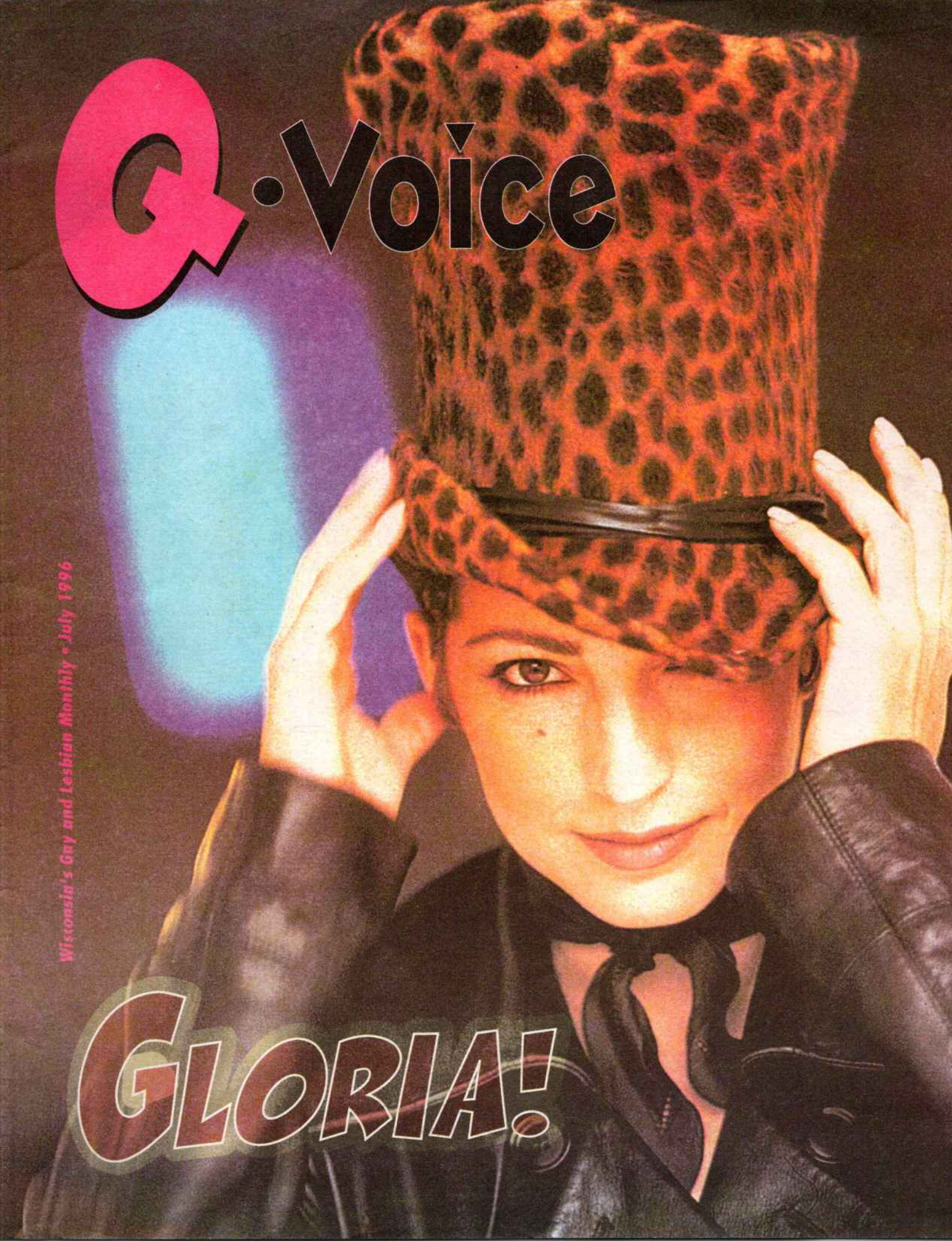


Q.Voice

Wisconsin's Gay and Lesbian Monthly • July 1996

GLORIA!



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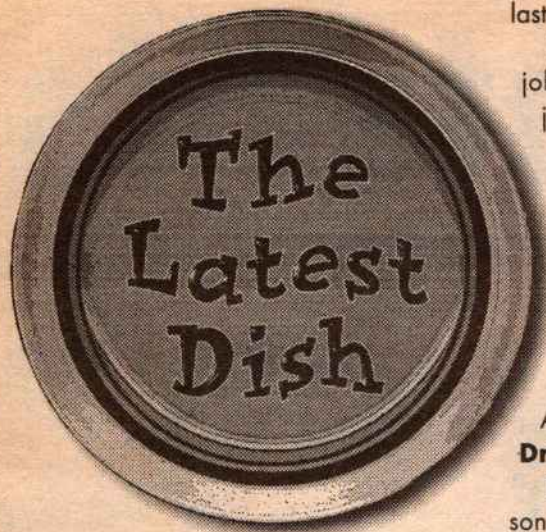
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On our cover:
Gloria Estefan
Photo by: Andrew Mellick

NEXT DEADLINE: August 8, 1996 • For the August 15 Issue



Oh Brother!

According to a UPI report, **Candace Gingrich**, lesbian sister of House Speaker **Newt Gingrich**, has a book coming out from Scribner in September that paints him as less open-minded about homosexuals than he says he is.

An advance peek reveals that Candace claims she tried time and again to get him to talk about gay issues only to be turned down via fax. She said she once cornered him in an elevator by shoving her foot in the door to keep it from closing, but he managed to escape. She also said she tried to lead a straight life by dating a black man named **Frosty**, but eventually felt more comfortable as a lesbian.

Get Real Dan

Dan may not want to think about this too much, but soon his face, exuberant laugh, strongest convictions and his sexual orientation will be known all over the planet. At least the part of the planet that



watches MTV. Dan is one of seven stars of the 5th season of **MTV's Real World** (filmed in Miami this time). He's known only as Dan because the show doesn't reveal participants'

last names.

In the premiere show, Dan applies for a job at a "gay restaurant" but is told no jobs are available. After been told earlier that there were. He grouches because they are only interested in the superficiality of looks.

Meanwhile, **Joe** and **Mike**, waiting on Dan, peruse a gay magazine: "Can you believe it? They're all gay and they're all normal looking," Joe tells Mike, pointing to a picture. Applies for a job at high society **Ocean Drive Magazine**—and gets it...

Norman, a gay man from the first season of *Real World*, said that being a gay man carries some responsibility. Dan agrees.

"I can honestly say that I tailored my actions just because I didn't trust what they'd put on and what they wouldn't."

For example, Dan suggested that he and Mike dress up in drag as a birthday surprise for Joe. Mike readily agreed, but Dan ultimately decided against it.

"That would have been really stupid for me to do. Everyone would look at it and go, 'Of course he's in drag, he's gay.'"

The unofficial home page for *Real World*: <http://www.grrl.com/real.html>

A Jewel From CBS

Coming attractions from a fall sitcom: The vice cops masquerade as tough-talking prostitutes and a transvestite. They ridicule a colleague who might be a lesbian. They bicker over arresting a paraplegic who exposes himself.

The show is **Public Morals**, and already the CBS affiliate in Twin Falls, Idaho, has vowed not to air the show unless the network cleans up the rough language.

Pearls of Wisdom

No only can writing be an excellent form of creative expression, it often allows for the author a journey to self-discovery. So, here's your chance to impress friends and neighbors... **Ken Hanes**, the author of **The Gay Guy's Guide to Life**, is putting together his latest effort, **Speaking Out: Maxims for the Good Gay Life**.

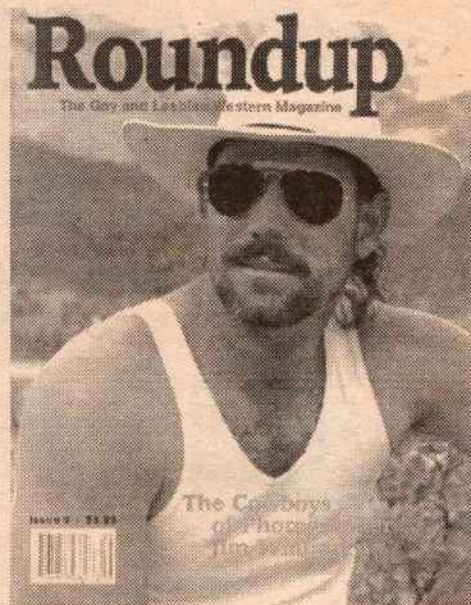
Hanes is asking for submissions from

gay men which reflect their pearls of wisdom, their golden rules, their recipes for success and the lessons they've learned about living and loving gay.

The Deadline is August 30, 1996. For writer's guidelines, send a SASE to *Speaking Out*; P.O. Box 12202; Seattle, WA 98102.

Yee Haaaaw!

Discover the gay American West! **Roundup** magazine is the one-and-only gay and lesbian Western magazine, filled with articles and photo-documentaries exploring the great American West. In August, join *Roundup* for a journey into the Rocky Mountains with Denver's 4-Players. These natural, rugged men enjoy a close-



knit camaraderie, fueled by their shared experience of owning and loving 4-wheel drive vehicles. Then, halfway around the world, *Roundup* takes a trip with a group of American square dancers as they make their way from Melbourne to Sydney to Brisbane during Australia's gay Mardi Gras in "Square Dancing in the Land Down Under." While you're there, check out our bonus section to learn "How to Speak Australian." Back in the States, Philadelphia's Country-Western DJ Diva." And in "Southern Country Nashville Hoedown," read all about an incredible weekend of Country-Western music and dancing in Music City, U.S.A., where over

350 dancers joined Southern Country Nashville for its annual hoedown.

You'll also find spectacular photo coverage of three recent International Gay Rodeo Association rodeos. In "Rodeos in the Rock," Little Rock held its largest rodeo ever, attracting over 109 contestants and 1,000 spectators, and featured live entertainment by Oklahoma Country-Western vocalists **Deb Roberts** and **Brad Riggins**. In "L.A. Rodeo '96," the beautiful Los Angeles Equestrian Center served as the scenic location for two days of non-stop rodeo action, Country-Western dancing, and an appearance by grand marshal Alison Arngim. And in "The Zia Regional Rodeo," Albuquerque's sixth annual rodeo offered a fun-filled weekend, complete with leather-clad security, a popular bar tour, and an appearance by special grand marshal Senator Liz Stefanics.

In every issue of Roundup, you'll go for a ride on the gay rodeo circuit, documented in stunning photography; take an inside look at the square dancing community with "Dancing By Definition"; discover our gay Western heritage with "Western Passage"; keep up-to-date with news about square dance and Country-Western dance events; learn about one man's adventure growing up out West in "Tales from the Desert Kid"; find out what's hot and what's not in country music with "Roundup Reviews"; try out our recipes and learn the history of cowboy cooking with "The Chuck Wagon"; and experience the adventure of the West with our rugged Western travel features.

Roundup is published quarterly by Brush Creek Media. A four-issue subscription is only \$24 in the USA, \$31 in Canada and Mexico, and \$40 in all other countries. For more information, call Brush Creek Media at 1-800-234-3877.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



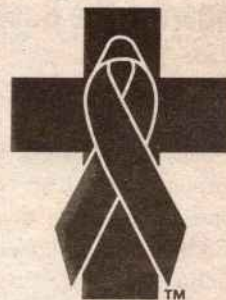
While one of the favorite Brady Street pastimes is speculating on what businesses may or may not be moving into one of the street's prime locations, the newest addition to the street was this sign near Astor Street. We'll let you draw your own conclusions. Photo: Cabal

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Letters

Remembering the Bucket

To the Editor—

Many thanks to Ronnie Marx for all the years of fun and family at MAP FEST.

Remember the first Pet Show and the old grounds at Schlitz with just a few games and booths? We always had fun. Many fond memories of Ronnie and her collection bucket...

Tom Liviera
Milwaukee

Clinton, Clinton... He's Our Man!

To the Editor—

Clinton is still the man. Many gays are upset because President Clinton didn't issue an executive order integrating gays into the military, even though Congress would quickly have overturned it. A more recent disappointment is the President's announcement that he would sign a bill against gay marriages, even though his early announcement of his intention might be an attempt to derail Congressional passage of it, since the law is thought by many to be nothing more than an attempt to embarrass Clinton before the next election and divide his supporters. (Republicans are already squabbling about the bill, with reports saying the Dole campaign wants the bill delayed so Clinton will have to sign it closer to the election.)

What is forgotten in all the bitterness is the good that President Clinton has done. I'll name just one thing, the appointment of two fine Supreme Court justices. It was Clinton's action that made possible the over-turning of Colorado's infamous Amendment II that attempted to demote gays to the class of felons not having full participation in the political process of this country.

Any Republican candidate will have a debt to right-wing religious extrem-

ists, and if a Republican wins, it will be Pat Robertson and the Christian Coalition, working with Gary Bauer and the Family Research Council, who name the next Supreme Court justices. Gays and lesbians simply can't afford to let that happen.

We've seen what Republicans can do in Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas. Former Republican Steve Forbes said he'd nominated Supreme Court Justices like Scalia. It's vitally important that more bigots like those two be kept off the Court. Only Bill Clinton in the White House and Democrats in the Senate can do that.

Yes, it is disappointing that Clinton hasn't done everything gays and lesbians had hoped he'd do. His words on the marriage bill remind one of a local politician who vetoed funding for Gay Pride after reportedly inviting the application for the money. That local politician seems to be back in the "good graces" of many Milwaukee gays. Will they similarly get over their disappointment with President Clinton by November, or will they cut off their noses to spite their faces?

Al Geiersbach
Milwaukee

Not a "Sot"

To the Editor—

I take G-R-E-A-T exception to one part of your interview with Ron Geiman regarding the events concerning one magazine in Milwaukee's past.

RAGG Magazine was published to fill the void that existed in Milwaukee, where Milwaukee Gay news and events were covered by ESCAPE out of Chicago. The need was there and we chose to attempt to give Wisconsin their own "rag" instead of having to rely on an Illinois based publisher who concentrated on the Southeast corner of this state.

I was not one of those "sots" who

partied every night; nor were my colleagues! As a matter of fact, since it was weekly, we were awake many nights putting the magazine "to bed", printing and distributing it. All for the princely sum of \$75 a week to the 6 of us who participated.

Yes, Ron was right that we "courted" the ads from the bars not because we wanted to, though. (Not exclusively anyway...) We were forced to because many local businesses either didn't choose to advertise with us because of paranoia or that we weren't "old-enough" to have a proven track-record in the community.

It was a heady, lively, depressing, fun-filled experience and I would jump at the chance to do it all over again.

Scot D. Vertullo
Milwaukee

Enough Drag Drama

To the Editor—

Miss Lady Belle Bradley said.. Miss Lisa Star Spencer said.. Who cares?

Instead of all this letter writing and "drag drama" couldn't we just have a gay fundraiser? Something modeled after the World Federation of Wrestling cage match?

Miss Lady Belle C'est la Vie 1968 and Miss Lisa Star Always Late could just settle their differences in one huge mud wrestle and spare the readers of Q-Voice all this bitchy drivel.

I'll pay for ringside seats.

Uncle Benito
Milwaukee

Q•Voice encourages everyone to write and express their opinion. Please be brief. We reserve the right to edit letters. We will print your name unless you specifically ask us not to. Letters must include a street address and phone for verification only.

Q•Voice

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From the Publishers...

NEW AND IMPROVED!

Welcome to *Q•Voice* #10. With this issue we launch our slightly larger size (we've added at least an inch, who says size doesn't matter?) along with some redesign which will continue over the coming issues. We think you'll like it. In this issue, you'll find an exclusive interview with the glorious Gloria Estefan. We are very proud to have her grace our pages as part of our commitment to bring you features and interviews you will find no where else in Wisconsin!



HOLY WEB BROWSERS!

Starting July 18th we launch *Q•Voice Magazine* on-line at <http://www.qvoice.com>. More than following the herd to the internet, we've carefully designed our web site to contain all the great features and eye candy you've come to expect from *Q•Voice*, along with the most comprehensive guide of Wisconsin gay and lesbian businesses and organizations you'll find anywhere on the Web plus, much, much more. A grateful tip of the propeller beanie goes to Dave and Dave at Telekinetics for showing us where the "on" button is. Thanks Boyz!

COMING SOON!

Our August issue will feature *Q•Voice's* first annual **Dining OUT Guide**. You're complete queer guide to restaurants, bistros and diners. In September, our **Old Gays Issue** will be devoted to the seniors in our community. As always, we are grateful for the support of our advertisers without whom *Q•Voice* would not be possible and most of all to our readers. Thank you and enjoy!

Jorge L. Cabal
William Attewell

HOW TO CONTACT Q•VOICE:

We are available to answer your calls every weekday from 9am to 5pm.
414.278.7524 voice • 414.272.7438 fax

Save a tree and e-mail to: qvoice@aol.com

**Snail mail to: P.O. Box 92385
Milwaukee, WI 53202**

“Quips & Quotes”



Greg Louganis

A Dog's Life

“I like dogs better [than people]. They give you unconditional love. They either lick your face or bite you, but you always know where they're coming from. With people, you never know which ones will bite. The difference between dogs and men is that you know where dogs sleep at night.”

—Gay, HIV-positive Olympic gold-medal diver Greg Louganis to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

I've Got You Barney

“One of these times I'm gonna take him out to dinner. We're in two different worlds. He's, you know, I'm conservative, he's a homosexual. So we should be at different ends of the spectrum, but we have an affinity for each other.”

—Congressman Sonny Bono, R-Calif., on Congressman Barney Frank, D-Mass. Sonny and Cher's daughter, Chastity Bono, is a lesbian.

Head for the Fall Out Shelter

“There is no such thing as lesbian divorce. There is only thermonuclear war. And then best friends.”

—From Shelly Roberts' new book *“Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living.”*

How About Just Plain Girls?

“Confidence, intellect, independence, a sense of humor. ... I like feminine girls probably a lot more, but I like androgynous girls as well.”

—Singer k.d. lang when asked by London's *The Pink Paper*, “What does a woman have to have to be your lover?”



kd lang

Bombs Away!

“It's our Pearl Harbor.”

—Traditional Values Coalition Chairman Lou Sheldon on the pending Hawaii Supreme Court case that is expected to legalize gay marriage there.

Hope

“We are at a crossroads in the history of the epidemic. We are beginning to see glimmers of hope. Not hope that the solution is going to come tomorrow, but the sense that the tools are within our grasp.”

—Martin Shechter, co-chair of the XI International Conference on AIDS, held in Vancouver, B.C., July 7-12.

More Hope

“The fact that we have protease inhibitors is a remarkable thing. It has given us a genuine reason to hope, a feeling that we may ultimately have a cure.”

—Patricia Fleming, President Clinton's advisor on national AIDS policy.

Bat MAN

“George will be much more of a man-Batman. Val was more of a Boy-man.”

—“Batman Forever” Director Joel Schumacher on George Clooney versus Val Kilmer as the Caped Crusader.



George Clooney

The Meaning of Gay Life?

“The essential fag dilemma is in having too much freedom. Because a screw is usually a phone call or bar hop away, the many sacrifices any human relationship demands are often over-shadowed by the ease of sexual intoxication. Rather than work with one lover, developing a meaningful emotional and even physical bond, many gay men are spoiled by their promiscuity into thinking that as long as the search continues, the Perfect Lover can be found, the Ultimate Real Man...”

—Chicago Nightlines columnist Mike Spitz.

On Candance's “do”?

“I think she should get a new haircut.”

—Scott Thompson (“Kids in the Hall,” “Brain Candy”) on Candace Gingrich (HRC spokeswoman and Newt's sister) to *San Francisco Bay Times*.

Special Report

from Rex Wockner

Good News From Vancouver International AIDS Confab

Vancouver, British Columbia — The XI International Conference on AIDS, held here July 7-12, was likely the first scientific conference to have its own official song — a “We Are The World” type ditty called “One World, One Hope” — and its own “Official Condom,” Durex. What’s more, the official conference brochures offered a comprehensive guide to gay nightlife — even listing bathhouses (Toto, we’re not in Kansas) and the official press kit detailed activities planned by ACT UP protesters. Canada is an inclusive, PC kind of place.

Several hundred PWAs and their supporters took to the streets of downtown prior to the conference opening July 7. Most were protest-

“The cure is not here ... the preliminary results from these hugely expensive combination treatments look great. But we are a long way from a cure, even for the rich who can afford the treatments.”

—Eric Sawyer, ACT-UP/New York

ing Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien’s absence from the conference (previous conferences were opened by the head of state of the host nation) and Canada’s failure to announce renewal of its National AIDS Strategy, which expires in 1998.

They chanted, “Where is Chretien?” and “Wake Up, Canada!”

The march ended with a shouting match and scuffle between members of ACT UP/Golden Gate and ACT UP/San Francisco. The latter group aggressively promotes the discredited theory that HIV does not cause AIDS and argues that all current AIDS drugs are “toxic chemotherapy.” Later in the week, two ACT UP/SFers were arrested after they busted up the stage at a scientific presentation and doused speakers with red dye.

In an interview with *Q•Voice*, openly gay Canadian Member of Parliament Svend Robinson, who joined the PWA march, said: “It’s appalling that the prime minister of this country has refused to attend this conference. Given the failure of his government to renew the National AIDS Strategy, I think that he understood that he’d face a lot of very angry people.”

Openly gay federal MP Real Menard, who also marched, told *Q•Voice*: “I heard Chretien was playing golf. It’s unacceptable. He is the shame of this country.”

The three-hour opening ceremonies looked rather like a very polished Academy Awards event, featuring speeches, video clips, indigenous peoples, and big-name Canadian singers.

The organizers put long-time ACT UP/New York member Eric Sawyer on stage for a major address. In reference to the flood of media reports that new drug combinations suppress HIV so completely that the virus conceivably could die out in some patients, Sawyer insisted: “The cure is not here. ... The preliminary results from these hugely expensive combination treatments look great. But we are a long way from a cure, even for the rich who can afford the treatments.”

Sawyer demanded that drug companies lower their prices — the promising protease inhibitors cost up to \$7,200 a year — and ended his speech by chanting, “Greed Kills, Access for All.” Several hundred delegates joined in the chant as ACT UP chapters unfurled banners from the upper decks of the stadium.

Organizers put spotlights on the banners and chanters for about five minutes then segued flawlessly into a video clip. Unlike at previous conferences, ACT UP was simply choreographed into the ceremonies and “protesters” “disrupted” on cue.

The only moments of tension at the opening ceremony occurred during the address by Canadian Minister of Health David Dingwall. Hundreds of delegates turned their backs on him and chanted, “Shame, shame, shame” throughout his entire speech — to express their displeasure at Chretien’s absence and the lack of a new National AIDS Strategy.

Immediately afterward, hundreds of singers took the stage for the world debut of the catchy soft-rock tune “One World, One Hope,” which was the conference theme.

Of course, the big news of the conference was that the new protease-inhibitor drugs (which only well-insured or wealthy people can afford), when combined with the older anti-HIV drugs (AZT, ddI, ddC, d4T and 3TC), reduce the level of HIV in the bloodstream to undetectable levels in many patients, thus halting disease progression.

This seemingly makes AIDS a so-called chronic, manageable illness — assuming that the drugs keep on working and the side effects don’t become deadly over time.

What’s more, there was a great deal of theorizing that if HIV levels are kept very low for months or years, the virus might finally just die out in a given patient — i.e., The Cure.

“Nobody can call AIDS an inevitably fatal, incurable disease anymore,” said Peter Piot, head of the United Nations’ AIDS Program. “We have not got a cure yet but ... the new combinations of anti-retroviral drugs are holding out new hope.”

“We’ve turned a page and opened a new chapter in the history of the pandemic,” said Dr. Martin Schechter, co-chair of the conference. “Many things we once thought were impossible are now within the realm of the achievable. [But] we have a long way to go. It would be

premature to start using the word 'cure' without caution."

Monday night, July 8, Elizabeth Taylor appeared at a private American Foundation for AIDS Research reception to blast the U.S. and Canadian governments.

Looking tired and puffy, and having trouble pronouncing the words on the teleprompter, Taylor said: "The U.S. federal ban on clean-needle exchange ... is a glaring example of politics and social squeamishness standing in the way of sound public-health practice. In a society that proclaims to value human life above all, the deliberate withholding of the means to self-protection is more than passive neglect. It is a measured act of premeditated murder."

In regards to Canada, she said: "The government isn't sure whether they want to [continue to] fund AIDS research at all. Here tonight, in front of the eyes of the world, amid a conference of thousands of people trying to work together, there is a tragic irony at play. In a country as wealthy and apparently progressive as Canada, frankly, I would have expected something better."

Gay men got together in a number of workshops to discuss such things as negotiated unprotected anal sex between two negatives or two positives and whether oral sex is basically safe. On the latter matter, the Americans, in general, still remain more conservative than AIDS educators from other nations.

There was widespread criticism of the methodology of the recent study in which scientists infected monkeys with simian immunodeficiency virus by swabbing it on their throats.

Since it is known that negative gay couples often dispense with condoms, it was generally agreed that AIDS educators need to follow the Australian model of acknowledging and supporting this reality.

Positive couples sometimes opt for unprotected sex also despite the fact that unless they have identical anti-retroviral drug histories, one

partner could re-infect the other with a variant of HIV that is resistant to a drug the second man has not yet taken, thus limiting his future treatment options.

The conference closing ceremonies on July 11 were much like the opening — speeches, video clips, ACT UP and pop-music performers. When ACT UP seized the stage, organizers handed them a cordless microphone and projected them onto two huge video screens. The activists snidely presented Canadian Minister of Health Dingwall with a bouquet of get-well flowers, as he had left Vancouver on the conference's second day complaining of the flu. And they presented Prime Minister Chretien with a bottle of sun-blocking lotion, as it turned out he skipped the conference to go on holiday, a decision that was universally condemned throughout the week.

Surely, one of the more interesting sociological aspects of the conference was organizers' decision to embrace ACT UP and give the group center stage whenever activists demanded it — a far, far cry from the riot-police war zone at the 1990 conference in San Francisco and from the utter chaos of the opening ceremonies in 1989 in Montreal. Quite simply, ACT UP's many successes have won the respect of the people who stage and attend international AIDS meetings. And, besides, no international AIDS gathering would be complete without a few activist tantrums. The laid-back Canadians understood that and said, "Go for it."

Every day, over 7,500 people — nearly half of them women — are newly infected with HIV. At the end of 1995, some 20.1 million adults were living with HIV/AIDS worldwide — more than 75% of whom were infected via heterosexual sex. By the year 2000, up to 40 million people will have caught HIV. ▼

Other scientific news from Vancouver:

- Chemical messengers called "chemokines" were shown to prevent HIV from entering blood cells, a step that is necessary for HIV replication. The search is on to develop drugs that mimic this action.
- Several sessions addressed the use of the older nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (AZT, ddI, et. al.) with the brand-new non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (nevirapine, delavirdine, adefovir, DMP-266, loviride, HBY097). Conference Program Co-Chair Julio

Montaner called results of these combinations "some of the most encouraging data we've seen in years."

- Despite disappointing results to date, over 14 projects are known to be under way in the USA alone to create an HIV vaccine. A vaccine is the only answer to AIDS in the Third World where PWAs cannot afford treatment. Unfortunately, no wide-scale trial studies are expected much before the year 2000.
- Current anti-HIV drugs have a rather narrow focus, targeting only two reactions (reverse transcriptase and protease) key to HIV replication. A number of potential targets

are under investigation at the molecular level, including every stage in the viral life-cycle from binding to the host cell to fusion, uncoating, reverse transcription, proviral DNA integration, transcription, translation of mRNA, processing of precursor proteins and virion assembly.

- And it was made clear that while counting CD4 immune-system cells provides helpful information, most treatment decisions henceforth should be based on viral-load levels. If the levels are up, you alter the ingredients of the anti-retroviral cocktail. If they are down, the right mix has been found for a given patient for the time being.

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The World in Brief

with Rex Wockner

Pisa Passes Partnership Law

Pisa, Italy — Pisa has passed a domestic-partnership registration law, but details on the rights registered partners will have were unclear at press time.

A report posted on the Internet by activists said the law gives "homosexuals and heterosexuals equal legal and financial rights in long-term relationships in the territory of Pisa." But the actual text of the law says nothing about spousal rights — it merely lays out the regulations for registering.

60,000 Condoms To Hang in Cruising Spot

London — London's Gay Men Fighting AIDS group will decorate the city's main cruising area, Hampstead Heath, with 60,000 condoms. The rubbers will be placed in luminous boxes with safer-sex pamphlets and hung from trees.

In other news, Elton John has donated 4,000 of his cast-off outfits to a rummage sale that will raise money for the AIDS Foundation, according to the *Daily Express*.

IGLA Drops Pedophilia Demand

Toronto — Afraid of losing half its members, the International Lesbian and Gay Association has revoked an ultimatum that all organizations which belong to the association sign a letter stating they do not condone pedophilia or be expelled.

The history of this is somewhat involved. In 1993, ILGA was granted consultative status at the United Nations. This upset anti-gay forces in the U.S., who eventually dug up the dirt that a few of ILGA's hundreds of member organizations did not oppose all sexual con-

tact between adults and persons under the age-of-consent, which varies from 12 to 21 worldwide. This revelation led Congress to threaten to cut off U.S. funding of the U.N. unless the U.N. guaranteed that no groups associated with it condoned pedophilia. The U.N. in turn demanded ILGA prove that none of its members condoned pedophilia. ILGA responded by revoking the membership of the North American Man/Boy Love Association and two European pedophile organizations.

But this was not enough, replied the U.N., which claimed at least one other ILGA member, a mainstream German gay group, condoned pedophilia. The U.N. suspended ILGA's consultative status until such time as ILGA proved it is pedophile-free.

But now ILGA has apparently abandoned that task. In a letter to the president of the Canadian chain of *Xtra!* newspapers — which resigned from ILGA rather than sign the anti-pedophilia document — ILGA's Secretariat's Committee wrote: "Just less than half the letters [of confirmation] have not been returned.

While the Secretariat's Committee cannot go against decisions made at [an ILGA] World Conference by the [general membership], a responsible board of an international federation cannot take a decision to suspend so many of its members. The decision [on any suspensions] is therefore suspended until the next World Conference."

ILGA asked the *Xtra!* papers, which have donated over \$12,000 to the perennially cash-strapped association, to rejoin the group. *Xtra!* responded that it too will wait until the next World Conference to make any decision.

Xtra!'s president, Ken Popert, earlier had accused ILGA of attempting to "uproot ... heresy" and "establish ... orthodoxy. ... Such an oath of conformity is the tool of authoritarian bullies and their subjects. It is alien to the spirit of democracy and to the intellectual freedom without which political movements cannot live and grow," Popert wrote.

ILGA is a federation of several hundred gay groups and individuals from more than 80 countries. It stages conferences, publishes a bulletin, issues action alerts, and networks Western nations with the growing gay movements of the Third World and former Communist nations. Recent ILGA initiatives have increased gay clout within the European Union, Council of Europe, World Health Organization and Amnesty International.

ILGA, can be reached at 81 rue Marche-aux-herbes, B-1000 Bruxelles, Belgium. Phone/fax: 011-32-2-502-2471. E-mail: ilga@ilga.org

Brazilian Government to Distribute Smaller Condoms to Teens

Brasilia — Brazil's health ministry will give away five million smaller-sized condoms to teenagers, the newspaper *Correio Brasiliense* reported June 11.

"We have detected that underage sex is on the increase and ... we have to have a product that is more suited to their situation," spokesman Lair Guerra de Macedo said.

The rubbers will be .15 inch smaller in diameter than the normal 2.1 inches.

Aussie Transgendered Win Rights

Sydney, Australia — The parliament of the Australian state of New South Wales passed legislation banning discrimination against transgendered people and granting transsexuals the right to correct their birth certificates, reported *Capital Q*, a gay weekly.

Sporting organizations were exempted from the laws, which were championed by state Attorney General Jeff Shaw.

"The days of institutionalized bigotry and

punishing those who do not adhere to so-called gender norms are over," said Nadine Stransen, co-convenor of the Transgender Lobby Coalition.

"This has taken five hard years of lobbying, so we are feeling ebullient."

10,000 March in Naples

Naples, Italy — Ten thousand people turned out for the Italian national gay-pride parade June 29 in Naples. The march ended at Municipal Plaza in front of City Hall where Mayor Antonio Bassolino told ralliers: "Love must not be a reason for discrimination, and the achievement of homosexual people's rights means freedom for everybody. ... There are several ways to live one's feelings, life and sexuality and every way must have respect."

The city's Catholic bishop condemned the march, saying, "To bring [homosexuality] out into the streets and propose it to others adds immorality to immorality." Marchers responded with the chant, "Pope Wojtila, don't be intolerant: The queens in the church are many and more."

130 March in Newfoundland

St. John's, Newfoundland — The second annual gay March for Freedom in St. John's, Newfoundland, drew 130 participants June 23. They walked along the waterfront on Queens and Duckworth streets after a kickoff rally at City Hall, reports correspondent Michael Riehl.

Among the main demands were the addition of sexual-orientation protections to the provincial Human Rights Code and full acceptance — rather than just tolerance — of homosexuals.

Newfoundland is one of only four provinces/territories that do not ban anti-gay discrimination. Other pride-week events included a nature walk, literature night, bowling, a harbor tour, a potluck and a dance.

1,500 March in Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires — Fifteen hundred people took to the chilly streets of Buenos Aires,

Argentina, June 28 for the city's fifth annual Gay-Lesbian-Transvestite-Transsexual Pride Parade.

Under the slogan, "Society may oppress me, police may kill me, but we still stand," 22 organizations joined the march which ended at May Square across from the Cathedral and Presidential Palace. Police protection was minimal and a motorist tried to ram the marchers. The car departed after angry transvestites and gays punched the driver.

The day wrapped up with "a song and dress show" in Two Congresses Square, across from the legislative palace.

It was "a gay pride to remember and celebrate," said correspondent Rafael Freda, "[but] the cold sent many to their homes sick and wondering why the Southern hemisphere doesn't hold their LGBT pride days in their spring or summer."

50,000 March in Berlin, Vienna

Berlin, Germany — Berlin's gay-pride march drew 50,000 people to the streets June 29 for "Christopher Street Day." Attendance increased over last year even though it rained.

A large party followed in east Berlin. June 29 was also gay-pride day in Vienna. Led by "Dykes on Bikes," the "Rainbow Parade" set off from the State Opera House and ended three hours later at Schottentor.

Organizers said 50,000 people marched. The media estimated 2,500.

150 Attend Russian National Conference

Moscow — The Third All-Russian Gay and Lesbian Conference drew 150 delegates to Moscow June 7-9, including representatives of more than 20 gay organizations from 14 regions of the country.

Attendees urged Russian gays and lesbians to never vote for Communists and defined the Russian gay movement's immediate goals as passage of anti-discrimination and domestic-partnership laws, according to correspondent Vitali Joumagaliev. They sent open letters to the Duma detailing their demands.

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Notes & Notices

AIDS Walk Registration in Full Swing

Milwaukee — More than 4100 people and 510 teams have already registered to participate in the seventh annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin, Sunday, September 22 beginning at Milwaukee's lakefront. Bette Midler is this year's Honorary Chair. AIDS Walk Wisconsin is produced by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. and benefits 16 AIDS education and service providers throughout the state.

Beneficiaries include Milwaukee AIDS Project, Madison AIDS Support Network, Center Project, Inc.-Green Bay, Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project-Kenosha, Northwest Wisconsin AIDS Project-Eau Claire, Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium, Camp Heartland, East Central Wellness Project-Oshkosh, The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, Visiting Nurse Association of

Wisconsin, Sheboygan County AIDS Task Force, Milwaukee Indian Health Board, Planned Parenthood of Churches, and Northern AIDS Network-Superior/Rhinelanders.

Preregistration is required. Those who wish to walk, form a team, volunteer, or pledge should call 1-800-348-WALK. Once registered, participants will receive Walk materials in the mail. Packets include pledge forms, Walk updates, and tips on collecting pledges.

Walk planners and organizers have set 17,000 walkers as the goal of the event. It is expected that the walkers will shatter last year's fundraising record of \$766,464.

Prizes will be awarded to those participants who collect the most money by September 22, 1996.

The day of the Walk begins with a breakfast at the Italian Community Center. Tickets for the breakfast are \$50 and can be purchased by calling the Walk hot line: 1-800-

348-WALK. Walk sign-in begins at 10:30 am, opening ceremonies will be held at noon, and the Walk will begin at 12:30 at the SummerFest grounds. TODAY'S TMJ4's Carole Meekins will be the emcee for the breakfast, Walk kickoff, and Walk closing ceremonies. The 10k (6.2 miles) walk features six rest stops with food and entertainment along the walk route.

OSCO HIV/STD Prevention Partner

Milwaukee — Since entering the Milwaukee market last year, Osco Drugs has reached out to form a partnership in HIV/STD prevention.

Prior to the opening of the store at Farwell and Brady Streets in Milwaukee, Osco store manager Julie Johnson along with Osco Pharmacist Jon Phillips worked with the Brady East STD Clinic (BESTD) to make available a comprehensive selection of lubricants and flavored condoms to the public.

According to Ross Walker of the BESTD Clinic, BESTD has approached other retail outlets on Milwaukee's East side to consider carrying a larger variety of risk reduction materials and condoms, there had been no response until the recent partnership with Osco.

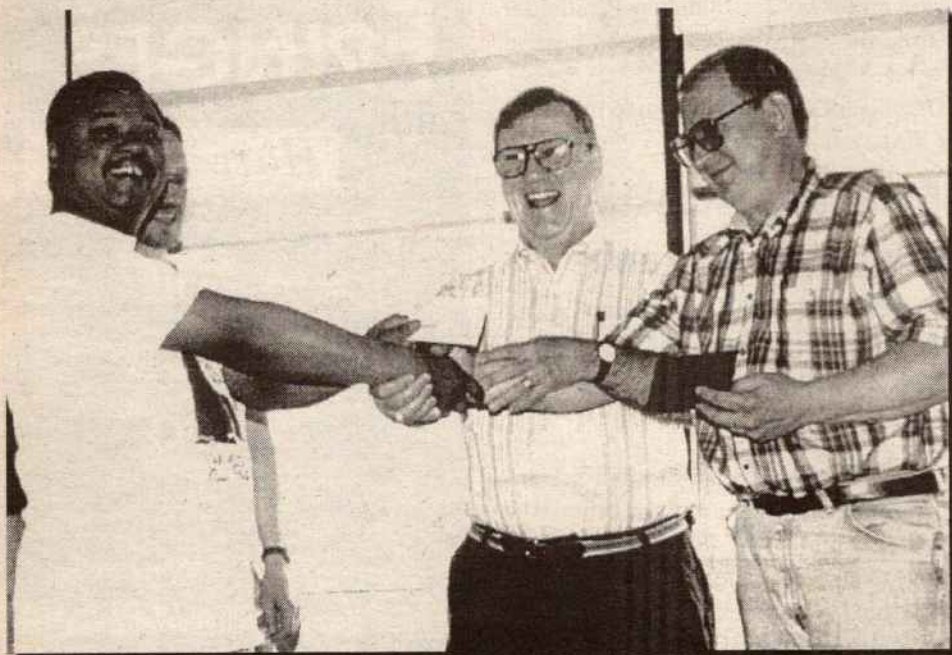
According to Walker, "It is these partnerships in the community that expand the scope of prevention efforts for those at risk of HIV infection."

MAP to Host Lesbian HIV Forum

Milwaukee — Milwaukee AIDS Project's (MAP) Gay & Lesbian Outreach Program will hold a forum about Lesbians and their risk for contracting HIV on Wednesday, July 31 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at MAP, 820 N. Plankinton Avenue.

The purpose of the forum is to work with the Lesbian Community to identify their risk factors for HIV transmission and to define their HIV prevention needs. The forum is free

LGBT Community Center Project on Track



Tony Rhodes (left) of the Cream City Foundation (CCF) accepts the first \$1,000 donation for the proposed Milwaukee Les/Bi/Gay/Trans Community Center Project from Erv Uecker (center) and Ross Walker (right) at a Town Hall Meeting held on July 13 at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center. CCF will work with the LGBT Community Center Project until a permanent financial structure can be established for the project. Photo: Cabal

and all members of the Lesbian Community are invited to attend.

"I would encourage all interested members of the Lesbian community to attend the forum," said Andy Bagnall, MAP Manager of Gay and Lesbian Outreach. "MAP's Gay and Lesbian Outreach program intends to educate all members of our community and your input is vitally important to determine what prevention messages and tactics are effective for Lesbian and Bisexual women."

For more information about the forum, call Andy Bagnall at (414)225-1502.

Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource to Hold Center Fundraiser

Madison — The Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center is holding a "seed money" fundraiser on Saturday July 27 from 8am to noon in front of the offices of The United at 14 W Mifflin St. on Capitol Square in Madison.

Money raised will be used to expand MG/LRC's current services and to fund future projects. Please stop by, drop off some change and browse the MG/LRC 2,500 volume gay/lesbian/bisexual lending library and the MG/LRC community computing center.

Services of the MG/LRC include The Directory, an annual guide to the organizations and businesses serving Madison's LGBT community, an educational video library, a monthly events calendar. For more information, call Tom Neal at 608/256-2667.

UW-Madison Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alumni Brunch on July 21

Madison — The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alumni Council of the Wisconsin Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 1996 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients: Barbara J. Cox and Richard Uspel. This year's Reunion Brunch will be held on campus in the Memorial Union Great Hall, July 21, 1996, from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Reservation can be made by calling Russell Betts at (608) 262-5895.

Helping Hands Outreach AIDS Ministry Drag-O-Rama Set

Kenosha — On Saturday August 17th, H.H.O.A.M. will hold a fundraising event at Club 94 in Kenosha (hwy 94 & hwy C). "One Night Only - the Drag-O-Rama Reunion '96" will feature a variety of people in an assortment of comedic acts. Most of the performers are not professional impersonators, some are firemen, hairdressers and office workers, getting dressed up to raise funds for a good cause.

Helping Hands Outreach AIDS Ministry is a service of the Joy of Life Metropolitan Community Church in Waukegan, which provides support groups, transportation and assistance to those persons infected and affected by HIV. They have also been working in conjunction with HIVCO to deliver food through the Hand to Hand program. For information on the event or how to contribute to H.H.O.A.M. please call (847)623-3550 and leave a confidential message. Corporate sponsorships are welcome and tax deductible.

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Glorious Gloria!

Miami's Sound Machine sounds off on celebrity, politics, drag queens and her NEW album, *Destiny*

In the mid-'80s, Gloria Estefan carried the Latin sound to the top of the charts with her dance anthem *Conga*. Since then, the sultry singer has sold tens of millions of albums to everybody from circuit queens to suburban grandmothers. Whether belting out a ballad or throwing down a heavy dance track, Estefan has spent the past decade riding a relatively smooth wave of international success. Why does she appeal to so many different people? Perhaps it's because her music reflects

the type of person she is— completely down-to-earth and totally at ease with her own stardom.

Estefan doesn't hide from her celebrity status, but she doesn't really embrace it either. She takes her fame in stride and puts her family first. Indeed, the two are closely linked. Emilio Estefan Jr. is Gloria's husband, manager, producer and general business partner. He does production work on her albums and sometimes accompanies the band on tour while simultaneously handling much of the family business.

The U.S. leg of Estefan's upcoming summer tour seems guaranteed to solidify her status not only as a national treasure but also as a gay cult figure. Expanding on the drag antics of her 1995 video for *Everlasting Love*, the tour

will include promotional club parties in which drag queens will compete for a chance to appear in a concert.

For Estefan, 38, the past year has been a hectic one. She won a Grammy for her album *Abriendo Puertas*, but she probably got more press for her involvement in a tragic boating collision in which a jet skier was killed. The accident wasn't Estefan's fault, yet the news made headlines around the world. Estefan used the attention to generate support for the Helm-Burton Bill, a measure to regulate boating traffic that was passed in the Florida state legislature last May.

Nowadays, Estefan is busy raising her children, Nayib, 15, and Emily, 17 months, and planning a summer tour to support her new album, *Destiny*. Recently, the modest superstar sat down with *Q•Voice Magazine* and gave us more than just the time of day.

You had a lot of success this year with your Spanish-language singles. Were you proud of that?

Yes! When we got the Grammy, it was a very special win, to be singing in my native tongue. It's very special to me, especially when my non-Hispanic friends like the music.

Tell us about the direction you're moving in with the new album, *Destiny*. It seems like a mix of pop, Latin and even folk.

Well, it's five years after our last English-language album. Every experience you go through broadens your views. Actually, your assessment is pretty good; I wanted people to just be able to grab their guitars and play along. For the single "Reach," we made the arrangement more grand for the Olympics, more world-sounding. And there are a lot of different Latin influences, kind of like a synthesis.

You have had a pretty large gay following ever since "Conga," especially in southern Florida. How close are you to the gay community?

Oh, in clubs they played our stuff before anybody. When we did "Doctor Beat" way back when, before it was even released, the 12-inch was distributed to all the clubs. Pablo Flores, a DJ in Puerto Rico, was the first to play our stuff. And he still works with us today, doing the remixes. The gay clubs have always been on the cutting edge musically.

How do you handle the role of parent and superstar?

[laughs] At home, the "superstar" part is a very small part. I lead a very normal life, and Emilio does as well. We fell in love before any of this. My life is pretty normal. My most beautiful experiences have come from my children. It's a challenge, but most women feel that this is our purpose.

How has it been merging your marriage and career?

I've been very lucky. There are a lot of things that make it work. [Emilio and I] are very different, so we balance each other out.

But we really do care about the same things—the music. Music is our love. And the communication is very open.

Are you political at all?

Yes, in the things I do on a social level. I hate actual politics. I think it's a big game, and I just find that there's not enough power to do the right thing.

What is the right thing?

For example, in a nutshell, the boating accident I had this year. I'm a boater for 10 years. They've been trying to pass boating laws for years, regulating the traffic, and they couldn't pass them. I went up to Tallahassee and there were cameras everywhere, Entertainment Tonight, the news, everybody. I guess I was a kind of lobbyist for these regulations. Politicians couldn't do it!

Do celebrities have a special responsibility to do the right thing?

I think we all have a responsibility. The celebrity has a certain power, because you attract the media. That's what it is.

Do you like touring?

I love being onstage, and being with the fans. That's the reason I do it. They see that we're a real act. It's a lot of discipline. I can't drink alcohol; I have to cut down on coffee and stay out of restaurants so I don't have to talk above a certain level.

Does the family tour with you?

Oh, yeah! I'm bringing the baby and my son.

How did the drag contest idea come about?

We were sitting around in the back yard when I was pregnant, and we had to do a video. And I was, like, "I don't want to be in a video; I'm superpregnant!" And Frank [Ceraolo, director of marketing/A&R at Epic Records] came up with the idea. And I love it. It'll be like what we did for the "Everlasting Love" video.

So you'll have a Gloria contest in each city?

We'll have winners and bring them up onstage during the show.

How's life in Miami these days?

I love life in Miami. The more I travel, the more I love Miami. It's more multicultural now, plus all the glamour and celebrities. Culturally, it's getting better. South Beach is great; I used to come to the beach all the time with my grandfather. It's a big city, but you can still live a very laid-back life.

What keeps you going?

We love what we do. What keeps us going is the fact that we've been able to grow, and our audience has given us the privilege of supporting us and allowing us to keep going in that direction. When you create something, you have to feel like it's something you really like. If you're going to do it for the rest of your life, you'd better like it!

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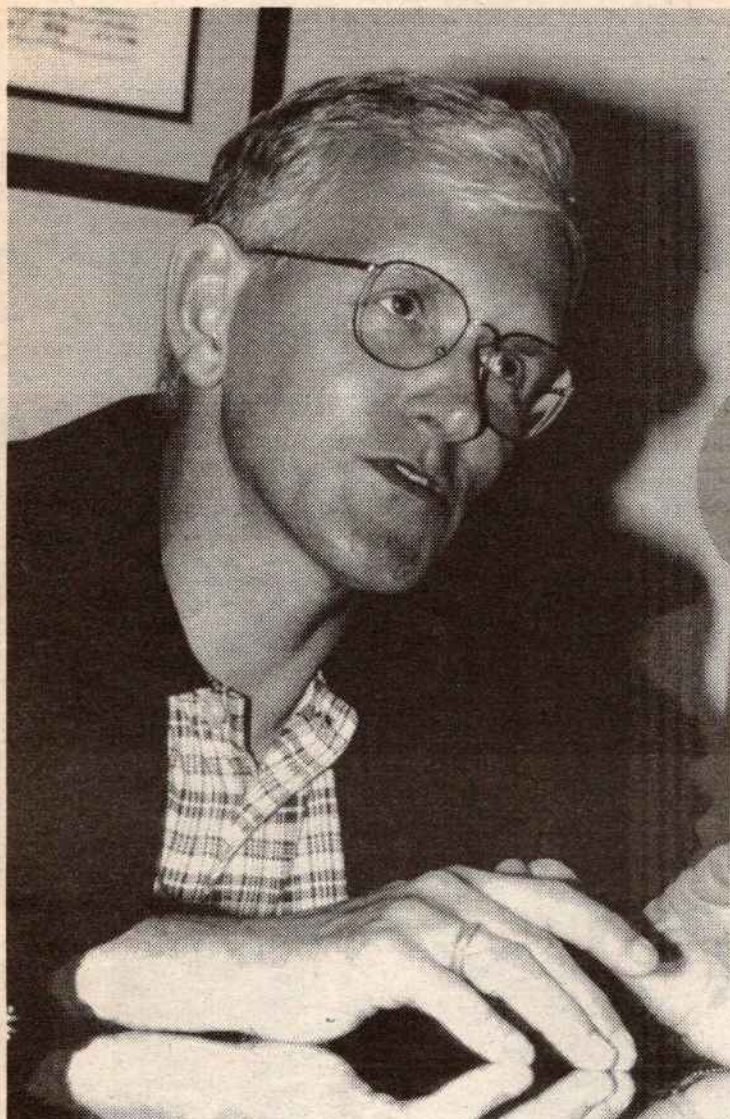
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On the eve the
1996 GOP Convention, Republican
Congressman Steve Gunderson and his life
partner, Rob Morris discuss their new
book, their relationship and life
in our Nation's Capitol.

It is no coincidence that "House and Home," an autobiographical account of Congressman Steve Gunderson (R-WI) and his partner Rob Morris, experiences in Washington will be released to coincide with this year's GOP Convention in San Diego. More than a gay-insiders view of Congress, the book is already earning praises for the honest, heartfelt manner in which it deals with issues that go beyond traditional politics. Recently, I had the opportunity to sit down with the Congressman and Morris to discuss their book, their relationship and Newt Gingrich.

QV: How did you meet?

RM: We met at a bar in 1983, when I was visiting a friend of mine from high school. As the story goes we were wearing the same clothes and he said, "Nice out-

fit," and I said, "Yeah, right." and just kept on going. But we started talking later.

QV: And this was in Washington?

RM: Yes. I was still in school. We ended up writing back and forth that year. And I moved to Washington in June of '84. He was running for reelection that year and had bought a house and asked me to take care of it while he was gone. He was campaigning, had never been in a relationship before and wasn't particularly sure how to pursue it. I wasn't sure I was interested to begin with, but the friendship was great, so it was a great combination of tension and promise. I think we started talking more about the potential for a relationship after the '84 election.

SG: '85 was the year. Remember, you said after South Africa. I tell people that from my perspective it was pretty close to love at first sight. There was something that I was really struck by and I pretty aggressively pursued it. I think he tolerated my interest for a while and didn't

Interview by William Attewell; Photos by Cabal

(Pictured above: Rep. Steve Gunderson, Opposite: Rob Morris)

understand it to be sincere. He certainly understood what love was and all that kind of thing. He has said that it wasn't until I took a ten-day trip to South Africa the he really realized that he missed me and that I was more on his mind than he ever wanted to.

RM: At some point in time I just finally had to say, "Have you ever been in love? Are you in love with me?"

QV: What did he say?

RM: I think he was kind of shimmied in the chair, getting embarrassed, asked for a lifesaver, that whole 'kid in church' thing. And he goes, "Well, yeah, probably, maybe, kinda, sort of in a way," something that was not entirely convincing. So I said, Well, let's go to an easier question." That was the beginning of the dialogue that led to what is now going into its thirteenth year. I think for me it was essential that I trusted him, or anyone with whom I got involved. It's so easy to become enamored with somebody, but not comfortable because you don't know them.

QV: What made you decide to write the book?

RM: I didn't want to write a political book. I didn't want to meet a politician, but you can't always control everything. I realized very quickly in August of '93, as Charles a very good friend of ours was getting sicker and sicker and sicker, that I couldn't talk about it and deal with my feelings about that. But I could jot it down ... I could sit at the laptop and try to record all of this stuff. Not so much so that I could read it later, but so that I could get it out of my system. It was supposed to be therapeutic. That was clearly a beginning.

It went on to another issue that became deeply personal, which was the debate about gays in the military. I started thinking about it — given that I still had that taste of Charles's death in my mouth — I wanted to write. And I wanted to write about the next logical subject: Gays in the Military.

It was a very heated time —on the hill, professionally, personally. It was also a time when we were doing a lot of arguing, because I think that Steve's involvement with the gay community at the time was more through me. When Charles died —my patience with some of the hostile rhetoric that was coming out of the Republican Party came to a quick and uneasy end.

SG: The Convention of '92, the Campaign of '92, I think, combined with the reality of that our friends were getting sick from and dying of AIDS were the two issues that convinced us that we could no longer separate our personal life from our professional life. We had an obligation, in essence, to stand up and speak out.

QV: Was that realization graduation, or did it come about because of something specific?

SG: If there was one event, it was Buchanan's speech [at the 1992 GOP Convention]. Even though we didn't watch it together, I suspected that was to me the same kind of an awareness that certain events had for some people in Nazi Germany. Time out! Look at what's happening. It was to me cataclysmic about everything that I stood for.

Not to retreat on history, but many of the attitudes during the Reagan administration may have cultivated the excesses which followed later. Because Reagan was from Hollywood, there was a level of respect and civility demanded by him while he was in office that once he was gone, there was no one to control. It just developed, evidenced

in the last four years—'88 to '92, and I think it overcame a good and decent guy, George Bush, when he couldn't control it, as you saw at the Houston Convention.

I was a part of Newt Gingrich's Leadership Team at that point, and I resigned right after that —it became clear to me that there was no tension from the political center within the party. It's easy to sit back and say somebody else should do this. It was just clear that I was in one of those positions where I had to do it. So, we did that when we started speaking out together. We then became the target of the far-right.

QV: What do you hope to accomplish with the book?

RM: It is a human drama of people who shaped the early stages of our relationship at critical times, and there's an afterwards that updates it and brings it up to the publication date.

SG: But it's our story, too.

RM: That's what I meant when I said "our relationship." We would be the "our" part. What I think I wanted to do—the way I originally conceptualized the book, and I think you did too —was to take thumbnail sketches of the individuals who all knew each other very well, who loved each other —as a neighborhood, as a family. It's woven together through Thanksgivings that date from 1985 to 1994. We introduce readers to the people in our lives, and over time their destinies unfold.



Some stories are wonderfully uplifting, some are perplexing and some are tragic. It oddly enough represents a much more realistic phase of the new American family than it does represent the gay family or any idiosyncrasies within families, whether they are straight or gay or whatever—it really is much more typical of today's families.

QV: What was the process of writing the book?

SG: I'll take the funny part. I'm the guy who usually speaks in public, he is much more the writer. Each of us would try to write certain episodes ... certain experiences, certain events. Anytime I wrote them they were first drafts. He would take them and dramatically alter them and say the same thing in a much better way. When we made the decision to write a book, because both of us have our own professions, we just didn't have the time to do all of that, so we got a collaborator.

We interviewed a lot of people, because you had to have somebody who you were really comfortable with, somebody who could identify. We chose Bruce Bower, not because he was a conservative writer in the gay community, but because he understood better than anybody else we met ... or even talked to, what we were trying to do.

QV: When you look back over the process of writing the book and see the finished version, is it what you expected it to be?

RM: That's a very difficult question to answer, because I'm not far enough removed from it yet to remember completely what I wanted when I started.

QV: So who's going to play you in the movie?

SG: (laughter) We picked out who was going to play me. Now, be nice!

RM: I'm not going to say.

SG: Oh, come on.

RM: No, no, no, no! Because then it would be opening up a whole can of worms about somebody I might be attracted to in Hollywood (lots of laughter). If he looked like George Clooney, then you would know, so now you know, I have no idea.

QV: Who would you want to play you?

RM: I certainly wouldn't be thinking of that one.

QV: You wouldn't?

RM: No, I'd much rather pick who should play him, but then again, this is all kind of hypothetical. We've got to get the book out and then engage people's reaction to it. Then we should move forward. I think there's an enormous task in August. You can't be surprised that the publication date of the book is near the Republican Convention. When we decided we were writing a book, we recognized that the book had to be published and available around that date. There's the book tour that follows the convention. I think it will be a volatile time, I think it will be an exciting time and I think we will be in a unique position to say things that probably should be said.

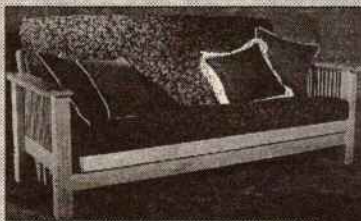
QV: I am getting a sense that you're going to San Diego with a bit of a mission...

RM: I've never done anything without a sense of a mission, so it won't surprise anyone who knows me that there is a mission there. I certainly hope to play off the political backdrop in San Diego ... a Republican member of Congress, who is gay, in the face of homophobic conservative elements who don't want him there. I think that is interesting and although its not often publicized, there is a group of moderate Republicans who are considerably more enlightened and remarkably sensitive. You can't really hear them when Bob Dornan is raging on the other end and Jesse Helms is spewing venom.

SG: I think that the ultimate goal would be to arrive at a point in time in this society where all of this is a non-story. I hate to say it, but the ideal for us would be to be able to San Diego and be non-news. Because there is no news, there is no decision to try to use the gay and lesbian community as a cultural wedge issue, there's no decision to use them as a rhetorical bashing element of society for political gain. If none of that happened, I would be happy. We've asked—facetiously, you know—how will people react when they see us. The book will be out and you know that it's going to get publicity in San Diego in particular—at that point in time when we're walking around the convention. There will be some people who will distance themselves from us ... we know that. I will tell you on the other hand that through this experience I have been struck by the number of far more conservative colleagues who have come up to me and who have been personally supportive and have told me how absolutely important it is that people like me are in the party. We give them a sensitivity and an education that otherwise wouldn't be there. Probably that's why we're trying to do all of this.

QV: Have you found any advantages to being a gay member of Congress that straight person might not necessarily have?

SG: The advantage is that you don't have children. I think it is impossible to raise a family and do justice to the job of Congress. You can do one or the other. I always say it is impossible with the time schedules. I don't know how these people do both and reconcile both of them.



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Then they say that the most important thing to do in society is to send to Washington someone who knows what it's like to raise children, I go one minute ... time out! If that's so important, then why don't they spend it raising children? I'm not against them or condemning them for that but when you look at my schedule of the last 16 years, I could have had and I could have loved children, but I couldn't have raised children and done what I did.

QV: You're leaving Congress. Who's happier about that decision?

SG: It depends on the time. I've walked out of a certain meetings when there was an absolute frustration ... it was nothing but a contest of egos or ideological extremes that produced nothing. I just want to get something done, this obviously isn't the place to do it. Having said that, I am obviously one consumed by public policy and by issues and in all of that I care deeply about people. I think from that perspective he is deeply hopeful that there can be some normalcy to our schedule and our life that hasn't been there.

QV: What do you see yourself doing in five or ten years?

SG: I would hope it's a diverse menu of things. I want to be a leader on a diverse set of issues. AIDS is obviously very important to both of us. Work force issues are very important to me. Health care is important to me. Education's a big one with me. I would love to be on a couple of corporate boards. I would love to be on couple of university boards. I would love to be able to continue speaking. I would love be involved in the corporate sector. There are a lot of different things and I think that's all important, because it gives you the ability to touch many different people in many different ways and still, hopefully, succeed both on a professional and personal basis.

QV: The transition from public service to private life is a big one ... Are you planning a big trip or anything after your term is up?

SG: You know, it's interesting that you bring that up. My district director, this past week, in a conversation with him ...

RM: Oh, I think this is going to be a surprise.

SG: Yes, it is, I think I've told you this. He said, "I hope you're taking six months off." I've got a guilt complex. I can't even imagine taking six months off. So, it won't happen. I think in many ways—I tell people I feel like a college senior. Complete the courses, get the work done and then you'll start a whole new life. I really do feel very similar to that and it's much that same excitement. Anybody who knows me know that I love what I do and I think I've proven that I've not used this session of Congress as a free ride. I've been very active in a number of issues and a number of controversies. I will continue that right up to until the end. As a matter of fact, I'm working on a number of areas where I know things won't be enacted in this Congress, but if we can do the research and if we can develop a policy, I can hand it off to somebody else who can introduce it, and I can testify in front of them and help them get it done. So, we'll do that right up until the end and take it from there.

QV: That's quite a change in lifestyle.

SG: Many people in the gay community come up to me and say, "We really regret you not running again, because it's very impor-

Continued on Page 51

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Art's Page

James DePaul Named New Head of UWM's Professional Theatre Training Program

Milwaukee — Effective August 19, 1996, James DePaul is the new director of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Fine Arts Professional Theatre Training Program.

"That the Department of Theatre and Dance was able to attract and secure a director for the PTTP of James DePaul's stature constitutes nothing short of a major recruitment coup for UWM," says School of Fine Arts Dean Catherine Davy. "It speaks volumes for the reputation and quality of the PTTP



—James DePaul

and promises great things for its future."

"I am very intrigued by the prospect of guiding and developing a professional theatre training program in an exciting urban center," says DePaul. "I believe it is essential for all artists, but especially artists-in-training, to be a vital force in the community in which they work and live. I see many opportunities for outreach programming in Milwaukee."

DePaul commented that he is impressed by the PTTP's faculty and the university's commitment to promoting the highest standards in the training. "As we approach the millennium, we have the opportunity to closely evaluate what we have done in the past, and more importantly, to move boldly towards what we can become, reclaim our imaginations and focus ourselves on the artistic challenges of the 21st Century."

DePaul joins the UWM as a full professor from Yale University where he is director of undergraduate studies and an associate professor of theatre. DePaul replaced Malcolm Morrison, who left at the end of the 1995-96 academic year to found a theater training program at the University of Hartford, Conn.

"True to Desire" National Hometown Video Finalist

Milwaukee — Milwaukee's own lesbian, bisexual, gay television program, "True to Desire" was named a finalist in the category of gay and lesbian programming of the National Hometown Video Awards, sponsored by the Alliance for Community Media. The festival had over 1780 entries from around the nation, along with some international entries.

Brandon Marsh Entertainment, the production company for the continuing saga was pleased to find out that they were one of the top five entries in the category. Over the past year, Brandon Marsh Entertainment has released over 40 hours of community programming on two Milwaukee cable channels 14 and 47. Helping organize Gay BC in September 1995, Brandon Marsh Entertainment found a strong need for gay, lesbian, and bisexual programming on the television. The decision was made to fill this void by providing role models, non-stereotypical like "True to Desire," "Dance Gay America," "Public Issues Addressed."

Heather Sewrey's at BESTD Gallery

Milwaukee — Heather Sewrey will be the subject of a one person show at the BESTD Gallery during July and August. Heather Sewrey art exhibit consists of charcoal and pastel drawings.

Sewrey's ideas reflect a metamorphosis of self — a point of transition both physical and emotional. In the works being displayed during this show, she uses both literal and abstract images to symbolize and illustrate this journey. Sewrey is an alumna of the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design where she studied photography and graphic design.

The BESTD Gallery is located on the first floor of the BESTD Clinic at 1240 East Brady Street at Arlington Place. Gallery hours are

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Cream City Chorus Sets Stage for its 10th Anniversary

Milwaukee — Wisconsin Cream City Chorus 1996-97 season is already well under-way, and includes three major concerts, plus several community appearances.

This year, marks the chorus' 10th anniversary and a few changes for the chorus includes new locations and a new schedule.

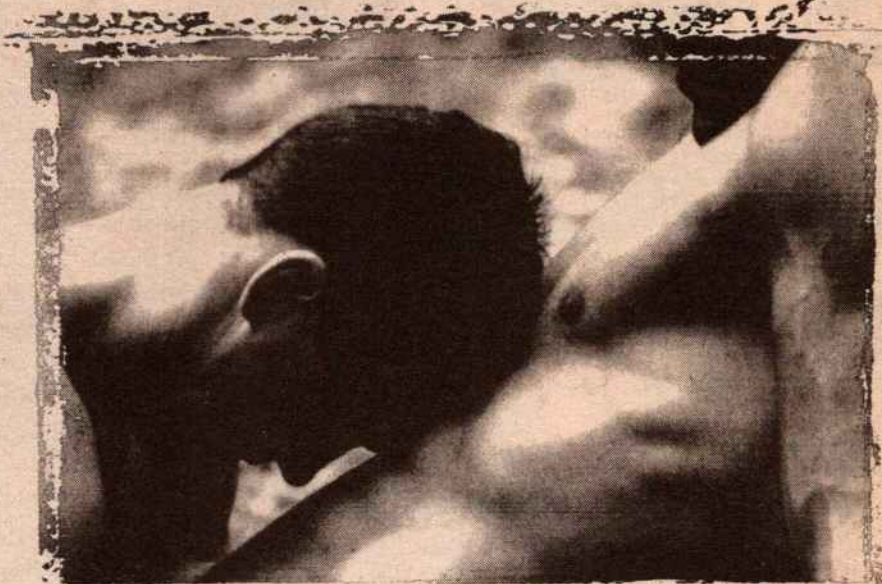
The first major concert of the season will be a truly traditional winter concert, a tribute to and revelry in the diversity of holy days and holidays at year's end. Christmas, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice and more, plus good old winter itself, will be celebrated in song.

April will find the chorus performing a classical concert, featuring "Faure's Requiem" and other pieces of remembrance for those who have left us due to AIDS. This event promises to offer music that will touch the hearts of all who attend.

The final concert of the season, held at the MCPA's Vogel Hall, will be our festive Gay Concert. Look forward to another night of gay pageantry, humor, and the Second Annual Cream City Chorus silent auction. A true celebration of our 10th anniversary, this concert will be one to remember for years to come.

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus is also auditioning new members to help fill out its strong core ensemble. Particularly desired are individuals who bring diversity to the musical heritage of the organization, as well as those who are interested in offering quality music to the many peoples of our community. Rehearsals will begin on August 7th at the First Unitarian Society on North Astor. To arrange for an audition, contact the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus office at 344-WCCC or write to P.O. Box 1488, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-1488.

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Me'Shell Ndegeocello's "Pieces of Passion"

Los Angeles — Once in a blue moon a flash of lightening brings a refreshing new talent to the song stress arena. This song stress is German borne and raised in Washington D.C. Me'Shell Ndegeocello. Ndegeocello means "Free like a bird" in Swahili. Her name is pronounced (N-day-gay-O-Chello). Me'Shell is an accomplished bassist, and has recorded with such artists as Steve Coleman, Caron Wheeler, Lenny White, Toshinobu Kubota and Toshi Reagon. She was one of the few bassists invited to audition for the Living Colour bass chair. In 1990, she won three "Wammies" (Washington Area Music Awards).

While in New York in early '90s, Me'Shell was commissioned by Alan Douglass, executor of the Hendrix estate, to do her version of songs from the Hendrix catalog (the project never made it to the public). After being spotted by Cat Jackson (then of BMI), Me'Shell signed to Maverick, because it was a new label and she would be given artistic and creative freedom. Debut album "Plantation Lullabies" was released in October 1993. According to Me'Shell, the title "Plantation Lullabies" carries several meanings. "It's a metaphor for the plantations of the world, past and present, whether they be bantustans, reservations, ghettos-both corporate and urban-or the prison of a colonized mind." "Plantation Lullabies" was hailed by Time magazine's Christopher John Farley as "literate, smart music about black life, like a Terry McMillan book set to a beat."

"Peace Beyond Passion," Me'Shell latest effort contains 11 originals, plus an interpretation of the early '70s Bill Withers-penned song, "Who Is He And What Is He To You." She explores spirituality, hypocrisy, religion, racism and the difficulty of sustaining romantic love in a society that undermines one's pride. The insights Me'Shell expresses on these songs-which include "The Way," "Deuteronomy: Niggerman," "Ecclesiaste: Free My Heart," "A Tear and A Smile," and "Leviticus: Faggot"—are based on her own experiences, or those of people she's encountered in her life.

In her own words, Me'Shell states, "I hope the listeners can not only hear the music, but feel it and create their own pictures. An artist is often asked to explain the meaning in the tune, especially the lyrics. I can never tell and make sense of what I'm attempting to get across to the listener. But I am more than satisfied with the dialogue created by the song."

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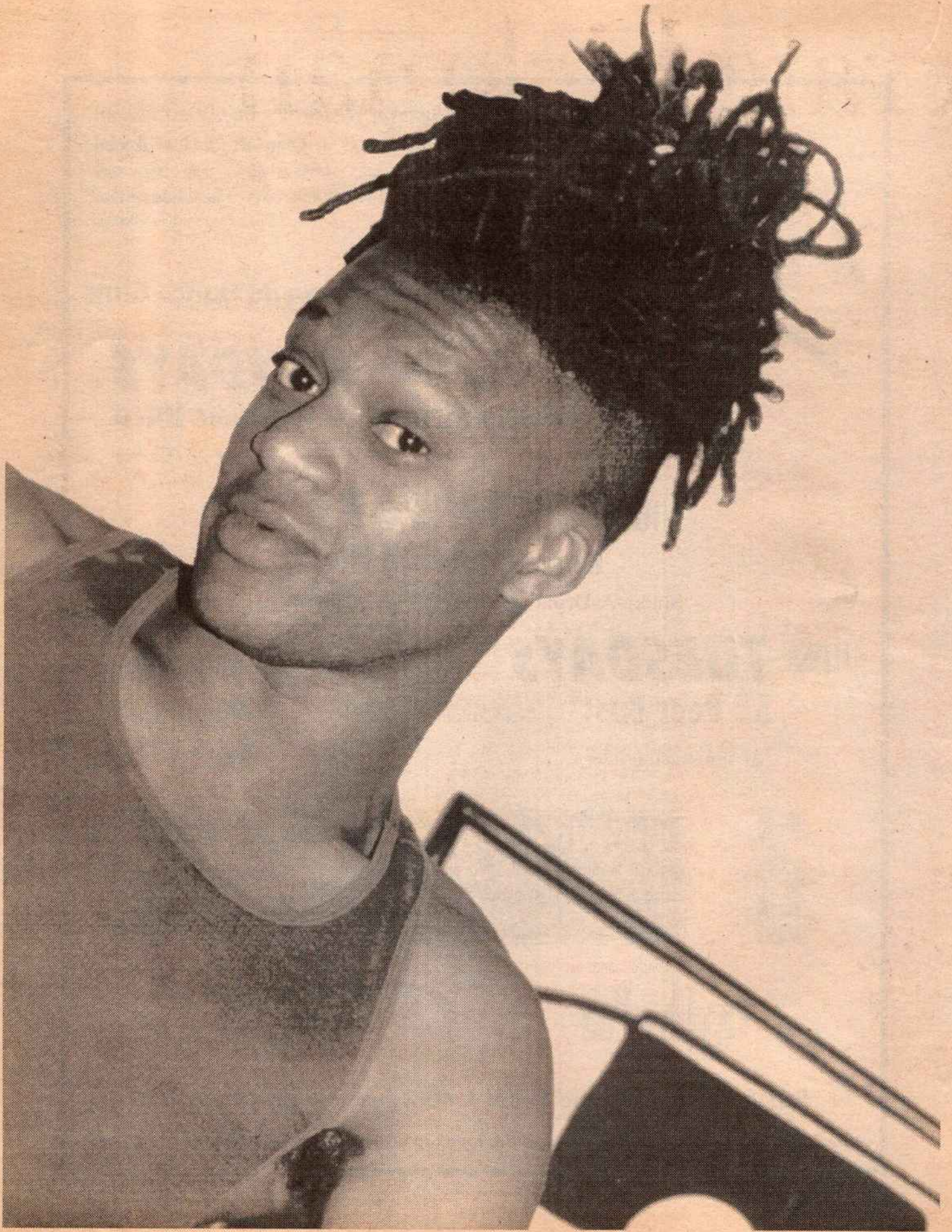
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craig hickman

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Gender poet, Craig Hickman returns to Milwaukee and gives his opinion on the Milwaukee "attitude," AIDS Service Organizations and life as a Diva.

A

t 28, Craig Hickman is a relative newcomer to the American queer creative scene. A Milwaukee native, Hickman graduated from Rufus King High School in 1986 and went on to get a degree from Harvard University. He later worked as an AIDS educator in Massachusetts. After writing two books, *Rituals* and *The Language of Mirrors*, he now focuses his life's energies into his art.

His one person performance piece, *Skin and Ornaments* has received wide acclaim with its gender-bending mixture of poetry, monologue, African and jazz dance/movement and storytelling. Hickman's work explores gender, sexuality, race and relationships. The result is a fast-paced, humorous and provocative portrayal of characters as they search for truth and meaning in a world of changing gender, sexual and racial identities.

His powerful performances landed Hickman a role in the upcoming independent film, *Never Met Picasso* which also features Margot Kidder, Alexis Arquette and

Georgia Ragsdale.

Aware of his sexuality since birth, he had his first same-sex encounter in kindergarten and writes about his long-term childhood lover in the title chapter of *Rituals*. In literature and performance, Hickman explores a variety of personal emotional experiences, as well as poetic perspectives on Jeffrey Dahmer and his experiences as black gay man.

Recently, Craig Hickman visited Milwaukee for a book reading at AfterWords Bookstore. I had the opportunity to sit down with him for this lively interview.

QV: How does Milwaukee seem to you?

Craig Hickman: A lot is the same, a lot has changed.

QV: What's changed?

CH: The architecture, things are being torn down. Everything is boarded up and closed down in the ghetto, in the city where I live. I see some of the same faces in the bars, which in this stage maybe is a good thing. It's the same feel, you know it's home. I get reminded of life —the streets I used to drive down. But the attitude has changed. The gay attitude has gone through the roof.

QV: How do you mean that?

CH: Either I didn't notice it before, which I don't think is true because I'm terribly aware of things, but I just feel like people have a lot more chips on their shoulders than they used to ten years ago. I just had an experience at the Boot Camp where I wanted to say to the owner, "You just don't know who I am, do you? I could make two phone calls and have this place shut down." This whole thing about loitering in bars —like if you walk in and don't buy a drink within the first five minutes, they come up to you and tell you you're loitering. I was like, excuse me, I'm not loitering, I'm trying to like get oriented here and see who's here and decide if I'm gonna stay here for a while. I haven't been here before."

That was something I had not ever experi-

enced before —anywhere—but especially in my home town. I thought he was joking. I don't know who the owner is, or what his name is, but he comes to me with, "You know, I don't allow loitering in my establishment, so you're going to have to buy a drink or I'm going to have to ask you to leave." And I said, "Are you serious?" And he says, "Oh yes, I'm very serious."

So I asked him, what was he trying to infer? Was he saying, "Am I not in the appropriate leather attire? Or, "Is my skin too dark?" And, "Why are you commin' up to me after only three minutes?"

Do you know what he said to me? He said, "You've been in and out. I've been told that you've been in and out." I was like, "In and

out of what?" (laughter). I said, "Oh, so I'm being watched." Because earlier in the evening, I had stepped in there for like, two seconds —there was no one in there and I left and went back to the Triangle where my friend Jimmy was bartending.

I don't remember experiencing this in Milwaukee before. And so, I don't know what that was about —racism or attitude or power or what? Probably all of the above.

Then I talked to a black friend of mine who said that they've been trying to keep black people out of there —out of the Boot Camp. He said that he's not thrown out because all of his high-paying clientele really like him, so he doesn't have to buy a drink or nuthin'. He can be in there, but he said he's the exception. And I said, "Oh! Makes for a nice story, doesn't it?" I was alarmed, I mean I've always thought of everyone in Milwaukee being nice and welcoming and whatever and I'm telling the man from the Boot Camp, "Well, I used to live here, this place is new, I haven't seen it before. How long have you been open?" You know what he said? "Since 8 o'clock." I said, "Oh, so you're tellin' me you just opened your doors at 8 o'clock for the first time tonight?" And he's just givin' me all this. And I said, "No, really ... how long have you been open?" He said, "Well, I think that's irrelevant." It was like, "Why are you giving me this attitude? I'm not in here dealin' drugs, I'm not in here harrasin' nobody. I'm standin' here at the bar looking at a video and talkin' to the bartender."

So, that was like a splash of cold water. I was like, "I don't remember this, anywhere, happening in such a blatant way." I'm gonna get that owner by his leather harness the next time I see HER! (laughter).

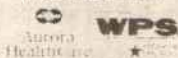
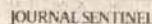
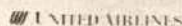
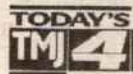
So, to me, the attitude has changed. When I left Milwaukee, in '86 there was no AIDS crisis. It was the good old days for me up until I left and went to college. Then I go to Boston, and you have to use condoms for sex, and I said, "What is this? We didn't use these." I don't know if AIDS has anything to do with the change in attitude here ... you know, protracted anger, mourning or grief or whatever ... but, it's very evident to me.

QV: What have you been doing since you've been away?

CH: Working! Finding myself. And when I say

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PHOTO: GREG GORMAN

"Am I a DIVA? Am I a diva? Well, I've been called a diva. I take that label and I wear it. I think that I am close to the Goddesses and the Divine!"

that, I mean findin' out what I've been put on this earth for and what I'm supposed to do.

QV: What have you found out?

CH: Educating and entertaining. Enlightening and opening up eyes and hearts and ears and minds and souls. By doing my writing and performance. And my activism. I'm a cultural activist, you know.

QV: Do you have a real job?

CH: This IS my real job! I'm workin' right now doin' this interview with you. I support myself by running my production company, running my publishing company and going around and touring both from the book and for my performance. And again, I sell some stories here and there and I'm working on a screen play and my novel is done and I'm tryin' to get it sold. In fact, you're printing excerpts from it right now. "Sister Girl" is what it's called. That's it, I took the risk to invest all my savings into my career last August.

QV: That must have been scary.

CH: Very! But it was something I knew I had to do because I could no longer be part of the corporate rat race. Or, I could be part of the whole AIDS service organization rat race. That's what I was doing for a while. I was a full-time prevention coordinator and program director at Fenway Community Health Center and, child, she was a mess.

QV: What happened there?

CH: Well, let's just say that the reason I quit this is, that a lot of ASO's these days are AIDS whores.

QV: What do you mean by that?

CH: I mean, they take the money and don't know what the hell they are doin' with it. They pay salaries to people who don't know what they're doin' with their own jobs, because they all got apathy and don't want do, nuthin'. Everybody's afraid that the fun is goin' to be taken away if they actually do what they're supposed to do. So, they write grants and proposals and quarterly reports to make it look like they're doin' what they're supposed to, but they're not doin' anything. I'm not gonna be a part of that. That's it in a nutshell. They just waste ... money's being wasted, and it ain't goin' for treatment. Egos! BS! Apathy! Disorganization! No vision, nuthin'!

Meanwhile, people are dying and they're still collecting their checks. Sittin' up on their desks looking important, saying, "Oh, I'm the AIDS Health Prevention Specialist from such and such and such. Yeah, but what you specialize in? Nothing!

I didn't want to do another job like that. I didn't want to work for anyone in that way. I still do that work, but it's all consulting and I go around the country now. I'll do a lot of work for the National Task

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Force on AIDS Prevention. I'm more free to do today and say what I need to say without some manager tell me that, you know, our funding source aren't going to allow that. Fuck the funding sources, I'm tryin' to save a life here!

QV: Are you a diva?

CH: Am I a DIVA? Am I a diva? Well, I've been called a diva. I take that label and I wear it. I think that I am close to the Goddesses and the Divine. I have a very good relationship with the occult, so I'm a diva in that sense. It's arguable. It's always arguable, you take a title like diva and people don't say, "Oh, you're not a diva." But, you know, it's recognizable as a title, as a label ... DIVA. So people kind of know some sense of what they're getting. If they know that a diva's coming home or that a diva's entering the room, they can say, "Oh, he's a diva!"

QV: Have you always been a diva?

CH: I was flipping through some old high school boxes with like, notes and letters and love notes and I pulled out a letter from this woman, who was actually my best friend in high school, and I can't remember the whole story, but I at some point I must have asked her to go out with me, or something. There was a couple of lines in the letter where she like, "You refuse to take no for an answer, and you should be patent, but you can't be patient. And this should be so obvious," she goes, "And even if someone says no to you, you can't just take that for what it's worth, you always insist on an explanation." This was probably 1982 or 1983 that this letter was written and was like, Wow! I'm still like that. You know, I need information. So, if you're going to tell me no, be prepared to tell me

why you're tellin' me no. I just don't take no for an answer, I need an explanation.

QV: Is that a control thing?

CH: No, it's information. It's like, I wanna know!

QV: Why do you need to know?

CH: Because I am a writer, I am a seeker of knowledge, and I like to know what motivates people to say "yes" or to say "no", and in whatever situation.

QV: So, you need to know because of your mission?

CH: I need to know —don't paraphrase— I need to know, (laughter) because I have to understand people's motivations on what they do and what they say.

QV: So you can write about them?

CH: So that I can understand how human nature evolves, and where people are at any given time. So, if that's about control, and I don't think it is, well then so be it. I do feel like I need to know, so that I can understand, because I'm seeking understanding and people tend not to want to challenge each other.

I come from a family where my sister is always saying like, "You can't ask 'em that." You know, my parents have been married forever, 60 years —and I think a couple of years ago I was interviewing my father just about his life and how he met my mother. He gave me the whole story and somewhere at the end of the conversation I said, "So you and mom had sex before you got married." And of course he blushed and says, "Well, I'm not gonna —you'll have to ask your mother that." So then I asked my mother and she's like, "That's just non of your business and blah, blah, blah." Both of them were very like tongue-in-cheek about it. When my sister came over to pick me up, my mother sort of related this to her. I get into the car with her, and she gets mad at me. She says, "You can't just ask them that. You just think you have the right to know everything doncha? I mean, that was none of your business and blah, blah, blah, blah." I'm saying, "They're our parents. I mean your not married and I know you have sex with the men you're going out with. I just wanted to know if they ascribed to the certain morals and morality and ethics that were about their time." They got married in 1946, so it's good to know if they actually waited until exchanged vows before they had sex.

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QV: What is the thing that you've accomplished so far that you're most proud of?

CH: Staying alive. On a daily basis.

QV: You talked about the occult earlier. Is that how you define your spirituality, your spiritual component?

CH: It's a part of my spiritualism. It's a huge part of my spirituality.

QV: Can you describe what that means?

CH: Language fails to describe some things. I'll do my best. I have a strong relationship with my ancestors, with spiritual forces that have populated my life in the recent past. I channel. Both artistically and spiritually, not that those two things are really ever separate to me, but I do channel. I allow myself to be open to the constant stream of memories and the dream visions that the spirits who I am connect to lead me through. And so, it is a big part of my spirituality in this incarnation.

QV: You've been reincarnated...

CH: Oh! I'm VERY old. Oh, absolutely.

QV: Do you know who you were before?

CH: Not exactly. No. I have been a shaman.

QV: You've been a shaman? Do you have name?

CH: I still am, but I have been a shaman actually, I have been recognized as such. So, no name yet, just the memory that comes to me. I have been an Amazon Warrior and I probably have been —although this is not terribly clear to me—how do I say this. I have been an African story teller. Someone who's very old that just teaches and tells a lot in whatever tribal community that he exists in. I have been that . . . I'm pretty sure. This sustains me when I'm lonely and blue and . . .

QV: What makes you blue?

CH: I'm a hopeless romantic. So, the loss of love makes me blue and so does the state of the world. The apathy that I see in people, the greed, the obsession with individualism. These things make me blue.

QV: What gives you joy?

CH: Good spirits, good head, good ass. (laughter). A sense of accomplishment and a job well done. Flowers. Nature brings a great joy. I love the foliage. I used to go camping as a kid and now that I live in New England, I'm always in the White Mountains taking hikes and going camping. It's just a way to commune with nature. So that brings me great joy. So does reading. And there's music ... I

couldn't live without music. Jazz, Oh! It can turn my blues right into a transformation. And my community of friends, and a certain kind of attention.

QV: Do you see yourself as a role model?

CH: Do I see myself as a role model? I see myself as a cultural activist not an artist. So I think that role model is a definition that could apply to me, but I really don't see myself as a role model because of what that means in this society. To me it usually means that you have to keep certain things very private and very secret so that no one can introduce to all of your contradictions and complexities. As a role model you certainly have to model something thick over time. I'm too changeable for that. So, I like not to see myself as a role model in any traditional way. OK? I seem to see myself as a healer and that's the shaman in me. I think that's what I do is healing.

QV: Healing who?

CH: People, spirits, souls, myself. Probably in that order. Because with healing—before healing—comes all the pain and I feel sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly as I think a lot of people do. I think when people are first introduced to my work they go through a lot of emotions—it can bring up a lot of things—they may have been worked through already or may have been buried or whatever. I seek to uncover that which is unspoken and unseen, and that which is not always nice to look at. I think I see myself more as a healer than I do as a role model. ▼

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Me and My Gal

by Lesleá Newman

Now that it is perfectly clear I am not mommy material, I have a new idea. I want to be a lesbian aunt. Surely there must be a pair of sex- and sleep-deprived lesbian mommies out there who would be delighted to have an afternoon to themselves so they can play with each other while I play with their child. I call Sal and Val to see if they want me to spend some time with Gal. "We'll be right over," they yell. I put our glass swan barometer out of reach, hide *On Our Backs*, and call Flash to see if she'll take the day off and play nanny with me. She won't, so I'm on my own, which is okay, I guess. It's just that Gal's kind of a tomboy, and that's really Flash's department. You see, Sal and Val were determined that Gal would have the kind of childhood they never had. Both of them were forced to wear dresses and carry little pocket-books, when what they really wanted to do was wear overalls and carry little chain saws. Which is pretty much what they do now, and what Gal does, too.

Soon the doorbell rings. "Hi!" Sal and Val chorus, cheerful as two people who have just won the lottery. "We brought some food," Sal says, dumping what looks like a week's worth of groceries onto the table. "If Gal gets hungry, there's rice cakes, whole wheat bread, organic peanut butter, tofu pop-tarts, ginseng soda..."

"Gal, are you hungry?" I ask, but Gal is nowhere in sight.

"Gal?" I poke my head into the dining room as Sal and Val make a quick exit. "Gal?" I find her in the living room with Couscous the Cat cornered. All doubts about my maternal instincts vanish as I grab the poor baby away from what could quickly become a dangerous situation. "Are you all right, honey?" I ask Couscous, checking her for bruises. She snarls at me so I take her outside and return to find Gal in the living room. "Books," she says proudly, pointing to the hundred or so books she has managed to dump off the shelves onto the floor.

"Do you want to hear a story?" I imagine a lazy afternoon in the rocking chair with Gal in my lap, reading. Dream on, sister. Gal has the attention span of a hummingbird on speed. After about half a sentence, she barks, "Next!" and pushes each book away, resulting in: "Once upon a time Mary had a little engine that could huff and puff and blow Daddy's Roommate happily ever after."

Whoops. On to the next activity. "Hey Gal," I say, "let's paint a picture." I get out some paint and in two seconds flat, the walls, floor, sofa and my clothes are covered with bright orange poster paint. What was I thinking? Gal's even managed to get a spot shaped like Big Bird on the ceiling, even though she's barely three feet tall.

Now what? Gal eats some carob-coated chick peas while I think. Only twenty minutes have passed. What will we do all afternoon? I decide we better leave the house, before Hurricane Gal can do any more damage. "Gal," I say, mopping up her spilled strawberry soy

milk, "want to go to the park?"

"Yay!" she heads for the door. "Wait a minute," I call. Kid or no kid, I am not leaving the house without earrings on. "Pretty!" Gal runs into my bedroom, stops in her tracks and stands still for 2.5 seconds, a world's record.

"Me?" She points to my earrings. "For Gal?"

"You want some earrings?" I ask her, opening another drawer. Gal swoons at the sight of my rhinestone collection.

Suddenly I see the light: Gal is a femme. In their race to combat gender stereotypes, Sal and Val never even considered that their little girl might actually like jewelry, makeup, and horror of horrors, the color pink. "You poor child," I say, as Gal loops a cloisonné necklace over her head. "I bet your mommies have never even shown you how to put eyeliner on straight." All at once, the tempo of the afternoon changes. There's not a moment to lose.

First I give Gal a tour of my closet. She goes straight for my leopard print platform pumps with the matching pillbox hat. Then, Gal raids my jewelry box. "Pay attention," I instruct her. "These are zircons and these are diamonds." Next I give her a makeover. "Nails?" she asks, pointing at the red tips of my fingers.

"Okay, Gal," I say, "but you have to sit very, very still for a very, very long time so your nails will dry right." I paint all twenty of her tiny nails and plant her on my bed. "Wait there until you're dry." Half an hour later, she is still sitting pretty. "I'll put another topcoat on," I say, "and tell you my favorite story, *Beauty and the Butch*. Once upon a time..."

Just as I finish the story, Sal and Val arrive. At the sight of their daughter, the afterglow shining on their faces turns into sheer horror. "What did you do to her?" they scream, reaching for Gal. "No!" Gal screams back, pulling her hands away.

"C'mon, Gal, we're leaving." Sal gathers up the food, while Val searches for Gal's shoes.

"Don't forget, Gal, we're getting our colors done at the mall next Tuesday," I call from the doorway.

"The mall?" Sal and Val are horrified.

"See?" Gal proudly displays her nails to her moms.

"Don't mess up your polish," I wave. "Bye, Gal."

"Bye-bye." Gal waves back happily, her fingers spread carefully, a gal after my very own heart.



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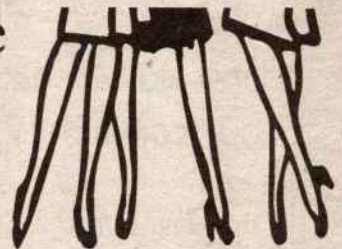
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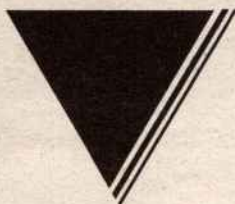
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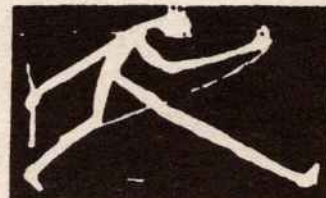
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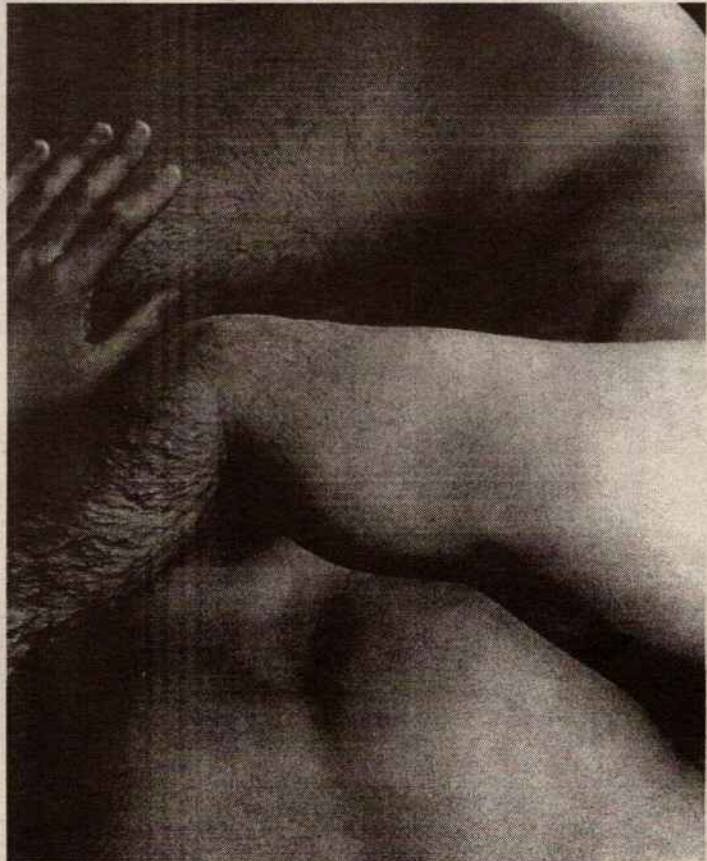


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Jazz vocalist Jerry Grillo has tried to seduce Milwaukee with the talents of his mellow voice. With two CDs already to his name, "Mister Grillo" talks of his past, his future, and the difficulties of being a jazz musician in Milwaukee...

"Jazz is America's truly original artform. And yet it has been nearly impossible to keep a jazz club open in this city." Jerry Grillo rests in the living room of his eastside home and laments. "People want to think that Milwaukee is a wonderful, wonderful place. They don't want to hear criticisms of it. But for artists and musicians it can be a very negative environment."

Grillo delightfully weaves smooth vocals and intricate melodies on two superb albums. Both *This Funny World* and *Mr. Grillo* have become personal favorites. I sit speak-



ing with the notoriously outspoken Mister Grillo in the cool confines of his spacious home. His cat, Winky, sits with calm contentment at his side. As an avid art collector Grillo has cluttered his walls with the work of local artists. Beside us hang a collection of eight different Roy Huth prints, and across the room an original Sally Gauger Jensen. A well-stocked bar rests in an out of the way corner. Mister Grillo is flying to Paris in a few days. I am lucky to have caught him for this interview. He continues to let off a little steam.

"It's not a stadium or a MECCA or any other edifice that makes a city. It's the people. If the majority of our population is of a beer, brat, and baseball mentality, we will never be a world class city, no matter what kind of edifices we build."

"You run into people here who brag that they haven't been downtown for twenty years. And they're proud of it! I can't understand that. Where is their sense of culture? Their sense of heritage? Jazz musicians leave this city in droves. It is sad how many artists have had to leave this city in order to get recognized and make a living. There is no reason for it. Milwaukee is large enough that, that shouldn't have to happen."

Jazz vocalist Grillo was born in the iron ore country of northern Minnesota. His mother was a housewife and his father worked in the mines for over forty years. "I was not the athletic type, though I did grow up on skates, which is one reason I'm a rollerblader today. In Minnesota you put on hockey skates at the age of three. My older brother took his skating seriously. He became a scout for the San José Sharks.

"The mines were shutting down, and besides, my dad didn't want us working in the mines like he did, so he really supported our education. My parents were great. I spent two years at a junior collage in Hibbing, and then went to the University of Minnesota, Duluth. I was a business major, and I still teach business today.

"My high school education in Hibbing was really very good. I grew up with Bob Dylan. We were four years apart, but did go to the same high school. Dylan hadn't changed his name yet and was performing in our school as Robert Zimmerman. He was doing Jerry Lee Lewis kind of stuff at that time. But it was clear to those of us who knew Dylan that he was a very different kind of character. He went on to become the spokesman for a generation. Once Dylan moved away he didn't want to claim his small town heritage. He

"...BACK IN THE SEVENTIES, I GOT INTO A COVER BAND CALLED SWEET EARTH. WE DID THE TONY ORLANDO AND DAWN THING WITH TWO GIRLS ON EACH SIDE AND ME AS THE MALE VOCALIST IN THE MIDDLE. I EVEN HAD THE MOUSTACHE!"

"...IF THE MAJORITY OF OUR POPULATION IS OF A BEER, BRAT, AND BASEBALL MENTALITY, WE WILL NEVER BE A WORLDCLASS CITY, NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF EDIFICES WE BUILD."

seemed to be very unforgiving of the small town mentality that mistreats those who are different."

At the University of Minnesota in Duluth Jerry first discovered the world of the stage. He had grown up singing in the school choir, and begged to perform solos in church. His second oldest brother

had formed a rock band and recorded a song that became popular throughout Minnesota. "He won a radio station contest back in the 'bandstand' kind of days," says Grillo. In Duluth Jerry did his first theater piece, *The Fantastics*, for the Duluth Playhouse.

"I considered switching majors from business to theater. All of my friends were theater people. But in that part of the country we were inundated with the need to make a living. I never

assumed that music or theater would be enough to make a living. For me that was a very good assumption. I always wanted to teach. Teachers seemed like wonderful role models and very caring people. I finished my degree in Business and later moved to Milwaukee to teach.

"I kept up my work with theater. I performed with the old Milwaukee Players. I had a lead in *Cabaret*. I did the *Fantastics* again. Then, back in the seventies, I got into a cover band called *Sweet Earth*. We did the *Tony Orlando and Dawn* thing with two girls on each side and me as the male vocalist in the middle. I even had the moustache! We did *Fifth Dimension* and *Captain and Tenille* songs. We did them pretty well, and played a lot of clubs, but the band broke up before we became really known. I did wedding bands for a while. Then I went to the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and studied under Martha Artis. She's the ultimate jazz teacher. They're having a tribute to her at the Conservatory in September. All of her students, like Robyn Puer, are coming back for it. A lot of local singers, and a lot of people who have since gone elsewhere studied under her. She's just fantastic!

"In 1990 I went back to the Conservatory and studied under



Jackie Allen, who's probably the best singer I have ever heard. She has since moved to Chicago and signed with a record label. We keep in touch, but she is on her way to much better things."

It was Jackie Allen who encouraged Grillo to do his first recording. Allen was busy recording in Chicago's Steve Yates Studio, when she asked Jerry if he'd like to use the same studio to do a recording. "She picked all of the musicians for me. I had never recorded in a studio before so it was pretty scary. She made sure I worked with people who wouldn't intimidate me. I picked the songs. Jackie gave me one of her songs, *Chase the Sun*, that she had wrote and recorded on her first album. She gave me that song because she felt it spoke of things we were both trying to do at that time."

1994's *This Funny World* was followed by 1995's *Mister Grillo* Jerry once again found himself in the studio, this time with musicians he himself had picked: Barry Velleman on piano and Jack Grassel on guitar. "I sent Jack a copy of my first album and he loved it! He's been very inspiring to me. There's something that really

"STREISAND'S FIRST ALBUM! SHE'S NOT A JAZZ ARTIST BUT HER SONGS ARE ALL STANDARDS AND THEY'RE GREAT!"

clicks when we play. There's a certain amount of flow and freedom. My vocals become much more relaxed and into that jazz feel. Jack's albums are instrumental, but who knows, maybe I'll be a guest vocalist on a Grassel album someday.

"The two of us were playing for a private party at Cafe' Marche and Jack was tapping his foot when all of a sudden he said 'I should get myself a top hat cymbal'. The next time I saw him he had one! He amazes me! He's got the ability to include such a heavy baseline you almost think there's a base player there. Sometimes it seems that he has four hands going, plus the foot. The top hat cymbal, which is very soft and quiet, is traditional to jazz.

"My favorite singers and composers are Ellington, Cole Porter, Ella Fitzgerald, Carmen McRae, Tony Bennett. These are my parent's songs, the songs from their era, but I always liked them. The most inspiring vocalist is Tony Bennett. I've been buying Tony Bennett from day one and all of a sudden Tony Bennett is cool now! Of course he was cool way back, but fewer people realized it.

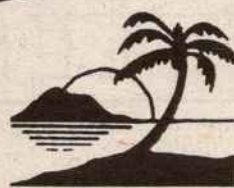
"Streisand's first album! She's not a jazz artist but her songs are all standards and they're great! I'll never exclude Steisand, even though she's not a jazz singer. There's such a brilliance there! I think early on she had the jazz in her, but she wanted to be a pop star. She realized that if she pursued jazz she'd get a real small portion of the market."

Once in a great while Jerry Grillo dabbles in the visual arts. Recently a small collage of his was found decorating the walls of Gallery 218. "It's my collage from my trip to New York. While I was

in New York I ran into Tony Bennett who was at Tower Records promoting his new album which is to be a tribute to Billy Holiday. He was signing autographs and being followed by a film crew. The collage includes a Tony Bennett autograph on a dollar bill. I also got to see Julie Wilson, who is the consummate cabaret singer of the whole world probably! She was at the Algonquin Hotel and we sat right next to her. I had talked to her out front. She's really a neat lady. I think she's in her seventies but she looks great and she had on this big feather boa. The feather in my collage is a feather from her boa! I also have her autograph. She told me to keep singing. Singers always tell other singers to keep singing because they know we'd all quit if we had half a brain! I mean considering the business side of it. We also went to see Les Paul. He performs at some hotel and he's in his eighties. A living legend!

"The thing I wonder about is will there be an appreciation for this great stuff called forties jazz in the future? Will it carry past the millennium? I don't want to see it lost. I don't want to be called a preservationist. It's the music that I love and I hope it will live forever."

Jerry Grillo will be performing with Jack Grassel every Wednesday evening at City Grill, beginning July 24th.



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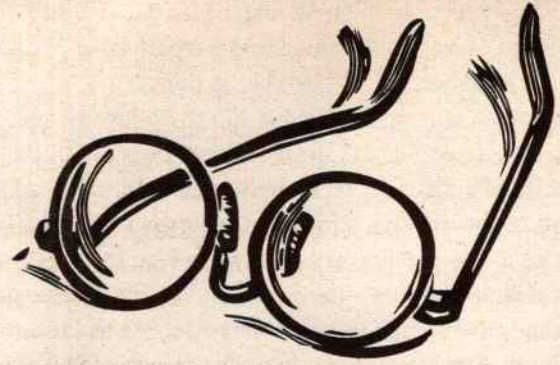
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THE CASUAL OBSERVER

by Ed Grover



Notes on the Beginning of Summer

The Face Model bought a house here in January of this year and between work, travel and other social obligations has been restoring it. It's a lovely old Victorian pile over in Lavender Hill and he is slowly learning the joys of being a homeowner when he isn't upset by plumbers, electricians and carpenters who are slow to do their work and make a bigger mess than he is used to—dust and dirt are his greatest enemies. The poor dear is sometimes ready to pull his hair out by the roots. He has a lovely small garden in the rear that needs lots of TLC, so I have been going over to help select plants for what will be a beautiful "Green and White Garden" in the next few years. After this Spring's planting he wailed, "You mean now I have to spend all this time watering it? I'm still unpacking. Couldn't you do it for me darling?" Well, maybe," I said,

"I'll think about it." And, it could be fun for me who has no garden except a one-foot by ten-foot stretch of dirt next to a fence behind my apartment building.

I decided to rescue him from it ALL over the long Fourth of July weekend and took him to Mazo to meet some of my new friends. We also planned to go the following weekend for the festivities of the yearly Nude Olympics. He drove and I was co-pilot, giving directions and chattering away because I was buzzed on caffeine. My darling Jimmy, lately of South Carolina, has been sending me tapes from his collection of 30s, 40s and 50s music. We popped in the latest one to arrive and took off late on Wednesday evening. The "Mazo Beach Rhumba", as he titled the tape, turned out to be all Xavier Cugat recordings and it was a hoot to listen to as we did our legal 65 miles-an-hour up I95 towards Madison.

We got to the Bel-Aire Motel about midnight, laden with bags of ice to immediately be put in the big coolers we leave there to chill soda and fruit for the beach. The key was in the door of our usual room and we did a quick unload of the car and were in bed and sleeping in a trice. We both woke up as the sun came in the window at 6:30 a.m., and organized our stuff. Linda and David had left us a bounty of towels, and ashtrays; we were all set. The Weather Channel went on immediately and we were promised a stellar weekend ... it was! Tom and Carlos, our friends from Chicago, had checked in earlier in the evening and came around to see if we were functioning. We made plans to leave for the beach no later than 9:30 a.m., as we knew what the parking would be like—stacked up like cord-wood after 10:30 when most of the people get there.

We all piled into one car with beach chairs, umbrellas and beach bags on our laps or under our feet. The sun was shining and there was a nice breeze as we went down Highway Y. Everyone started to chant parking, parking, parking! It was as if we were sending a message to a higher power to make sure that there was a space up front for us. When we pulled into the dirt road there wasn't a car in sight until we reached the front lots and there it was, a space just big enough for the car.

It went that way all weekend—both weekends. We really lucked out, except for the mosquitos, which were cannibalistic. The new anti-"M" lotion is OFF-SKINTASTIC. Get it! There was a little more anticipation as we approached the river. "How much beach do you think there is?, Is the river high?" Well, it wasn't high and there was lots of beach. The

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We now have Air Conditioning!

gods had conspired to please us. The day was early enough that the sand wasn't even hot.

As we walked barefoot across to the river we could see lots of tents in the "straight" section and we knew that the gay area of the beach would be swinging. Each time a group would come around the bend they would be greeted by cheers of welcome. We found our friends Steve and Jim from Appleton, with their guests already set up amid a blaze of rainbow umbrellas (ShopCo and under \$12), brightly colored tents and rainbow flags. We shed our clothes and unrolled our beach towels right in front of them near the river's edge. A big group of Madison people were all there with tents that looked like split-level condos, they were so big. Everything had been brought in on flat-bottomed motor boats the night before. More tents were going up all the time and boatloads of wood started to arrive for the promised bonfire and fireworks in the evening. People showed up from Minnesota and Iowa. We ran into friends from Rockford and Chicago.

By this time the sun was out in full force and the breeze was up. As we looked to the west we could see two new islands forming about a football field away down the river. In a year or so, that will be the new gay beach which means a lot more walking, unless the DNR puts in a new road and parking lots. The big activity of the weekend was to float over on rafts or to walk ankle-deep over to the new land and check it out. It was like being on a StairMaster for a half-hour each way. I only went once and that was enough for me. The new land found other uses too! Those bushes were too full of those nasty mosquitos.

We met Roy and Kelly from Kaukauna and Bob and Matt with their beagle, Gracie, and another friend, Dean. They were all from Janesville. The whole group was staying at the Cedar Hill Campgrounds off of Highway 78, nearby. We went over Saturday after the beach to see their camp and to check out the pig roast that the campground owners were sponsoring at \$5 for all you could eat that night. What a beautiful location, and it's all high up in the hills overlooking the river.

We all made plans to go to "Ken's" on Friday night for the fish fry. It's a roadside bar/dinning room near the Bel-Aire that had just been bought and redone by a gay man about a year ago. We planned on 10, but 15 showed up and needless to say some of the locals weren't ready for the invasion. Ken was, and was a gracious host. Good food, good drinks and a fun time was had by all. Our walk back to the motel was almost magical as we watched the fireflies dancing over the fields bathed in moonlight. Some of the beach crowd went back for brunch and Mimosas on Sunday morning before coming to the beach for a last dose of water and sun. And to think that all this was going to repeated itself the next weekend—at the beach, in the restaurants and with the weather was an amazing thought. It was just going to be a lot BIGGER. We looked forward to returning, but unfortunately Mother Nature didn't cooperate. There's always next year to plan for.

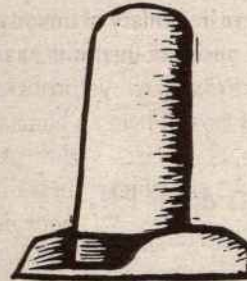
Correction: Last month I inadvertently gave the wrong phone number for the Bel-Aire Motel. If you called and got Madison Weather, save it, but blame it on me and the excitement of the upcoming trip. Sorry about that! The correct number is: 1-608/795-2806.

20
1976-1996
MAGIC • MEMORIES

Continuing to
Celebrate Our 20th
Anniversary with...



Country Western Week!



July 21st, 1996
The Shoreline Dancers
Kicking-Off
Country Western Week!
July 21 Thru July 27

Singsational Serenades Country Saturday • July 27th • 9pm

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Served Monday thru Saturday
Daily 11:30am to 2:30pm

Dinner
Served from 5pm to 11pm

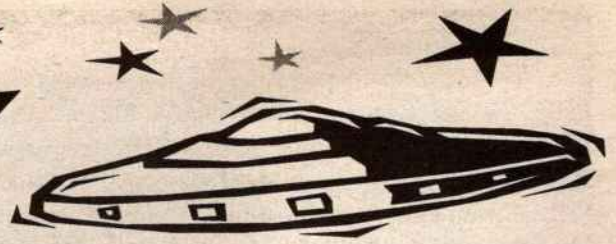


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Star Patrol



with your astro cowboy, andie jaye

pisces • (feb 20 to march 20)

You're running yourself ragged, both physically and mentally. Paranoia may also be kicking into high gear, as you're in a position to hear some but not all of the story. Why don't you check out your facts before you take out someone's throat?

aries • (march 21 to april 19)

Things may not exactly be going as planned for you this week, but when do they ever? Your expectations are normally higher than most, which means that you're likely to be more disappointed than most. Nonetheless, it's good to try because you'll no doubt lower your blood pressure as well.

taurus • (april 20 to may 21)

You're the cat's meow, and this is something you've known for a long time. But now, you're being recognized as such by others, so feel free to bask in your halo. It's nice to have the things you like in yourself be noticed and appreciated by others.

gemini

(may 22 to june 21)

You're having one of those weeks of wishing you knew then what you know now. But since none of us are Peggy Sue, we pretty much have to learn by mistakes. Such is life. If you made a bad call recently, it's probably fixable. It just may take swallowing more pride than you'd like.

cancer • (june 22 to july 22)

Money may not grow on trees, but you're awfully good at pulling it out of thin air lately. You're also pretty darn good at making it disappear again, but hey, look at all the neat stuff you have to show for it!

virgo • (august 23 to september 22)

That porcupine act of yours may be good for staving off confrontation, but is it really getting you what you want? Bullying people

into shutting up may be good for the short term, but it breeds resentment and lack of respect in all parties concerned. Cool it with the blow fish attitude. There are already too many hooties as it is.

libra • (september 23 to october 22)

Don't look now, but your excuses are wearing really thin. Sometimes in order to justify your lofty goals, you have to grope madly at the flimsiest of rationalizations. This is one of those times. If you notice people rolling their eyes at each other while you try to explain yourself, take a hint.

scorpio • (oct. 24 to nov 21)

You'll do anything for a friend, but you do have your limits. And when you've finally been pushed too far, whew boy, watch out! You're ever the idealist, so you hate seeing the bad side of people, but it's a lesson you keep having to learn anyway.

leo

(july 23 to august 22)

Your sex drive was never exactly low, but now the word "insatiable" comes to mind. Isn't it nice? Throw up those helium heels, and enjoy the ride. Be sure to use the safety belt, and strap yourself in nice and tight.

sagittarius

(nov 21 to dec 19)

Your ability to see the whole picture is a much treasured trait, but even you miss the train sometimes. Not surprisingly, the more personal interest you have vested into a situation, the less you're going to see it for what it really is.

capricorn (dec. 21 to january 19)

Validation comes from the most unlikely of places, and this week you can expect a pat on the back from the most unlikely of people. Good work! You're in an awkward growth spot on a new project now, and this is just the thing you needed to get you over the hump.

aquarius • (jan. 20 to feb. 18)

They say that we're never given more than we can handle, but when we're in the thick of it, this is hardly a comforting saying. Nonetheless, you're doing a good job of hanging in there, and it does get better...soon!

"I've always had a serious side when it comes to music. It's my nature. I don't do fluff. Pop tunes? Fuck that!"

The 36 year old Dave Carroll hails from Prairie du Chien and has lived in Milwaukee for the past eighteen years. "I started playing piano when I was eight. I was first taught by a nun in a Catholic grade school. At age sixteen I got a car and drove for lessons in LaCrosse." Later, Dave studied at UWM and at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music under Elaine

Bliss. He can be found entertaining in the Grand Avenue Mall, The Milwaukee Center, and at numerous clubs and parties around town.

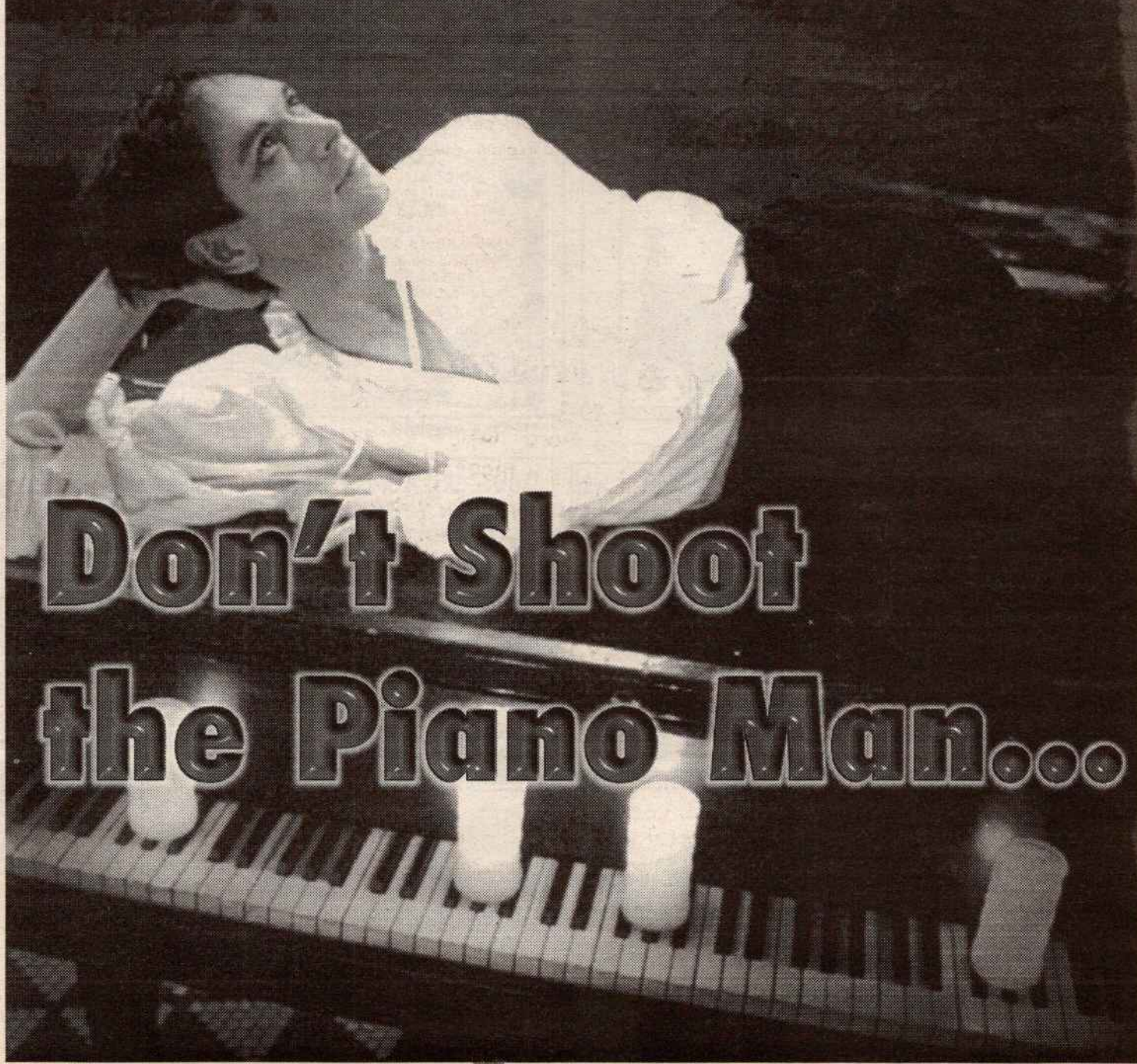
"My favorite things are to play at the Art Museum or at parties like Frank Ford's recent party for Art Muscle. That was great! I love to play art openings. They're always different and not at all routine."

Dave performs with best friend Sheila Spargur every Tuesday night at Cafe Melangé. "We do music from the

20s, 30s and 40s. Things like Cole Porter. Sheila likes to do saucy songs; songs with some naughty lyrics. She puts a lot of work and effort into these shows.

"I've been playing with the Cream City Chorus for the last couple of years. It's frustrating sometimes. The gay community can be a very barcentric group. It's hard to get them off their barstools to come see a concert!"

photo/story: WASWO



Don't Shoot the Piano Man...

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...

SO YOU'RE DABBING ON A LITTLE "GEN&ARME," WHICH, ACCORDING TO YOUR NEIGHBOR CHARLOTTE, MEANS "PARISIAN TRAFFIC COP." THAT'S ONE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND CHARL'; SHE ASSUMES A FRENCH COP WOULD SMELL BAD...



YOU'RE USING COLOGNE BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT A DATE WITH JASON CHANG. WELL, NOT A DATE, EXACTLY, YOU OFFERED HIM A RIDE TO GUNTHER'S MEMORIAL. YOU HOPE DOUG WON'T THINK THAT'S TACKY OR WIERD. ON THE OTHER HAND, DOUG HAD HIS CHANCE.



YOU APPRECIATE PAUL'S LOVE FOR GUNTHER, SO YOU'RE TRYING NOT TO BE TOO EXASPERATED WITH THE SPECTACLE YOU KNOW HE'S PLANNING.



LAST WEEK, OVER COFFEE, HE FILLED YOU IN ON THE SPECIFICS...



*FRIEND OF GUNTHER

JASON HAS HEARD THE SAME THING. ON THE WAY TO THE MEMORIAL HE SUCCEUMBS TO BITCHYNESS.



DOUG CRIED A LOT DURING THE SERVICE. YOU ENYV THE MEN YOU KNOW WHO ARE PROFICIENT AT GIVING COMFORT. SOMEBODY OUGHTA GIVE A CLASS.



By Eric Orner

Q Musts & Maybes

Your monthly planning calendar.

► Thursday, July 18

Festa Italiana

Henry W. Maier Festival Park (Milwaukee) is the place and Festa Italiana is the event! Resurrect the inner most Italian in you and come share a slice of pizza with a friend.

► Thursday, July 18

Color me Barbra!

Artreach Street Painting Festival at the Summerfest grounds, 200 N. Harbor Drive from 2:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m., Friday through Sunday 11:30 a.m. until 12:00 a.m. For more information call (414) 271-4704.

► Friday, July 19

10 Percent Dance

Do you want to dance? The Ten Percent Society (Madison) July dance for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends open to the university community. Dance begins at 8:00 p.m. admission is \$3.00. For more details contact Don Elmer (608) 255-9449 (evenings) or (608) 262-3763 (days).

► Friday, July 19

Nunsense II

Isthmus Playhouse (Madison) presents Nunsense 2. The nuns' growling hunger pain is resurrected when they learn of a talent scout lurking about! Opening night performance begins at 8:00 p.m. Isthmus Playhouse is located at 211 State Street in Madison Civic Center. For more details contact Barbara at (608) 256-0029. You don't have to be Catholic to enjoy it, but it helps!

► Friday, July 19

Joan Collins Mini-Thon Begins

Dust off those shoulder pads, cake on the make-up, put on the mink false eye-lashes and slip on the highest pair of heels; and let the "Joan Collins Mini-Thon" begin on LIFETIME Television! The "Dynasty" diva will hosts seventeen days and nights of July hot miniseries. Don't view it alone, have a party!

► Friday, July 19

Heather Sewrey Exhibit at BESTD Clinic Gallery

Visit the BESTD Gallery for the Heather Sewrey art exhibit which con-

sists of charcoal and pastel drawings. For more information, push the buttons on your telephone to these numbers (414) 272-2144.

► Friday, July 19

Pier 221 Grand Re-Opening

Pier 221 is back! Put on your Friday fun clothes and come celebrate the gala reopening of the historic Third Ward's only Riverside Cafecatessen located at 221 North Water Street. Fun begins at 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., enter through Lighting Solutions.

► Saturday, July 20

Miller Lite Pro Beach Volleyball

Yummy boyz playing in the sand at Miller Lite Pro Beach Volleyball Open! Bradford Beach, 2400 North Lincoln Memorial Drive. Fun begins at 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. I would normally tell you to bring suntan lotion, but with this crazy weather, you might want to bring a parka!

► Saturday, July 20

Tease Me

Club 219 (Milwaukee) will tease you with "Teasers". Should I wear my long silk gloves for this! If you need details, call (414) 271-3732.

► Saturday, July 20

Anonymous HIV Testing

at B's in Milwaukee from 8pm to 11pm. Sponsored by MAP and the BESTD Clinic. For more information call; 414/225-1502 or 414/272-2144

► Saturday, July 20

MAGIC

Feel the MAGIC in the air in Madison. MAGIC Picnic from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Brittingham Park. Free admission, bring your lawn chairs, coolers and blankets. Let this be the beach, blanket, bingo of your life. For more details, call (608) 257-3795. Has anyone seen Moondoggyl

► Sunday, July 21

Gargoyles Luau/Pig Roast

Gargoyles (Milwaukee) is having a LUAU! Join the fun, participate in

Z & L Entertprises Ltd.
1445 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53711

PROUDLY Presents...

MISS GAY WISCONSIN AMERICA PAGEANT

1997
at
MANOEUVRES

featuring



Trisha Reese
Miss Gay Wisconsin, 1996

Kerri Nichols
Miss Gay America, 1996



Sunday, August 4, 1996 • 10pm

\$5 cover • Reserved Tables \$25 (no cover)

Limited Tables — See Ed or Charlie or Call 608/283-7858

MANOEUVRES

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Applications available at:

*Manoeuvres—Madison, Club 94—Kenosha,
ZA's—Green Bay, Wolfe's Den—Eau Claire,
B's Bar—Milwaukee or Call 608/283-7858*

Total Prize Package Worth Over \$1,500!

the Aloha shirt contest and of course drink, eat and be gay! Everyone is welcome and this time if you want more details, see the bartender at 354 East National Avenue. Now that's how I like to get my information!

►Wednesday, July 24

Anonymous HIV Testing

At La Cage in Milwaukee from 10pm to 1am. Sponsored by MAP and the BESTD Clinic. For more information call; 414/225-1502 or 414/272-2144.

►Wednesday, July 24

Jerry Grillo at City Hall

Performing with Jack Grassel every Wednesday evening at City Hall.

►Saturday, July 27

Singsational Serenades Country

As part of the M&M Club's 20th Anniversary Celebration, Singsational will go country! Starting at 9pm. For more information call 414/347-1962.

►Sunday, August 4

Miss Gay Wisconsin America Pageant

At Manoeuvres in Madison featuring Kerry Nichols and Trisha Reese. Get your ringside seats early because tickets are going fast. For more information call 608/283-7858.

►Tuesday, August 6

Anonymous HIV Testing

At Club 219 in Milwaukee from 9pm to 12am. Sponsored by MAP and the BESTD Clinic. For more information call; 414/225-1502 or 414/272-2144

►Tuesday, August 6

Anonymous HIV Testing

At 1100 Club in Milwaukee from 9pm to 12am. Sponsored by MAP and the BESTD Clinic. For more information call; 414/225-1502 or 414/272-2144

►Thursday, August 8

Q•Voice Deadline

For the issue appearing August 15th featuring Q•Voice's Dining OUT Guide and much much more. For advertising opportunities call 414/278-7524 Today!

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tant to have someone like you there," and I say, "I understand and appreciate that, but on the other hand we're here tonight hopefully raising money, or helping to raise money for AIDS and other organizations here. So, if you're at the point where this is your role, you have to understand that you have to give something up in order to be able to do that. We're sort of taking a different step. We don't think it's any less of a service, it's just in a different way.

QV: There is a stereotype that says all gay men should be Democrats... how do you reconcile being a gay Republican?

SG: (laughter) Let me share with you some of my Log Cabin Banquet speeches. A funny line is, "Because that's the way mom made me." Most people grew up in the party of their parents and if you believe that gay is genetic, I think you almost come to the conclusion that party affiliation is genetic and I've used that line in a couple of speeches and you can just hear the roar because they agree. The reality is that I really am an Abe Lincoln Republican. I combine that with I think, very traditional Republican economic and foreign policy beliefs. I think those three components make for what I believe America truly wants the Republican Party to be. I have a problem with those who want as big a government on the Right as they despise on the Left.

If you really look carefully at the most liberal of the Democratic Party and the most conservative of the Republican party, they are both advocates of big government in terms of their personal life. They want the government to control what we do with ourselves and what we believe and all of that. I reject that on both sides, but I think there is a deep government role for guaranteeing people equal opportunity and letting them chart their course beyond that.

QV: Is there a spiritual center that you go to during difficult times?

SG: What's the right way to say this? I am a Lutheran and that is probably as middle-of-the road as you are ever going to get in terms of basic theology in this country. I have a great story ... the pastor of the church out there right now is the former head of the Marine Corps chaplains. He stopped in at Capitol Hill one day about five years ago, and I said, "Come on in. I think there's a few things you ought to know about me. First of all you ought to know I'm gay and secondly you ought to know I've been in a long-term relationship with this guy, and thirdly you ought to know that a lot of our friends are dying of AIDS, and I'm very unhappy about that. And he looked at me and he said, "You don't know much about me do you?" I said, "No, I just thought you ought to know this." And he said, "Well in the last parish I was at I started the Rainbow House." This was the AIDS Hospice in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. So, he had had a history and he has been a real source of counsel and strength to not only the two of us, but to some of our friends as well.

QV: Is that an important part of what you're about?

SG: I don't think I know of anything that's been more painful to me personally than those implications from the conservative religious community that somehow if you are gay and lesbian and you are without morals and without religious values in your life. That just drives me berserk! Is it the Mennonites have something called shunting? There are times I have seen that from some of the more conservative religious

people in the Congress and elsewhere that —I am like the leper to them. That's been one of the greatest elements of discrimination that I've ever experienced in this process. It has affected me personally.

QV: If you could get married, would you?

SG: Tell him what you told your Ma when she was trying to understand our relationship. she said, "How do I respond?" And, you said, "Well, the first thing you can do is give us those ten years of anniversary presents you never sent us."

RM: You know it's an interesting question about marriage and the church. And it's one that we have spent a lot of time talking about — what legal options there are, how the congress is going to deal with this not in the short term, but in the long term after the Supreme Court decides what they're dealing with is unconstitutional. And then there are the other issues of where is the most appropriate place to get married that's wholly idiosyncratic —I mean you would have a place, I would have a place— we have different places. I don't know what we would go about doing. I would suggest we go back to Mykonos.

SG: Oh. Ha! This is the romantic in him coming out because that was the first trip we took together. Id' never been to Europe in 1985, and he took me there and I was like this boy wandering in a candy shop. I was just awed by it. He took me to Greece and Italy and Mykonos. I couldn't believe everything I was seeing. So, from a romantic perspective that's certainly true. We believe deeply that there ought to be some vehicle for legal recognition of long-term relationships. That there be certain benefits beyond that —I mean, we resent the fact that he can't get my health insurance, when other spouses can get that benefit as members of Congress in "relationships" that are much more temporary than this one. ▼



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NEXT ISSUE:

Deadline: August 8

Cover Date: August 15

H A N G - O U T S

Milwaukee

1100 Club

1100 S. 1st Street
414/647-9950

A friendly, mixed G/L Leather-Levi crowd more Levi than leather. Open early.

B's

1579 S. 2nd Street
414/672-5580

Live DJ on Friday and Saturday Night playing a smorgesboard of dance tunes.

AfterWords

2710 N. Murray
414/963-9089

Prime destination to find a good banned book and a cappuccino. Also, a bang-out for queer Milwaukee's "Literazzi" including Glenn Bishop.

Ballgame

196 S. 2nd Street
414/273-7474

This tried and true neighborhood bang-out may well be the oldest operating gay bar in the state.

Boot Camp

209 E. National Ave.
414/643-6900

Infamous Levi-Leather cruise palace. Pretty, hairsprayed boys need not apply.

Cafe Melange

720 Old World 3rd St.
414/291-9889

Life is a cabaret and so is Cafe Melange. Featuring a large bar, relaxed dining room, and eclectic mix of live entertainment.

C'est La Vie

231 S. 2nd Street
414/291-9600

No-frills queer landmark bar. Drag queens and go-go boys can be spotted on weekends.

Club 219

219 S. 2nd Street
414/271-3732

Drag Queen Central on Sunday nights. Plus male go-go bunnies on Wednesdays.

Fannies

200 E. Washington
414/643-9633

Popular Third Ward women's bar.

Gargoyles

354 East National Ave.
414/225-9776

This new nite spot is truly on the other side of the tracks; featuring 2 bars, CD jukebox, and lots of gargoyles.

Grubb's Pub

807 S. Second St.
414/384-8330

If grub is what you want, grub is what you'll get. Serving sandwiches, appetizers and a Friday fish fry. Top after-hours-stop on Wednesday and Saturday.

In Between

625 S. 2nd Street
414/273-2693

The decor alone in this friendly men's bar will make you want to break out in the "Cheers" theme song; with a long bar and pool table.

Just Us

807 S. 5th Street
414/383-2233

Proud to be your mixed bar. Boogie oogie oogie on the weekends and a Friday Fish Fry.

Kathy's Nut Hut

1500 W. Scott Street
414/647-2673

Regulars love this friendly women's saloon. Can't find it? Just call for directions.

M&M Club

124 N. Water Street
414/347-1962

Bona-fide cocktail bar with regular live entertainment. It's also a lovely restaurant for you and your significant same-sex partner.

La Cage

801 S. 2nd Street
414/383-8330

The Death Star of Milwaukee's queer clubs. Four bars, fancy sliding doors & serious butt shaking at Dance, Dance, Dance on Friday and Saturday Nights.

Mama Roux

1857 N. Humboldt
414/347-0344

This bar & grill sports a wildly diverse crowd. Popular pit stop before & after hitting the club circuit.

Renez CoZ Corner II

3500 W. Park Hill Ave.
414/933-7363

At I-94 & 35th Street featuring music pumpin', booty-shakin', foot-stompin', party-makin'. Four DJs to choose from.

Station 2

1534 W. Grant St.
414/383-5755

Easy going neighborhood bar welcomes women of all ages with a pool table, darts and video games.

This Is It

418 E. Wells St.
414/278-9192

The famous Eastside "Wrinkle Room" features a diverse crowd of various ages plus one of the city's best jukeboxes.

Triangle

135 E. National Ave.
414/383-9412

Offering world-class cruising, videos, and an absolutely fabulous menu of tasty bartenders.

Walker's Point Cafe

1106 S. First St.
414/384-7999

Open daily, this diner gets really, really busy after bar closing.

Wreck Room

226 East Erie
414/273-6900

The Granddaddy of Milwaukee leather bars has a friendly attitude and busy back-bar pool table.

Zippers

819 S. 2nd Street
414/645-8330

If the name don't get you the drink specials probably will. A drinking man's bar with pizza, sandwiches and pool tables.

Madison

Geraldine's

3052 E. Washington
608/241-9335

It's two, two, two bars in one. Geraldine's catering to women & Ray's for the boys... with country line dancing, DJ's and occasional strippers.

Manoeuvres

150 S. Blair Street
608/258-9918

Fresh from a make-over, you can dance, cruise or watch videos on starship sized video monitors.

R Place

121 W. Main Street
608/257-5455

Madison's newest bar is bright and clean, featuring a dance floor, CD jukebox and a fireplace.

The New Bar/Rod's

To be rebuilt.

MUSIC FOR A QUEER PLANET



by DJ Mags

Many and varied are the sounds of summer—and this issue's rundown previews some of the more interesting releases offered for our consumption.

If you've never had the delight of experiencing drag diva divine **Pussy Tourette** live, let me just tell you she is amazing. She sings, she dances, she vamps, she prances. She's equally admired by gay male, lesbian and straight audiences, and has garnered a loyal, cult-like following. Why, Pussy-Fever is taking over the nation—and I'm not talking cats here, folks. I'm talking Pussy!! Among her many other talents, she's also an accomplished recording artist, and her recently released second album, **Who Does She Think She Is?** on her own Feather Boa label, is testimony to that fact.

The album runs the gamut from slick, synth-pop grooves to blues and cabaret-styled vocal numbers, and Tourette nails each with unmatched style, grace, and skill. Last year's dance club smash "...Kiss", as well as the new house bumper "Unfortunate Lover" highlight the album's more uptempo selections, while the gorgeous "Body of Work," a poignant tribute to lost friends and lovers, and the scorched, piano-bar blues of "Potion" showcase her versatile songwriting, musical and vocal abilities. Pussy's own witty brand of campy comedy permeates the album, typified by sex-themed ditties like "Merrilou" and "All You Can Eat," as well as the hilarious, operetta-like "Dyke That You Are," which pokes good-natured fun at PC lesbian life.

You should check this one out—you won't be disappointed.

On a totally different note, the folk-pop group **Disappear Fear** have just released their much-awaited follow up to 1994's critically hailed self-titled album, entitled **Seed In The Sahara** (Philo Records). Disappear Fear, originally comprised of **Sonia Rutstein** and sister **Cindy Frank** as a folk duo, has grown into a polished, five piece roots-pop band. Produced by **E Street Band** keyboardist **Roy Bittan**, their sound on *Seed In The Sahara* ranges from the intimate acoustic-folk of "Laura" to full-fledged rock-n-roll numbers like "Michelangelo" and "Boxers," from the funky, harmonica-driven "Skin," to the dark



—Michael Feinstein

and moody "Millions Of Rope." For their queer audience, however, the strongest attraction remains Sonia's heart-wrenching lyrics and melodic vocals. Rarely do we find such honesty and openness in pop music, and her songs speak directly to our souls. "Laws of Nature" finds Sonia defending her gayness as equally natural an occurrence as heterosexuality; "B.Y.O.G. (Bring Your Own God)" touchingly takes on the sometimes difficult topic of religion; and the title track, "Seed In The Sahara," is a classic feel-good, queer-love anthem.

And for those who prefer more relaxing sounds, perhaps **Michael Feinstein's** latest, **Nice Work If You Can Get It: Songs by the Gershwins** (Atlantic Records) will be the perfect soundtrack. His fifteenth album in

eleven years, *Nice Work...* features Feinstein covering the full spectrum of George and Ira Gershwin's prolific output, from 1918's "Some Wonderful Sort Of Someone" to 1946's posthumous "For You, For Me, For Evermore," and includes the world premiere of six previously unpublished Gershwin songs.

QUICK NOTES: That sultry, melancholic British duo **Everything But the Girl** are at it again with their latest **Walking Wounded** (Atlantic Records), their eighth studio album. Inspired by England's recent drum and bass (sometimes called "jungle") craze, the album is full of soulful, beat-driven tracks in a "twenty-first century bossa nova" vein, as member **Ben Watt** puts it. Following up the enormous world-wide success of their million-selling dance hit "Missing," the first single to be released, "Wrong," again works singer **Tracy Thorn's** dark, vocals over pop-house beats.

Though **Pieces Of You** (Atlantic Records), the debut album from twenty-one year old, Alaska-born singer-songwriter **Jewel**, was released back in February of '95, it's just now beginning to gain momentum on the Billboard charts, currently hovering the mid-30's on the Top 200. Her folksy, acoustic style is reminiscent of legends **Joni Mitchell** and **Joan Baez**, and her voice is crystalline pure, striking the listener with it's starkness and beauty. The first single, "Who Will Save Your Soul," has fueled interest in the album, and of particular interest to queer listeners will be the title track, "Pieces Of You," a powerful song about the inner roots of hatred, sporting a verse about gay-bashing: "You say he's a faggot/does it make you want to hurt him/...do you hate him/because he's pieces of you."

SINGLES FILE: Many months ago I mentioned **Karel**, an openly queer, male dance diva with the most flawless falsetto voice since **Sylvester**. Well, he's back again, previewing an upcoming new album with his fabulous single **"Don't Stop"** (Orbik Records). With production and remixing help from **Steve Bronski** (of **Bronski Beat** fame), excellent remixes by Italian hi-NRG whizzes the Factory Team, and backing vocals by well-known house divas **Jeanie Tracy** and **Thea Austin**, this is sure to be the falsetto crooner's highest charter yet. Look for his new album out by summer's end.

Juicy Bits

by W.W.Wells III

Great Events in Gay History, Part XVIII

It's back-to-school time again. And while your seventh grade history teacher could lecture endlessly about The Renaissance she probably never got around to telling you the Leonardo Di Vinci and Michelangelo were probably gay. Well, education is a lifetime journey, and your adventure in the world of gay history begins here!

70,000 B.C. Straight Neanderthals first use stone tools and fire, while their gay counterparts have already perfected the use of styling gel and the VCR for viewing pornography.

776 B.C. First Olympics are held in ancient Greece. Winning athletes receive a gold medal along with lucrative product endorsement offers from Nike and Reebok to promote a new line of athletic sandals.

170 B.C. While sunbathing at a nude beach, Ahaz, Prince of Judah invents the sundial when he becomes aroused by the cute guy laying next to him and quickly determines (by the shadow cast in the sand by his upright privates) that it is exactly two o'clock.

981 A.D. Viking Conqueror, Eric the Red begins the settlement of Greenland. Meanwhile, rival Bruce the Flaming Pink establishes a colony in San Francisco and opens a styling salon on Castro Street because he doesn't want to wear those silly Viking helmets with the horns.

1507 A.D. First world map showing America is produced by Bob Damron. The map also reveals the most popular gay bars around the globe and denotes the cruisiest spots in each city. The map is said to be invaluable by gay explorers looking to unwind after a long day of exploitation and pillaging.

1776 A.D. Thomas Jefferson writes "The Declaration of Independence", Adam Smith writes "Wealth of Nations" and Benjamin Franklin pens a personal for a "young, GWM with a washboards stomach and pees to die for".

1783 A.D. The Montgolfier brothers introduce the passenger balloon after they develop a system of capturing hot air emitted by pick up used lines in Paris gay bars.

1812 A.D. Bryan Donkin develops the canned-food process and is later convicted for crimes against humanity when he introduces the now popular psuedo-food, Spam.

1819 A.D. Florida is ceded by Spain to Walt Disney.

1885 A.D. Gotlieg Danier builds the first gasoline powered automobile and immediately begins hitting all the cruising spots in, using his brake lights to signal cute guys he's interested in sex.

1877 A.D. Thomas Edison develops the world's first working phonograph and fires his gay assistant when the aide invents house music and sampling and plays the music way too loud.

1939 A.D. In China, the first recorded attempt to surgically separate Siamese twins is abruptly canceled after doctors discover the couple first thought to be joined at the hips and lips were actually very co-dependent gay lovers

1920 A.D. The United States begins prohibition. Thousands of drag queens immediately retire from the business because they are unable to perform with-out several stiff drinks prior to show time.

1939 A.D. Sigmund Freud first uses the word "compulsive" to describe the obsessive behavior of a gay man who claimed to have 17 serious boyfriends in a one month period, had his hair professionally styled once a week and had memorized the lyrics to every Broadway musical ever produced. The patient denied that he was compulsive and claimed his behavior was perfectly normal for most gay men.

1921 A.D. Karel Capek introduces the concept of robots after he invents Al Gore.

1959 A.D. Pop star Madonna is born in Bay City, Michigan and immediately attempts to seduce the baby in the next crib.

1963 A.D. A San Francisco troop of gay Boy Scouts was drummed out of scouting after their drag queen den mother allegedly led them in a game of pornographic "Simon Says".

1981 A.D. Over 150 gay men, vacationing in Hawaii, were forced to undergo emergency circumcisions after n unusual dip in the jet stream brought a sudden arctic cold snap, generated high winds and a dangerous wind-chill factor. As a result, men sunbathing at local nude beaches suffered the effects of frostbite which was treated by surgically removing the damaged areas.



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A True Buddy.



Jerry Frantz of Key West, Florida, is a true friend. At the age of 84, Jerry has been a volunteer Buddy to more than 25 people living with HIV/AIDS. As a Buddy, he provides reliable one-on-one companionship to those in need, many of whom have lost their income, home, friends and morale.

An inspiration at any age, Jerry brings support, hope and love to every life he touches. Miller recognizes Jerry and all the volunteers who dedicate themselves to the fight against AIDS.

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