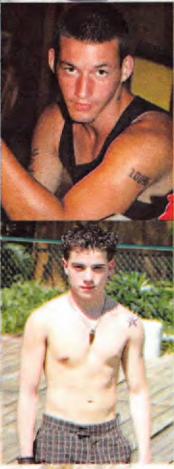


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Inside: A Look Behind
The Startling Defeat For
Wisconsin Marriage Equality



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iversion of the D Quest's Events Calendar

Thursday, November 23 Thankspiving

Boom (Milw) H.I.T. Welcome show

Tazzbah (Milw) Thanksgiving Bufet starts 5 pm

Tipsy's (Green Bay) Thanksgiving Dinner served 2pm-cl Turkey bowling 7pm and Karaoke at 9pm

> November 23 - 26 28th H.I.T. Tournament

Friday, November 24

Skylight Opera Theatre (Milw.) Rodgers & Hammerstein's Tony Award-winning musical, South Pacific, opens this evening and runs through Dec. 23. Tickets: (414) 291-7800 or online www.skylightopera.com

Saturday, November 25
Boom (Milw) Spend an evening with Adult Film Star Cole Ryder.

C'est La vie (Milw) Special Spotlite Show supports Toys for Tots. 11pm

KRUZ (Milw) Opening night 354 E National

Tipsy's (Green Bay) Ronnie Nyles 8:30 pm

Shelter (Green Bay) 80's Night

Sunday, November 26

Shelter (Green Bay) Sunday Brunch

Tuesday, November 27
C'est La vie (Milw) Special Boys Night Out! Supports Toys for Tots 11pm

Friday, December 1
Club Nite Out (Stevens Point) UW Stevens Point Gy/St8 Alliance presents a gay fashion show. 18+\$3 cover

Shelter (Green Bay) Seafood Buffet

Saturday/Sunday, December 2&3

Quest Magazine Presents Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA Pageant 2007 La Cage, Milw. Prelim night Sat, Sunday Top 10 compete w/special Guest Miss Gav. USofA Tickets \$10 at the door incl. entry to LaCage for dancing later.

Tipsy's (Green Bay) Customer Appreciation Night FREE tap beer 10:30-11:30pm \$2 Shots \$2 Rail Mixers also \$1 off for anyone wearing RFD in honor of World AIDS Day (not incl specials)

City Lights Chill (Milw) Full Moon Party

Saturday, December 9
Mens Voices Milwaukee present "Together for the Holidays" 8pm
Tickets \$15 advance \$20 at door. Helene Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts at UWM 2419 Kennwood Blvd.

Crossroads (Appleton) Cast Show

Shelter (Green Bay) Turnabout 2006

Sunday, December 10

Harbor Room (Milw) Annual customer appreciation and Christmas party with Santa 3pm Free Food buffet and goodies from Santa. Shelter (Green Bay) Sunday Brunch

Thursday, December 14

Boom (Milw) Christmas Party

Friday, December 15

The ROOM (Milw) Holiday Show

Switch (Milw) Christmas Party 6pm-cl Strippers, Santa, Food, Prizes

Saturday, December 16

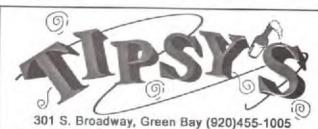
City Lights Chill (Milw) Underwear Party

Harbor Room (Milw) Mr Harbor Room Fundraiser also BESTD Clinic FREE testing 9pm - 1am

Shelter (Green Bay) Naughty or Nice, REd & White Party!

Saturday, December 23
City Lights Chill (Milw) Christmas Baby Birthday Bash celebrate your b-day with bartender dominic





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Saturday, November 25 Ronnie Nyles 8:30pm

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Madison - It had all the earmarks of success: \$5 million in its war chest. thousands of volunteers, hundreds of prestigious supporting groups, 72 county coordinators, dozens of supportive broadcast and print media endorsements, a half-dozen attention-getting TV spots, nearly three years of preparation, the unprecedented coalition of the state's two most powerful gay activist groups and one of the most politically savvy campaign

mangers available in the country:

Mike Tate.

Yet only two hours after the polls closed November 7, it was painfully clear Fair Wisconsin's campaign to defeat the constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage and civil unions had not only lost, it had lost big 59% to 41% big, a spread that was greater than even the most conservative political pundits in the state had

One state - Republican-leaning Arizona - had defeated a similar ban, using a strategy that mirrored Fair Wisconsin's nearly note for note (see story in the national news section). Six other states joined Wisconsin in adopting similar anti-gay marriage measures, though several by much narrower margins than here in the original "Gay Rights" state. Nearly a quarter century after Wisconsin had led the nation in its acceptance of its gay and lesbian citizens as equally deserving of jobs, housing and public accommodation, its voters had stamped "second class" on every long-term committed gay relationship, not to mention the nearly 50% of straight couples living together in the state without the benefit of a marriage license.

For ban opponents who looked beyond the amendment question, there was plenty to be cheerful about. The state's Republicans who had engineered this year's ban ballot to serve as a sickening sequel to the successful 2004 national GOP strategy were breath-takingly bitch slapped at the voting booth. The State Senate switched to Democratic Party control and the Republican majority in the Assembly shrank from fourteen to five. Most importantly, openly gay-supportive Governor Jim Doyle, who had passionately called for the amendment's defeat at every public opportunity, handily won reelection, the first Democrat to win a second term in over 30 years.

Particularly pleasing to long-time activists were the defeats to some of the primogenitors of the Right's more than decade-long DOMA march. Mark Green, who as Assembly Speaker in the mid-1990's successfully shepherded Lorraine Seratti's AB-104 to a win in the lower body, was roundly defeated in his bid for governor. His successor John Gard, who over a year ago openly strategized with the Family Research Institute of Wisconsin's Julaine Appling on the timing on the amendment vote, lost to political neophyte Dr. Steve Kagen in his race to replace Green as Eight Congressional District Representative.

In the State Senate, Tom Reynolds, a staunch amendment supporter best known for his attendance at Ralph Ovadal's infamous 2003 "International Conference on Homofascism" (when he wasn't reproducing Rantin' Ralph's "anti-sodomite" screed at his Waukesha print shop), was defeated. Also down-for-the-count Eau Claire amendment supporter Dave Zien, who two years ago threatened to shut down a hearing on the amendment after then Action Wisconsin president Tim O'Brien publicly asked which of his three marriages he was trying to protect; and fellow Eau Claire area senator Ron Brown who chose politics over paternity when he voted to pass the amendment bill a second time after revealing to opponents his own son was gav.

Fair Wisconsin's involvement in turning out the student vote clearly had an impact on many of the upsets the Republicans suffered. In counties where Fair Wisconsin had organized significant "get out the vote" (GOTV) efforts, voters turned out a a rate 6% higher than had been expected. Counties where Fair Wisconsin did not have a GOTV campaign saw only a 4.8% higher than average turnout. (Statewide 51% of eligible voters turned out, 5.5% higher than had been projected.)

Voting districts with heavy student populations saw a double digit explo-

sions in voter turnout. In Madison student turnout was 43.1% higher than in 2004. Even more dramatic was the 232% increase in student voting at UW-Whitewater, where Democrat challenger Kim Hixon appears to have defeated incumbent Republican Debi Towns by just 11 votes to represent the 43rd Assembly District.

As had been predicted throughout the Fall, the marriage amendment

Marriage Amendment Passes 59-41%

A Look Behind The Startling Defeat For Wisconsin Marriage Equality

Quest Analysis by Mike Fitzpatrick

issue had energized Democrats of all stripes. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel political columnists Cary Spivak and Dan Bice summed up Fair Wisconsin's pyrrhic victory in their November 8 column: "If you can win by losing, score one for Fair Wisconsin, the well-funded grassroots group that led the unsuccessful fight against the amendment," Spivak and Bice wrote. "In his victory speech, Gov. Jim Doyle, who

scored his own impressive seven-point victory over U. S. Rep. Mark Green, also put a spotlight on the group, thanking it for its efforts."

"Even Republican honchos begrudgingly credited Fair Wisconsin (November 8) for a strong get-out-the-vote effort that helped Democrats up and down the ticket," the column continued, quoting the GOP's executive director Rick Wiley saying "Fair Wisconsin did a good job of turning out the college vote. They ended up being Doyle's turnout vehicle."

Though Fair Wisconsin's Tate wouldn't take credit for Dovle's win, he did seek kudos for the Democrats' legislative wins, according to Spivak and Bice. "We have, running away, the highest young voter turnout in the nation,' boasted Tate, who saw Democratic victories as the silver lining to his group's decisive loss on the amendment," the pair wrote.

With bipartisan control of the legislative process and Doyle in the governor's mansion, the Republican Right's "God, Guns and Gays" agenda likely will be a non-starter for the next two years according to most pun-

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The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW) is seeking a full time Outreach Coordinator to serve the Southeastern Wisconsin area from ARCW's downtown location. This position is responsible for developing and delivering HIV prevention education targeting men who have sex with men, which includes: materials distribution, safer sex education, risk reduction counseling, small group interventions and community-building activities. Candidates will possess a familiarity with and commitment to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Communities; a strong comfort level working in varied settings; proven verbal communication skills including a comfort level when discussing issues of sexuality and sex. Candidates will also have a knowledge and sensitivity to AIDS, HIV, gay men's health and related issues, possess strong leadership skills, experience managing volunteer programs and the ability to work flexible hours. Interested candidates should submit a resume by November 30, 2006 to Human Resources, ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203. EOE.

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dits and political strategists. Unfortunately that probably doesn't sufficiently salve the wounds inflicted by the amendment's passage for many in the gay community.

While most have lauded the Fair Wisconsin effort to defeat the ban, a few brickbats have been tossed as well. Some of those peripherally involved with the the effort - most notably a coalition of Dane County progressives who organized a November 17 protest against the ban's passage - have complained about the lack of focus on arguments for gay marriage in the opposition's strategic plan.

"We shouldn't be too surprised by the success of the ban," an email announcement from protest organizers read. "The majority of Wisconsin has never heard an argument in defense of gay marriage. Let's begin to change that!"

Others in the LGBT community questioned what appeared to be the change in message in the final television spots run in the campaign. Early spots brought significant attention to the second sentence of the amendment and appeared to many to be changing a lot of undecided voters' minds. However, the "nothing's going to change" message of the final TV spots, referencing far right "special rights" and "no gay marriage" rhetoric, may have confused some voters as to which way to vote.

News reports about significant voter confusion on the amendment question surfaced the weekend before the election. A week earlier amendment co-sponsor Mark Gundrum (R-Berlin) made similar complaints about the spots "deceptive message" on right-wing talk shows. Vocal amendment opponent State Sen. Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) cornered me at the Democratic victory party the night of the election, reporting the dozens of calls he got personally from other amendment opponents asking how they should vote.

Some also questioned Fair Wisconsin's decision to use canvassing to identify voters statewide. Though the technique is a very effective means to identify potential voters, it is also very labor intensive, requiring thousands of volunteer hours to be successful. Historically voter ID canvassing has been used in targeted, urban districts. Where Fair Wisconsin had the volunteers to conduct significant voter canvass efforts, such as in Dane, Milwaukee and LaCrosse counties or on college campuses where dorm outreach could yield hundreds of likely "no" voters in a few hours, the group's efforts were successful efforts were successful.

However, unofficial election results in rural counties where Fair Wisconsin had only token efforts showed the amendment consistently passing by 2-1 - and in several cases even 3-1 margins - far outweighing the "no" margins in urban areas. Dane County was the only county of 72 to veto the ban and LaCrosse County came close, with the measure losing by 300 votes.

Also, successful canvassing involves peer-topeer interaction. Fair Wisconsin has proudly pointed to the campus efforts with statistical proof of their success. Missing in the mix outside of urban areas, however, were sufficient numbers of canvass volunteers who were in long-term, same-sex relationships.

Factors beyond Fair Wisconsin's control also played into momentum for and against the amendment. Though neither pro nor anti-amendment reportedly did internal polling (polls not released to the general public) on the issue because of its prohibitive costs, that did not mean other, even better funded campaigns didn't add amendment questions to their private research. And the one factor that clearly hurt the amendment's chances of defeat was the Mark Foley scandal.

According to insider reports obtained by Quest from both the Doyle and Green campaigns, support for the amendment rose dramatically in the weeks following the revelations of Foley's emails and instant messages with underage pages. Though Foley impacted Republicans in ways outside the focus of this piece, the reinforced images of the stereotypical homosexual predator "recruiting" innocent young men into the "lifestyle," combined with the "evil walks openly among us" aspect of Foley's semi-closeted public persona cruising page dormitories after hours even as he chaired a committees to protect minors from online and other sexual predators during the day served to shore up the amendment among values voters. Particularly impacted were Catholic voters, for whom Foley only served as a reminder of their own church's still-festering priestly sexual scandals, consistently blamed on the "disordered" nature of same sex attraction according to church leaders.

However, the Foley scandal faded to allow some rebound in opposition to the Wisconsin amendment. Then came Ted Haggard.

There was no time to assess the damage caused by the Ted Haggard gay sex scandal, which erupted just days prior to the vote. However, the image of a married father of five, leading a double life of meth-fueled sexual encounters with a gay male prostitute who admitted he brought out the liasons to influence the marriage ban vote in his own state of Colorado had to have energized some of the "yes" voters.

Another factor that likely helped sink opposition to the amendment: the New Jersey Supreme Court decision. Despite public proclamations that "nothing changes here" by both Fair Wisconsin's Tate and FRI-WI's Julaine Appling, the late-breaking decision by the New Jersey Supreme Court on legal recognition for gay couples in that state certainly reinforced amendment supporters' long-standing and oft-repeated claims about "activist judges." Though it got little play nationally, exit polling in states with marriage ban questions on the ballot suggested a heightened awareness of the New Jersey court decision among gay marriage opponents.

While outside factors certainly did not help opposition to Wisconsin's marriage and civil union ban, and additional question ultimately needs to be asked: was the ban ever defeatable? Though like Oz's Cowardly Lion I could publicly repeat "I do believe, I do, I do I do!" deeper reflection suggests the odds were always stacked against us - and probably stacked a lot higher than we'd like to admit. Here's several reasons why ban opponents may never have had a chance this time around (and why the future may be brighter than we realize).

1. 2006 is not 1982. Fair Wisconsin rhetoric but consistently indirectly referenced Wisconsin's ground-breaking inclusion of sexual orientation in equal rights legislation as part of the progressive past that would reassert itself in the defeat of the amendment. They even got the GOP governor who signed the bill - Lee Sherman Dreyfuss - to publicly condemn the proposed constitutional ban. But 24 years ago, movement conservatism had just begun to find its voice in the Teflon presidency of Ronald Reagan, HIV/AIDS was a two sentence filler story popped in to balance newspaper columns, the state's Religious Right was at best only a nascent political force, Democrats were in control of both houses of the state legislature, and Assembly Minority Leader Tommy Thompson was tickling fellow GOPers with Tomah stories. Gay marriage wasn't even on the radar here.

Fast forward through four terms of Governor Tommy, the Republican takeover of both Congress and the Wisconsin Legislature, the rise of right-wing radio and Fox News, gay marriage decisions decisions from Hawaii to Massachusetts, ten years of DOMA debate in the Wisconsin legislature and much much more. Twelve full election cycles have taken place politically that's not just epic, its epoch.

2. It's A Concept, Not a Candidate. Selling Wisconsin on the idea that the ban was bad was going to be a tough sell from the start. Mike Tate knew it and wasn't afraid to say it out loud to anyone who'd listen. It's one of the reasons why canvassing was seen as so important. There was a lot of story to tell to get people to grasp the complexities of the issue. The only way to win was to get the straight majority to agree with our position: not only would the ban really hurt us and our kids but it also went so far that it might even hurt them in the process as well.

Our sound bites were complicated even convoluted. Theirs weren't. Marriage, family, kids, tradition fits a lot easier into six seconds than did our talking points - advanced directives, visitation rights, health insurance benefits, etc.

It's Hard To Mess With Holy Mother Church. No matter how you talk around it, the gay marriage ban battle was also a stalking horse for deeper issues about the validity of gay life.

Fundamentalists don't believe in gay people. National Association For Research & Therapy Of Homosexuality (NARTH) founder Joseph Nicolosi, Ph.D says it best when he claims "there are no homosexuals, only heterosexuals with a homosexual problem." NARTH spends most of its time trying to find holes in scientific research that suggests the possibility of a genetic component to homosexuality.

Roman Catholics - the dominant denomination of Wisconsin voters - are only a little less intolerant. For them homosexuality is merely "disordered," but not inherently sinful.

Additionally Roman Catholics have a stricter sense of marriage than their evangelical counterparts. No church sanctioned divorce, only the always expensive and often slow-moving annulment process is available to Catholics who want to separate but stay in the good graces of the church.

Most importantly, religion is organized. Imagine if Fair Wisconsin could have held weekly rallies rousing the spirits of ban opponents in every city, village, town, nook and cranny of the state. The other side did: they're called church services.

4. Evolution takes time. The exit polling on the Wisconsin marriage ban vote was telling. The older you were, the more like you were to vote "yes." Straight line, no bell curve. Baby boomers were pretty evenly split on the issue and turned out in droves. However, older voters far outnumbered younger voters statewide. Therein lay the margin of defeat. Ironically, the final solution to the gay marriage question many not be political but biological. Despite nearly three years of preparation, there still wasn't enough time to make the case for "no" on the marriage ban. In his eloquent "concession" speech November 7, Tate pointed out that "this debate was forced on us at a time and a place not of our choosing."

It seems also somewhat ironic that on the day of Fair Wisconsin's "defeat" at the ballot box another 60-40 poll was released on the gay marriage issue nationally by Fox News. The poll showed a full 60% of Americans supported either gay marriage or civil unions, while 40% opposed both. Legal recognition of some sort for same-sex couples is becoming a winning bet politically. Less than a week after the ban's passage Senator Jon Erpenbach (D-Middleton) announced his plan to amend the amendment to essentially take out the second sentence. Another four year struggle in the works? Perhaps.

More importantly for the state's gay community will be how to protect the progress - and there has been genuine progress - that has been made on the marriage equality issue. Fair Wisconsin sits on a huge database of political and financial support. Financially the organization appears from public filings to have been fiscally conservative. No devastating deficit looms to be paid off. When the campaign closes the door for the last time at the

end of the year, the gay community in Wisconsin could actually be more empowered than at any time in its history to date.

But loss can be divisive as well. Wisconsin activists should look with caution to the decimated ranks of marriage equality supporters in states that voted overwhelmingly to enact bans in 2004. Just as the state's Republicans learned the hard lesson that sequels don't always guarantee success, hopefully our community will find the means to heal without inflicting additional hurt. Both the parent organizations of Fair Wisconsin - Action Wisconsin and Center Advocates - need to seek ways to maintain the ties that currently bind. That is truly one gay marriage that needs to be blessed by your support.

But even as you support them, share your ideas for where they should focus next. Short-term and long-term goals will have be set to minimize and eventually reverse the effect of the marriage amendment's passage.

Finally, for most gay and lesbian couples in long-term committed relationships, little has changed in the realities of their everyday lives. They continue to live their lives with grace and dignity, proving to all who care or dare to see that true marriage is not about the private parts of its participants, but the core values of fidelity and commitment. Those are the true family values.

MEXICO CITY RECOGNIZES GAY CIVIL UNIONS

Mexico City - Legislation recognizing gay civil unions in the Mexican capital was published in the official gazette on November 16, making it the first such law in the history of the conservative, predominantly Roman Catholic country.

The law does not legalize gay marriage but allows same-sex couples living in Mexico City to register civil unions with authorities, granting them inheritance rights and other benefits typically given to spouses. City legislature passed the law last week and it was signed on November 13 by Mexico City Mayor Alejandro Encinas. However it will not take effect for 120 days.

At least one conservative non-governmental group said it was considering seeking a court injunction against the measure. The measure has been severely criticized by the Catholic Church and conservative groups in the country, which is 90 percent Catholic. The Mexican Council of Bishops has said the law is the first step toward legalizing gay marriage and adoption by gays. The conservative National Parents Union called it "aberrant."

While homosexuality is still taboo in many rural parts of Latin America, the region's urban areas are becoming more tolerant. Mexico City joins the Argentine capital of Buenos Aires and the southern Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul in legalizing same-sex civil unions. At the national level, lawmakers in Costa Rica and Colombia have debated, but not passed, similar measures.

The Mexico City assembly passed the measure by a vote of 43-17, with all the novotes coming from the conservative National Action Party of President Vicente Fox and President-elect Felipe Calderon. The party is known for its opposition to abortion and support for traditional families. Same-sex marriage is still prohibited under Mexico City civil law.

Mexico City, the capital of Mexico with a population of 8.7 million, is a federal district similar to Washington, with its own legislature. It is governed by the left-leaning Democratic Revolution Party, or PRD, which has been promoting the measure for several years at the behest of gay activists.

"This law ... does not require anyone else to change their thinking, nor does it hurt the concept of the nuclear family," PRD legisla-

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tor Juan Bustos said.

The legislature approved the measure 43-17, with five abstentions, with all opposition from the conservative National Action Party of President Vicente Fox and President-elect Felipe Calderon.

In North America, Canada and the state of Massachusetts allow gay marriage. Vermont and Connecticut have legalized civil unions that give same-sex couples benefits and responsibilities similar to marriage. Last month, New Jersey's highest court ordered the Legislature to allow either marriage or civil unions for same-sex couples.

A parliamentary committee approved proposals for same-sex marriages in South Africa on November 9, clearing the way for the passage of legislation that would be unique on a deeply conservative continent.

Five years ago, Portugal extended some legal benefits - such as the right to file joint tax returns - to people who live together, including homosexuals. The concessions fell far short of the entitlements of marriage. In Europe, Belgium, the Netherlands and Spain have legalized gay marriage.

FIRED GAY BLOGGER: "I WANTED TO PROTECT THE PAGES"

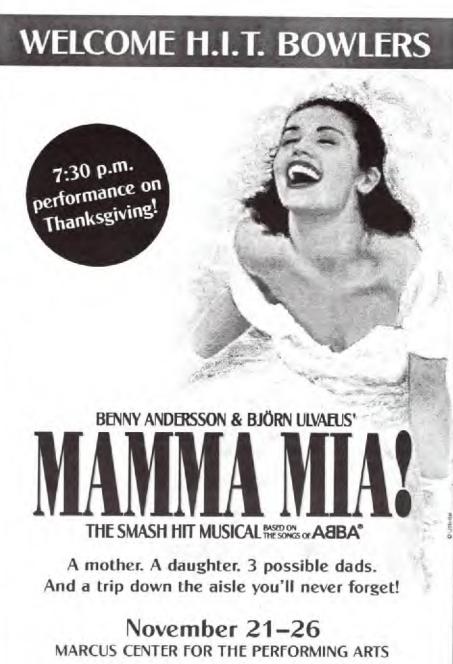
Washington, DC - The gay blogger who is credited with posting the first set of e-mails that helped ensnare former U.S. Representative Mark Foley (R-Florida) in a sex scandal insists that his motive behind exposing the closeted gay Republican was not partisan politics.

Lane Hudson, 29, a South Carolina native who worked for former Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-South Carolina) from 1995 to 2002, said he created an anonymous website called Stop Sex Predators in July in an effort to draw attention to what he called Foley's inappropriate overtures toward teenage pages on Capitol Hill. "It became clear to me that there was a culture in Washington that knew about this activity and condoned it by doing nothing about it," he said in an interview with the Washington Blade recently.

Hudson told the *Blade* about how he targeted Foley for exposure, saying he wanted to wait until after the November 7 mid-term elections before going public. Discussing his action before the election would be misinterpreted as a political ploy rather than a genuine effort to explain his true motivation, he said.

Hudson claimed that he started the Stop Sex Predators blog about two months before he began work in September as a Michigan field organizer for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay political organization. He said he learned of Foley's interaction with pages and his frequent e-mail exchanges with them through sources and contacts he declined to disclose.

"I heard more stories about it and just the stories that I heard made it clear to me that it was a long history of his behavior and that it wasn't isolated



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incidents," Hudson said.

Hudson posted messages about other sex scandals, and stated on the blog that his site was dedicated to "exposing sex predators before they can get to our kids." But he had little to report on Foley until September 21 when he posted messages from someone claiming that Foley was a "danger to any young, slightly attractive young man on The Hill." Three days later Hudson posted on his site the e-mails that Foley sent in 2005 to the 16-year-old former page from Louisiana that House GOP

leaders later said they learned about through Representative Rodney Alexander (R-Louisiana).

Hudson's posting of those e-mails prompted another, better-known blogger to post the e-mails. That, in turn, prompted ABC News to publish the e-mails on the ABC website. Days later, ABC News received copies of the sexually explicit instant messages between Foley and other former pages. Foley resigned and went into seclusion after ABC News contacted him about the instant messages. The ABC

News reports on the messages triggered the scandal that some have said played a role GOP election defeats Tuesday.

Hudson told the *Blade* that his first inkling of Foley's penchant for young men came through personal experience. Hudson said he met Foley in 1995 at a Washington bar during the time Hudson worked as a student intern at the White House during the Clinton administration. According to Hudson, Foley chatted with him and a few other White House interns at the bar, which Hudson declined to name, and asked for Hudson's e-mail address. Hudson gave it and Foley soon began an e-mail exchange with him.

Hudson characterized Foley's e-mails to him as "nothing explicit, nothing very salacious." I was young and naive. I didn't connect the dots," he said, adding that he never took steps to report Foley's e-mails as being inappropriate.

Hudson also claimed that HRC and the gaysupportive Democratic Party candidates that he campaigned for in Michigan as an HRC field organizer knew nothing about his Stop Sex Predators blog, which Hudson said he created and operated anonymously. His ties to the blog surfaced publicly in October, shortly after the Foley scandal broke, when someone traced Hudson's use of his HRC computer to monitor the blog and to occasionally send and receive blog-related e-mail.

Hudson said he confided in his HRC supervisor after learning that someone had linked his blog to the HRC servers. The following day, HRC fired Hudson after determining he violated HRC rules by using the company's equipment for his personal political endeavors.

"We were operating in an explosive political environment relating to the Foley scandal," HRC official David Smith told the *Blade*. "Our policy had been violated, and we had no choice," Smith said. "He was communicating with his blog site on HRC equipment."

Hudson said he understands HRC's decision to fire him and doesn't hold it against the gay rights group. "If I were in their position, I can't say that I would not have done the same thing," he said.

RETIREES HELPED DEFEAT ARIZONA GAY MARRIAGE BAN

Phoenix -When Arizona voters signed enough petitions to put a same-sex marriage ban on the November 7 ballot, opponents decided their best shot at defeating it was to shine a light on real people who would be hurt by Proposition 107. If most of those real people were not gay, they believed, all the better.

As a result, Al Breznay and Maxine Piatt, a charming, elderly heterosexual couple, became poster children for the "No on Prop 107" movement and key players in making Arizona the first state to defeat a gay marriage referendum.

Opponents practically erased gays from their arguments in the months leading to the vote, focusing instead on the impact the law could have on unmarried couples in general. "A lot of people thought it was just a gay thing," Breznay explained. "We certainly are not gay." Nor are they married.

Arizona law already banned same-sex marriage. Proposition 107 would have codified the ban in the state constitution as well as prohibit state and local governments from recognizing legal arrangements like the civil unions or domestic partnerships popular with gay couples.

In Arizona, with its large retiree population, elderly couples frequently forgo marriage to preserve higher benefits under Social Security, Medicare and private pensions. That's why Breznay and Piatt chose, instead, to make their eight-year arrangement formal by signing the city of Tucson's Domestic Partnership Registry. "We didn't want to be living in sin," said Breznay, 79. "But my goodness, at our age we were mostly interested in companionship and combining our incomes."

Yet Breznay worried that if Piatt, 75, were hospitalized, he would be denied the role they both wanted him to have in making her medical decisions. Their legal relationship through the Domestic Partner Registry got him into the intensive care unit to see her when she was hospitalized in 2005, he said, and helped him obtain power of attorney for her.

Breznay and Piatt were recruited by "No on Prop 107" supporters to file a lawsuit to block the ballot initiative. But they weren't a tough sell. When the lawsuit failed, Prop 107 opponents started thinking about what it would take to get public opinion on their side. The group's advertisement points out the approach they decided to take. There were no photos of gay couples. The ad, still on www.noprop107.com featured photos of a young heterosexual couple, a child, and two elderly heterosexual couples.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force was reluctant to say what combination of factors may have swung the vote in Arizona. But deputy executive director Rea Carey had no criticism of the "No on Prop 107" group for de-emphasizing gay rights in its campaign. "As we look at this election in the bigger picture, the entire election - not just on the marriage issue - moved toward the center," Carey said. "I think what we're seeing around the country is different campaigns have made choices that they think are appropriate for their state."

Proposition 107 failed 51% to 49% in a state that has more than 1 million registered Republican voters, 854,000 Democrats and 682,000 independents.

2006 MID-TERMS SEE 67 LGBT CANDIDATES ELECTED TO FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL OFFICES

Washington DC - The Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund has reported unprecedented success in electing openly gay candidates this year. Sixty-seven Victory-endorsed candidates were elected to federal, state and local offices, with some winning historic races that make them the first openly gay or lesbian candidates ever elected in their states or legislative bodies.

"This is the tipping point election for openly gay candidates," Chuck Wolfe, president and CEO of the Victory Fund said in a November 8 statement. "We're proving that qualified, well-prepared candidates matched with committed donors means gays and lesbians can move from having a stake in policy to actually making policy. There's no reason to sit on the sidelines with our fingers crossed anymore."

According to the Victory Fund there were a number of key victories in 2006 mid-term elections. Alabama State Representative Patricia



Todd, Arkansas State Representative Kathy Webb, and Lawrence, Indiana Township School Board Henry Fernandez are the first openly gay people ever elected to any public in their respective states.

First time openly gay candidates elected to legislatures include Al McAffrey, who will represent District 88 in the Oklahoma State House, and Jolie Justus, who will represent District 10 in the Missouri State Senate, Former state representative is the second openly gay state senator in Washington history. Matt McCoy has become the first openly gay can-

didate ever elected to the Iowa legislature. McCoy, a sitting state senator, came out during his last term.

Also considered significant winners by the Victory Fund are Ken Keechl, who won a seat on the Broward County Commission in Florida, beating an appointee of Gov. Jeb Bush; Jamie Pedersen, who became the third consecutive openly gay person to be elected to represent District 43 in the Washington State House; and Judge Virginia Linder will join Rives Kistler on the Oregon Supreme Court, making it the first state ever to have two openly gay Supreme Court Justices.

The Victory fund endorsed a total of 88 candidates in the recent mid-term election cycle. 55 were nonincumbents, and 33 were seeking re-election. Thirty-seven ran as openly LGBT for the first time. Despite their success in 2006, the Victory Fund noted that seven States that still have no openly LGBT elected officials at any level of government: Alaska, Louisiana, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, and West Virginia. Additionally, thirteen states still have no openly LGBT state legislators: Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wyoming

The Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund provides strategic, technical and financial support to openly LGBT candidates and officials. It's the only national organization solely committed to increasing the number of openly LGBT public officials at federal, state and local levels of government. Victory is the nation's largest LGBT political action committee and one of the nation's largest non-connected PACs. In 15 years, Victory has helped the number of openly LGBT officials grow from 49 to more than 350. Roughly 22% of all Americans are represented by an openly LGBT elected official. For more information and full election results visit the Victory Fund's website at: www.victorvfund.org.

news update



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GAY ACTIVIST RESIGNS FROM EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

Madison - Long time Madison gay activist Dan Ross has resigned from the city's Equal Rights Commission (EOC). On November 8, the day after the election that saw the passage of the constitutional ban banning gay marriage and civil unions, Ross tendered his written resignation from Madison's EOC.

"I don't like resigning before a term is up," Ross wrote to Department of Civil Rights director Lucia Nunez. "To be on the EOC, I signed an oath to uphold the constitutions of the state and country, and I can no longer do so in good conscience, when that very Constitution classifies me as less than equal.

Ross, a former Action Wisconsin president and outspoken advocate for gay rights, had spent most of the last year working Madison's Farmer's Market soliciting opposition to the ban as a volunteer for Fair Wisconsin. Ross and his partner of 16 years Charles Squires, had also hosted fund-raising house parties for the organization.

Madison alder Zach Brandon told Wisconsin State Journal columnist Melanie Conklin that Ross will be greatly missed on the EOC. "He's one of the most thoughtful, open-minded members of the EOC," Brandon said.



Ross: "I cannot uphold a Constitution that treats me as less than equal."

"He'll be hard to replace."
Ross is also a regular contributor to Quest.

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MVM CONCERT PROMISES TO BE "TOGETHER FOR THE HOLIDAYS"

Milwaukee - Men's Voices Milwaukee, (MVM) announces its sixth annual holiday concert on Saturday, December 9, 2006, at 8 PM. The concert will be held at the Helene Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts on the UWM Campus, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.

Themed "Together for the Holidays," the concert will feature selections ranging from old English madrigals, to traditional holiday standards. MVM invites the audience to come together to celebrate "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year" and poses the question; "What are you Doin' New Year's Eve?" From the seriousness of a Russian Orthodox carol to the hilarity of "The 12 Days of Christmas," the chorus hopes to inspire togetherness in the community.

This year's "Together for the Holidays" is Ken McMonagle's second concert as returning Artistic Director of Men's Voices Milwaukee. McMonagle has been working with the chorus on a cohesive blend among the voices. "I am looking forward to giving our audience one of the best sounds this group can offer," McMonagle commented. The concert also features a guest appearance of the newly created Women's Voices Milwaukee under the direction of Melissa Beastrom.

Thirty-two men are singing in this fall's group. Principal accompanist for MVM is Joseph Paul Carpenter, a well known keyboard and choral artist in Milwaukee. Additional instrumentalists and an artistic interpreter for the hearing impaired will add quality to the concert.

Men's Voices Milwaukee is a choral ensemble

dedicated to musical excellence by performing a broad range of men's choral music, MVM is committed to broadening and strengthening the LBGT choral movement in southeastern Wisconsin (and beyond) through performance, education, and outreach activities.

Tickets for "Together for the Holidays" are available from any MVM member or from the box office at the Zelazo Center. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Reduced rates are available with a donation of four non-perishable food items donated to the Hunger Task Force the night of the concert. A silent auction to benefit the chorus will be held during the intermission.

LaCrosse - The LaCrosse community is invited to "A Fairer Wisconsin Starts with

LA CROSSE "THANK YOU" EVENT FOR BAN OPPONENTS SET

LaCrosse Thank You! Event" on Thursday, December 7 from 6 - 8 PM.at Walt's Restaurant in City Brewery, 1111 3rd Street, in downtown La Crosse.

Everyone who opposed the anti-gay constitutional amendment is invited to gather for appetizers and cash bar. Speakers from the community will share some thoughts at 7 PM, and will affirm support for the LGBT community in its continuing struggle for social justice. The LGBT Resource Center for the Seven Rivers Region and Eagle Equity Committee of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse are co-sponsoring the event.

The amendment was nearly defeated in La Crosse County, passing by less than 200 votes. The LGBT community wishes to thank people who voted against it, and who worked against it. Dozens of volunteers worked hundreds of hours canvassing door to door and on the telephone to educate people about the far-reaching, damaging effects of this amendment. Their diligent work had a significant impact on the individual voters as results of the referendum showed. Passage of the amendment was upsetting and painful, but event organizers wish to acknowledge the strong support the LGBT community has in this area, and thank those supporters.

The LGBT Resource Center for the Seven Rivers Region Inc. is a non-profit volunteer organization reaching out to the gay, lesbian, transgender and bisexual community, their families, friends and allies, LGBT Resource Center for the Seven Rivers Region provides education on issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity to the larger community; it seeks to improve connections among existing community resources and to foster a climate of understanding. It is located at 303 Pearl Street in downtown La Crosse. For more information about the center as well as a calendar of events, visit the center's website at http://7riverslgbt.org.

The Eagle Equity Committee is an ad-hoc committee on the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse campus that is focused on equality for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex members of the UW-L community.

NEW PEER-BASED LESBIAN SOCIAL & SUPPORT GROUP STARTS

Madison - A new peer-based lesbian social and support group now meets in Madison at OutReach Inc, Madison and south-central Wisconsin's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community center and safe space, located at 600 Williamson Street here. The group, Lesbians Listening To Lesbians, explores aware listening in whole group settings and structured listening in dyads and triads with an eye toward improved communication among participants.

The sessions will meet on the third Saturday of the month (11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/17) from 4-5:30 PM at OutReach through February 2007. After the meeting, participants may stay for optional socializing.

Questions? Please leave a message for Marie at 608-255-8582 for a return phone call or e-mail harrys@outreachinc.com. All inquiries by e-mail must include a return phone number. Otherwise, just stop on by.

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Feature: HIV/AIDS: 25 Years Later

A World AIDS Day commentary by Paul "Cricket" Jacob

The year was 1981, and physicians across the United States received a bulletin from the CDC describing unusual cases of pneumonia that were diagnosed in five homosexual men in Los Angeles. During the next few years, other cases of rare infections and malignancies were springing up all over the country, infecting mostly homosexual men, intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs. Tests revealed a near-absence of white blood cells (T-cells) in these individuals. The lack of T-cells causes a suppression of the immune system and allows all sorts of infections which wouldn't normally affect a healthy body. The mysterious infection was later named Human Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV), and the life-threatening, later stage of the disease was named Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

It is now clear that the disease (then called 'Slims Disease' because of the wasting effect) was infecting Africans long before it appeared here in the United States. Researchers can date and place the earliest known AIDS death to 1959 in the Congo. But many scientists believe HIV jumped species from monkeys, to chimps, and then to humans as early as the 1910's. This relatively recent research is based on the sequencing of genes, and the compiling of (monkey) family trees to track the strains of Simian Immunodeficiency Virus (SIV), which is the monkey-version of HIV, and believed to have evolved into the human version. Studying the origin is important, as it may aid researchers in developing treatments or a cure. It may also put to rest the belief some still hold that HIV is a man-made virus designed to eradicate undesirable populations.

the past 25 years there has been great progress made in the diagnosis and treatment of HIV disease. The antibody test which once required a blood draw from the patient, and a two-week wait for results, can now normally be done with a finger-prick or swab of the mouth, with results





available in 20 minutes. Simplified testing options have resulted in earlier detection, and in turn, increased treatment options for many. Increased access to care and advances in treatment mean people with HIV are living longer, healthier lives than ever before. Treatment which once required a complicated regimen of multiple pills over the course of a 24-hour day, can now sometimes be administered as a onea-day pill. A downside of the advancements may be that some people do not feel as threatened by the disease, and have become complacent in their advocacy or have relaxed their safer sex practices.

There have been more than 9,000 reported cases of HIV in Wisconsin since 1983. Approximately 3,500 of those are known to have died. It is estimated that the number (approx 5,700) reported to be currently living with HIV in Wisconsin can be increased by about 25% to include undiagnosed infections - persons who are unaware of their infection. I share these numbers as a reminder to be an active and compassionate member of our hard-hit community. And also to be careful in your love and affection, setting a good example with your partner(s) regarding respect for health and life. Each of us is a gate with the power to either prevent or allow the spread of HIV and other STDs. Be a responsible gatckeeper.

I cannot share a historical perspective about HIV/AIDS without commending the

people of Wisconsin for your foresight, fortitude and perseverance. The early founders and supporters of AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin organized to create ARCW's regional agencies to advocate and provide services for our local communities. These were some of the earliest AIDS Service Organizations in the country! And since those agency doors opened in the mid 1980's, Wisconsin individuals, businesses and organizations have been 'partners in the cause' by providing every type of support imaginable, allowing us to provide prevention education, testing and a full spectrum of services for those infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS. As a twenty-year veteran in the field, it is clear to me that we have a remarkable situation here in Wisconsin - unlike most communities around the country.

Editor's Note: Paul "Cricket" Jacob began working for Center Project, the original northeast Wisconsin AIDS service organization, shortly after its founding in 1986. His creative and tireless efforts helped the fledgling group obtain ciritcal early state funding for testing and prevention, ultimately allowing the agency to expand its services and eventually serve nine counties prior to its merger with ARCW in April, 1997. He is one of the few remaining HIV/AIDS pioneers still active in the field.

ON OUR COVER ...

We haven't reviewed an adult title in Quest in quite a long time, but I just couldn't pass this one up!

PZP Productions sent me "Betwinked" which we feature on this Quest's cover. It is a spoof of the 60's classic "Bewitched" but done as a gay porn film mixing comedy and hot sex. Warning: I wasn't prepared for this, and on the first watch the comedy bits detracted from the sex scenes causing Mr. Happy to be be less than "happy". You have to open your mind a bit on this one, as I think we are not accustomed to plot lines that make you laugh as they are making you hard.

The guys are all fresh faces and most of them are pretty damn hot if you are into the twink look. If you are not, why would you even pick up a title like "Betwinked" in the first place. The movie promotes safe sex and everyone uses a condom here. And did I say the sex is pretty hot?

If you can get past the god-awful drag queen Endora and the pretty funny (and fat) Uncle Arthur, you may have as much fun remembering just how things may have turned out if Darren really was gay.

The same preoducers brought us the earlier film "The Da Vinci Load." I liked this one a lot more! In breaking into new territory such as comedy, I hope the porn industry starts bringing us better vids, not the other way.



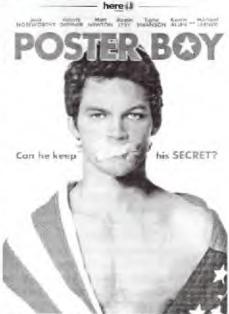
NEW ON DVD by Glenn Bishop Poster Boy

One of the most absorbing new DVD releases is Zak Tucker's debut film, "Poster Boy." Perhaps inspired by Mary Cheney, the real-life lesbian daughter of our illustrious Vice-President, "Poster Boy" offers the story of fictional Henry Kray (Matt Newton), the gay son of Jack Kray (Michael Lerner), the conservative, incumbent Senator from North Carolina.

Senator Kray is up for re-election and facing a difficult challenge from his Democratic opponent Larry Wilson. Deciding that his handsome young son would help in wooing the young white male vote, Jack solicits Henry's help; making it clear that the subject is not up for debate. Henry is to introduce his father at a speech the Senator is to give on campus at the small New York college Henry attends. For his part, Henry isn't especially keen to become a mere "poster boy" for his father's campaign. As so often happens in such situations, something goes terribly wrong.

As the film begins, Henry is giving an post-election interview to a journalist for an unnamed publication, his story to be told in flashbacks. The reporter wants Henry to start at the very beginning. Henry balks, insisting that reports have already covered what has happened. Curiously, Henry also insists that he is not out to get his father. Less clear is the strange, oddly adversarial relationship that develops between Henry and the cynic newspaper reporter.

As Henry spins his story, the film must backtrack in order to introduce additional characters. Quickly Henry becomes a supporting player in his own story as the narrative focus increasingly focuses on Senator Kray and his wife Eunice (Karen Allen) as well as introducing two other



characters pivotal to the impending story: Anthony (Jack Noseworthy) and Izzie (Valerie Geffner).

Anthony is a charming gay man, once an ACT UP activist now working as a personal assistant. Izzie, a person living with AIDS, works as a bookstore clerk. As a lark, the two find themselves at a drunken college party. Yes, the party just happens to be on the campus where Henry is a student and where, the next day, Henry's father is going to give a pivotal speech.

While certain Henry and Anthony are going to hook-up, Glenn has no idea what role Izzie is to

Buy It, Rent It or Forget It

Let's start with the pluses. "Poster Boy" offers with an intriguing story virtually torn from today's headlines. The excellent cast includes the always-fabulous Karen Allen plus terrific performances by lan Kessler as Skip, the adorably clucless collegiate Republican sycophant and especially Valerie Geffner's mesmerizing performance as Izzie. The script is suitably intelligent while director Zak Tucker gives the film a smart documentary look. Nevertheless, "Poster Boy" proves to be less than the sum of its parts. Matt Newton's Henry is neither appealing nor particularly sympathetic. Too often, the narrative stalls during the exchanges between Henry and the reporter and when the film jumps from character to character. Nor, at film's end, would a satisfying final resolution have gone amiss.

Just the facts...

"Poster Boy" runs 98 minutes in English
"Poster Boy" is available and has a SRP of
\$25.95 The DVD lists no extras

play. And indeed Anthony does become involved with Henry, first simply as a one-night stand Henry callously ditches come morning. Later, Anthony becomes embroiled in a plot by campus activists to smear Senator Kray, by distributing a chart detailing some of Henry's male sex partners, a "six-degrees-of-penetration" diagram. Alternately, Izzie finds herself run over by the Senator's limo. Fortunately, she is not seriously hurt and soon is welcomed into the Senator's inner sanctum, becoming fast friends with the Senator's wife.

The cinematic payoff will surely be Henry's very public "coming out" and the film's screenplay by Ryan Shiraki and Lecia Rosenthal does not disappoint, offering a scene that most loyal *Quest* readers will watch with lip-smacking satisfaction.



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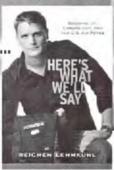






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Thank You SIR: by Jeff Hicks

Introduce your partner to "THE SCENE"

You have been together for over a year. You both question how much each other really wants to do. How far do you want to go? How do we reach each others goals? PARTNER; Talk to me, We need to realize just how much we each need "Beyond our Vanilla" activities to date. So what do we do? We both know that we want more than just the usual. One possibility is to watch for something to be said while out socializing at the Club, or bar, or Restaurant, or anywhere. If your partner or someone around you makes a remark about a dominant or submissive act on someones part, DON'T let it slide. just say it: Gee that sounds intriguing. What do you think 'partner'? If you get a positive response it can be an opener for further discussions. If it is a negative response, ask if it is that particular action or some aspect of it that is not to your lik-Soon you will have an open forum to discuss the possibilities of many other activities in your life and relationship that you had only fantasized about before. Next, Go out and buy a book or two on the bdsm subject. Look for good authors, i.e. Guy Baldwin, Jay Weisman, Midori,

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editor@quest-online.com website http://www.quest-online.com

Publisher: Mark Mariucci (ZA)

Contributors: News: Mike Fitzpatrick, Columns: Glen Bishop

Jeff Hicks, Uncle Barbie

Photography: Mike Fitzpatrick, Za, Milwaukee: Will Sharkey Madison: Tony Ritschards, Steve Vargas

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Jack Rinella,
Joseph Bean.
These are the
best authors that
I know of.
There many others
but for now that will

do. If your partner is

hesitating, get the book (s) and leave on lying out where it will be discovered. It doesn't need to be one of the extreme books but something you might like and possibly your partner has spoken of something that gave you a clue as to what he/she just might take a fancy to.

What many don't realize is that all relationships have dom/sub facets. Most BDSM relationships take those and build upon them to lift their personal/intimate lives to far greater levels than either ever expected possible. Once you are truly comfortable with someone, you can enter into a new exploration of your deepest feelings and desires to a depth that neither of you expected ever possible. We have all had very unusual fantasies in our lives. The scene can be a path to realize those. You can act out those without any fear of condemnation or guilt.

One of the greatest things about BDSM people is that they learn how to communicate with their partner(s). This is necessary to get started, then to engage in safe, sane, consensual, actions in the "play space"; And, to grow in the realization of their complete fulfillment. Many non BDSM folks can't understand how Dom/sub couples often stay together so long. Usually it is because of the communications that have to become a living part of those relationships.

And so my friends, be yourself, and use your interest level of the "scene to reach the best of a long time 'growing' relationship with someone you happen to care about.

upcoming events:

Argonauts of Wis. Green Bay WINTERQUEST 33 January 20, 2007 cocktails at 6:30, Dinner at 8:00, At Naps Lounge, 1351 Cedar St. Reservations by Jan. 12.



Ask the Irreverent, Uncle Barbie

Disclaimer: Although the author of this syndicated column holds a doctorate in clinical psychology, the tonguein-cheek advice given is for entertainment only and is not a substitute for therapy. Send your questions to: AskUncleBarbie@msn.com

Dear Barbie.

Why is it that in the mine years that I have been in this area. I have only encountered a handful of truly spiritual people in the gay and lesbian community? I found that most people are "fashionably religious" by only going to the churches that are popular -Signed, The Seer



For all of you who have been itching to see Barbie's pussy, here it is!

Hello Seer,

I have a question for you. How do you determine who is 'truly spiritual" and who is not? I think that spirituality is something that is between an individual and his/her God/Goddess. It's really not for you to decide. Perhaps the reason why certain churches are popular with the gay/lesbian community is because those churches provide a non-judgmental environment in which to satisfy the spiritual needs of the members. You might gain some spiritual enlightenment for yourself by adopting this type of non-judgmental attitude toward your fellow gays and lesbians. Stop criticizing others and focus on your own spiritual development. In other words, weed your own garden. Remember that no two people are at the exact same stage of spiritual evolution. So you do your thing, and let other people do theirs.

-- Free Spirit, Barbie

Dear Uncle Barbie.

What is your position on racism and the notion of "ethnic reparations" that seems to be floating around these days? -Signed. Anonymous

Hello No Name,

I still have not made up my mind about ethnic reparations. There are so many variables that come into play on that issue. As far as my opinion on racism. I believe that everyone has an equal value as a human being. Although there are dif-

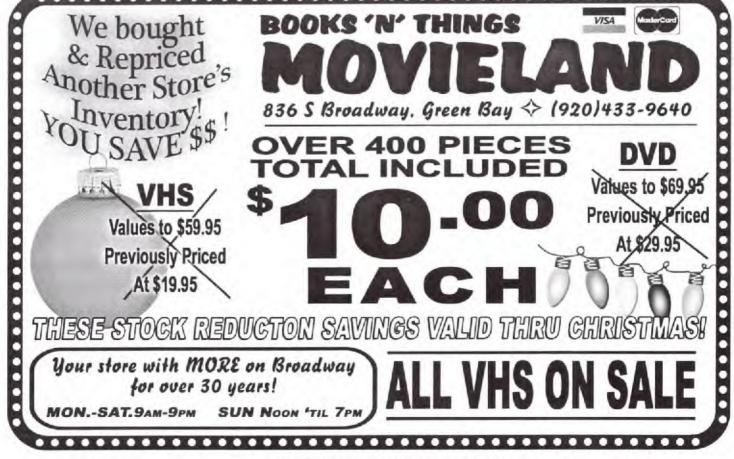
ferent ethnic groups, I believe that there is only ONE real race, and that is the HUMAN RACE,

I find that nature is a good role model to look to for counsel regarding this issue. When we humans cannot figure out our problems, I believe Mother Nature holds the answers. Homophobia, racism, sexism and other forms of prejudice are examples of what I think of as societal diseases because such attitudes eat away at a community like a cancer. But when we look to the natural world for direction, we see that in a healthy system, there is a balance of diversity within that system which enables it to be strong. The same type of system exists in our society. We need people with cultural diversity to create a truly balanced environment.

If a self-contained group of people all think and live the same way, and if interactions with people from other cultures and beliefs are excluded, then the system of that self-contained group soon becomes stagnant. This type of singular system (or mono-culture) has little, to no. growth. What people with intolerant attitudes do not realize is that the community benefits from including diversity into the population. We need each other. How can a bird fly with only one wing? The sound of one wing flapping is the sound of a system out of balance. People from other walks of life. can provide different ways of looking at things. A new perspective on life may be just what we need.

Let us take a moment to examine the ways in which the natural world benefits from diversity. Every creature from the largest whale to the smallest bacteria work in harmony to contribute something that benefits the environment. The bear needs the berries from the plants: the plants need the soil to grow; and the soil needs the bear for fertilizer. Hence, the natural cycle continues to hoop around in an ongoing spiral of circles. We, too, have something to contribute to the world and something to benefit from it. Despite the diversity in the animal kingdom, they still live together in an ecological coexistence. The hawk is a day bird, and the owl is a night bird. The Eagle is aggressive and the dove is peaceful. This type of harmonious system serves to create a healthy balance.

It is natural for us to rely on each other because we are part of nature, and nature has designed everything to be interconnected into the web of life. After all. what would a forest be like if there were only one kind of animal, or an ocean if there were but one type of fish, or the sky if only a singular specie of bird existed? I believe it is wise to look to nature as an example of how to live in harmony together while honoring diversity. -Celebrating Diversity, Barbie





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Wanted Roomate in Iola area to share country home on 10 acres. Own rooms includes everything. Petsw ok. I have some also. Call after 2 for info \$400/month (715)281-2529 lv message

Bright 2-Bedroom upper duplex with large livingroom and kitchen. Walking distance to St. Lukes Hospital and Alverno College-Milwaukee. No smoking or pets please. \$650/month plus utilities. (414)647-2620 [2]

Roommate wanted Racine to share home I have all appliances prefer student, close to everything and all furnished non smoker a must! call (262)637-1232 must be neat/clean, i own dog no other pets! Avail now rent we can talk about! [2]

Avail. Now, Milwaukee -Upper - gas range/refrigerator - 2 bedroom - hookups available for washer and dryer -(414)698-6430 Perry [2]

2BR Madison Sublease for \$845/month--Looking to sublease until 8/31/07. I am relocating out of area. Complex is on Lake Monona, beautiful views down by the water. Rent includes water, central air, cable, trash, off-street parking. Washer and dryer in apartment! Call Brad at 920-420-2838. [2]

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Massage by Doug, a strong yet gentle touch by a muscular guy. (414)410-7881 [1/24]

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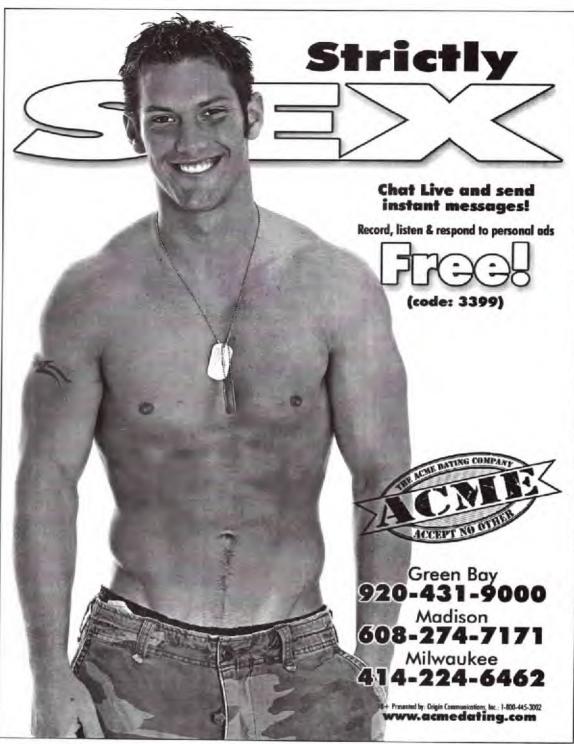


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PERSONALS

Dodge County Gay/Bi Mens's Social Group for dodge County and surrounding area counties in Wisconsin. To Join:http:// groups/yahoo.com/group/ CLOSETED, WM, Spice up LTR overly vanilla relationship. ISO age difference 60+, good conversation before/after flaming sex. Fetishes/cockrings, endowed men. Me: adult son, 6"2",250#, masculine, nice package, bottom S/F-buddy, meet at Ballys-Hawley Rd., Milw. bath/your place. spycdude@aol.com [1]

BiWM58 5'11.180#I I'm a Crossdressers Bl/Brl'm looking for some new friends that are into oral? Like giving oral to a lesbian parter, but also open to a male. Would also get together with married couples. I can travel Dianne572006@vahoo.com

Chub seeks chaser in Madison. 39 yr old, six-foot three-400 lbs, professional please mail-seannpaul@vahoo.com [1]

I'm fun, mature, healthy as 19, varied interests, sittingactive, nature-travel seeks buddy, soul mate even better, prefer over 55 or anyone mature thinking! Illinois 773-585-6275 tommy or ly number. I'll also consider holding companion position!

Milwaukee area, DWM, 6-2, 180, mid-50s, br/bl, Libra, retired human services professional, solid values, good conversationalist, politically progressive, healthy lifestyle, straight-acting, sense of humor, into arts and travel; ISO similar male, preferably of color (especially African American), 40-60, d/d-free, bavviewboy[009@yahoo.com

WM, 37, 5"9", 170#, 6" cut: Looking for in shape men to give head to (I swallow), up to four men. Must be disease free, your place on Sundays, Milwaukee- Waukesha area. E-mail moonscape2006 @vahoo.com

All Male Chat! 18+ record & listen FREE! (920) 431-9000 code 4120 [P]

Bottom gny, Green Bay wants thick hung tops with low hangers. Dangle them in my face or plow my behind. Also searching for new exciting friendships. Works all shifts, mostly third. Hard to get me, keep trying, live alone discreet. (920)497-2522 [1]

GWM 40 6'2" 190lbs N.S. Looking 4 someone in Oshkosh/Valley area for get togethers & friendship. Not into bar scene, I'm a nondrinker, prefer someone 18-35 BSCBRY@hotmail.com will replay all. [1]

Fun Top 7 1/2 cut artist 35yr 5'11" 185, clean cut, hazel eyes, digs cats out of Rockford seeks traveling bottom, Call Del "Cool Cat, (815)962-4221 [1]

Looking for George Haskins. If George is out there, would you please notify my address. If you need to call me use (715)389-8082 Other guys are welcome. [2]

Man on Man Fun! 18+ Record & Listen FREE! (920) 431-9000, code 4166 Attention Bi/Gay: Blue eyes, Brown hair GWM Gary age 49 5'7" 200# Marshfield/ Central Wisconsin for BJ (715)387-6433 No collect calls. [2]

BiWM 44yo 5'10" 190# attractive, fit, discreet, disease free, looking for same 35-55 for oral pleasures. Call Saturdays 9am-12pm Oshkosh (920)251-2343 [2]

Green Bay GWF looking for GWF, friend and long term relationship. I like fishing, camping, love to cook and cuddle. ISO of a caring loving woman. Please NO MEN of BiF, no drug users. social drinker ok. (920)327-3414 [2]

Stevens Point area Nudist. Member of American Assoc of Nude Recreation would lie anyone in my area to call. Get a club together or become a new member, st8, Bi or Gay, MorF your pleasure is mine. Call 24/7 (608)369-0386 [2]

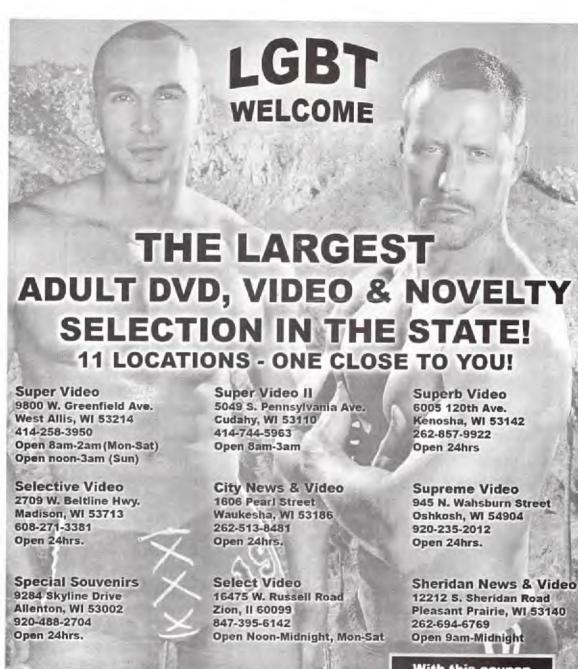
Friend or someone special wanted, or pen pal, travel partner, love beaches, camping, vegas, fishing, hiking! 3658 W. 79pl., Chicago. I'll call you or (773)569-6333 Tom, or any new or 2nd job wanted / considered! [2]

X-Dresser - 60 - very femme when dressed - love to please my man. Daytime-your place. Scrious only. Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha. Sub, very oral, guaranteed to please. Possible bar meets in evening. E-Mail - inxsof@att.net. [2]

Sexy pre-op transexual white 45yo 5'8" 145# long br hair 36C breasts seeks white or hispanic male 20 - 45 weight/height proportionate. Romantic times. Have strong fetish for feet & mans sweaty socks. Would love to give footjob with socks on. Also love sex of all types. **Kenosha** (262)605-9508 5pm-10pm Mon-Fri or all day weekends.

W.M. tall 47yrs old lives in Racine looking for all people that are in to KINKY sex. Age, sex, race, size, no problem must be very kinky. Please email me at rightleft8719@yahoo.com

Male in Milwaukee 510 195



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GWM 62, 5'8" 170 # N.S. ISO GWM 55-65 for friendship possible LTR (262)672-3120 We all need to love & be loved. [3] Fun, mature, healthy as 19, varied interests, sitting - active, nature - travel, seeks buddy! long term even better! prefer over 55, or anyone mature thinking! 773-585-6275 Tommy or leave number! I'll also consider holding companion position! [3]

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Club 5 Bar/Restaurant 5 Applegate Ct Madison, (608)277-9700

Ray's Bar & Grill 2526 E. Washington Madison (608)241-9335

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City Lights Chill 111 W. Howard Ave (414)481-1441

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