-1207. Extensive and exceptional training begins in September. We need you!

Publishing

MILWAUKEE

The *Hag Rag*, a lesbian-feminist newspaper from Milwaukee, WI, is a bimonthly publication which focuses on news, non-fiction, political analysis and commentary of interest to lesbians and radical feminists/progressive women. We welcome submissions dealing with racism, lesbophobia, separatism, class/economics, feminist analysis, the worldwide lesbian conspiracy, linguistics. Subscriptions: \$5/year indiv. (\$10 sustaining), \$16 instlt., \$150 sample. Free to incarcerated dykes. Write P.O. Box 9324, Milwaukee, WI 53203, USA.

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Gay/Lesbian Trivia

By Jeff Kirsch

JOE ORTON

- The title of the movie based on Orton's life, *Prick Up Your Ears*, is: a) a synonym for "listen up"; b) a play on words of "prick up your ears"; c) an anagram of "prick up your arse"; d) all of the above.
 - Orton and his lover Kenneth Halliwell were both sentenced to prison for: a) corruption of minors; b) for bomb scares in theatres where Orton's plays were performed; c) defacing library books; d) smuggling hashish out of Morocco.
 - Orton wrote miscchievous letters posing as a "watchdog of public morals" to British newspapers under the pseudonym: a) Edna Weltheorpe; b) Melvin Cramsworth; c) Huldhah Shaker; d) John Fieuld.
 - Orton once wrote a sketch (which was used) for the musical: a) "Hair"; b) "A Little Night Music"; c) "Oh, Calcutra"; d) "Godspell."
 - Orton wrote a filmscript (which was rejected) for: a) The Beatles; b) The Rolling Stones; c) Roman Polanski; d) Twiggly.
 - Which of the following is not a play by Orton: a) *The Rufian on the Stair*; b) *What the Butler Saw*; c) *Up Against It*; d) *Funeral Games*?
 - Orton substituted a prop in *Loor* with his recently deceased mother's: a) eyeglasses; b) hearing aid; c) false teeth; d) undergarments.
 - Orton said that, of all modern playwrights, he hoped to be: a) the most perfectly developed (physically); b) the most sexually promiscuous; c) the only porn star; d) the true representative of the working class.
 - Halliwell murdered Orton when: a) an ax when Orton was 31; b) a gun when he was 32; c) a knife when he was 33; d) a hammer when he was 34.
 - Orton's favorite song, played at his funeral, was: a) "Strawberry Fields"; b) "Eleanor Rigby"; c) "Help!"; d) "A Day in the Life."
- Trivia answers are on page 8.


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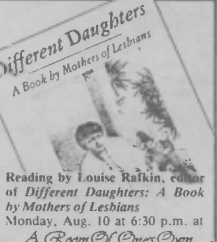
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Of significant others and objects of affection

By Jeff Kirsch

The Object of My Affection. By Stephen McCauley. Simon and Schuster, 319 pp., \$17.95.

Significant Others. By Armistead Maupin. Harper & Rowe, 275 pp., \$9.95.

These two novels have much more in common than meets the eye. Neither are "gay" novels by strict definition; in both of them, gay is interwoven into the fabric of society and seen as nothing to be amazed at. One's orientation raises no more

Robert Joley, his adviser in graduate school, a career for George as host as their partnership.

Nina, stifled by the desperate, cloying affection of her child's father, Howard, slowly eases him out of her life, to his despair, and decides to have and raise her baby without him. She then asks George if he'd like to stay with her and raise it. No commitment, just an option. And a tempting one for George, who lives in a world of the emotionally befuddled.

After some months, Joley pops back into George's life and invites him for a weekend at a gay guest-home in Vermont. Knowing that it will lead to nowhere, logically for him, he goes. But the trip takes an unexpected turn when he meets Paul there, an ex-hippie raising an adopted Salvadorean child.

Excellent portrayals of minor characters include Molly, the middle-aged activist (and Paul's mother), terminally addicted to protests and demonstrations; and Melissa, George's crew-cut, post-feminist co-kindergarten teacher.

Although some scenes appear as aimless as George, McCauley's characterizations ensnare the reader, as does his finely honed prose. Some scenes are truly hilarious, as when George and Melissa surrender a child to the wrong one of two divorced parents, who promptly kidnaps him. The funniest come up when George takes Nina to his brother's wedding. The family is content (if not elated) to have him pose as a heterosexual with her, but never knew one problematic detail: her pregnancy. If nothing else, the chaos of the pre-wedding nuclear family is enough to make any other combination, however unorthodox, seem a paragon of sanity.

Narrated in the first person, McCauley's novel draws an excellent character study in George, likable, vulnerable and at times hopelessly undecided—a phase, if you will, to which most can relate. Decided and usually more guided, Nina is the weaker characterization of the two major figures, but endearing.

The characters are as likable as this book, which, although it's received somewhat less attention, is on a par with David Levitt's *The Lost Language of Cranes*. Because of its wit—sometimes lacking in Levitt—it's maybe an even more enjoyable read.

Significant Others is Armistead Maupin's fifth volume in his *Tales of the City* saga, originally serialized in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and now appearing in the *San Francisco Examiner*.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. D; 2. C; 3. A; 4. C; 5. A; 6. C (the rejected Beatles filmstrip); 7. C; 8. A; 9. D; 10. D.

Maupin, as always wielding his brilliant one-liners, seems on more sure footing than in volumes three and four, when plot at times became strained and scattered. He keeps on dropping coincidental bombshells,



Armistead Maupin

but with fewer stretches in plausibility.

Significant Others focuses largely on Michael (Mouse) Tolliver, throughout all five volumes: the major gay character, whose lover has died of AIDS and who is himself seropositive. The major plot thrust involves Michael, who meets Thack, a potential new love visiting from South Carolina.

While Mary Ann, Mona and Mrs. Madrigal take a backseat in this volume, Maupin also zeroes in on Brian Hawkins, Mary Ann's husband, who has had an affair with a woman who now has AIDS; Wren Douglas, "the most beautiful fat woman in the world," who does talk show appearances and attracts a horde of male lovers; and DeDe and D'orothea, the series' enduring lesbian couple who try to endure the rigors of "Wimminwood," a fictitious women's music festival based on real

ones. Some of the best comedy stems from the "Wimminwood" sections, a light parody of political correctness. Its counterpart, a near-by all-male encampment called the Bohemian Grove, is less successful as humor or the stuff of a novel. Its bunch of senile Reaganites inspire little else but boredom. (And, yes, some characters accidentally do stray from one camp to the other.)

Sympathy, even for the Bohemian Grove clan, is Maupin's forte. Another great strength of *Significant Others* is his treatments of AIDS and seropositives. While never taking the epidemic lightly, nor does he treat it heavy-handedly. A minor character, a PWA named Charlie, injects a dose of reality that compensates for any escapism Maupin has ever been accused of. With his wide following, Maupin can reach and educate many readers, gay and straight, on the topic, something few other writers can do.

While Maupin has been widely praised and commercially successful, he's also been attacked—for shallowness, contrivance and general lack of seriousness. The criticism continues with the present volume: that Maupin raises serious questions and provides no answers.

That the novel could pose the question and answer it is an outdated concept and Maupin's detractors are often critics and writers who are less commercially successful themselves. Maupin does a tremendous job of entertaining while educating, as does McCauley, both taking their characters out of the gay ghetto and integrating them into the kinkier currents of mainstream.

This year it's a fun place to do your end-of-summer literary swimming. ●



Sigrid Estrada

Stephen McCauley

eyebrows than stripes versus plaids. Although both novels focus largely on a gay man, both are peopled with an array of off-beat heterosexuals, who, like their gay counterparts, face choices of love versus independence. For accurate titles, they are the best of the summer. And, what's more, they'll be for many the best two gay-oriented novels of the season.

Stephen McCauley's dazzling first novel, *The Object of My Affection*, features George Mullen, a kindergarten teacher in his late twenties who moves in with Nina, single, heterosexual and pregnant. George has just escaped from a relationship with

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GAY/LESBIAN BESTSELLERS

July sales figures provided by Four Star Fiction and Video and A Room of One's Own

MEN'S BOOKS

- Significant Others*
Armistead Maupin
Harper & Rowe, \$9.95
- Prick Up Your Ears*
John Lahr
Random House, \$4.95
- Basketball Diaries*
Jim Carroll
Penguin, \$6.95
- Cast of Killers*
Sid Kirkpatrick
Penguin, \$4.95
- The Orton Diaries*
Joe Orton; John Lahr, editor
Harper & Rowe, \$19.95

WOMEN'S BOOKS

- Leave a Light on For Me*
Jean Seablow
Spinster's Ink/Aunt Lute, \$8.95
- Murder at the Nightwood Bar*
Katherine Forrest
Naiad, \$8.95
- Lesbian Psychologies*
Boston Lesbian Psychologies Collective
University of Illinois Press, \$12.95
- Different Daughters:*
A Book by Mothers of Lesbian Daughters
Louise Rafkin, editor
Cleis Press, \$8.95
- 1988 Places of Interest to Women**
Marianne Ferrari
Marianne Ferrari, publisher, \$7.00

*Tied with *Passion for Friends*, Janice Raymond, Harper & Rowe, \$10.95.